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Hepatitis-A,B,C, Etc.

You are probably wondering why I would cover this type of subject matter since Hepatitis is a viral infection, and what could chiropractic possibly have to do with the treatment of this disorder? The answer to this rhetorical question is that Hepatitis is not just an infection. It is a generalized inflammation to the liver that can lead to damage and even death of the organ and the person with this condition. It can be caused by virus, bacteria, fungus, parasites, mushrooms, drugs such as amoxicillin, statin, and NSAID such as ibuprofen and acetaminophen, just to name a few.

However the reason that I am writing about this matter is the approval of a new drug by the F.D.A., from Merck Laboratories that can effectively cure more than 60% of patients with the worst form of hepatitis C. This new drug is Victrelis also known as boceprevir. It works by inhibiting an enzyme called protease, that the virus needs to replicate. This is good news to anyone with this form of hepatitis and I currently have a number of patients with this problem. This disease can lead to liver failure or even cancer of this organ.

What you need to know is that there are more than one form of hepatitis. They are listed by the particular virus that is the main causative agent in each case. There are currently Hepatitis A-B-C-D-E-F-G and H. How this disease is acquired is somewhat different with each type. The A form is usually spread by food or water contamination it is the least dangerous form and usually imparts an immunity if you ever had it. B is the most common and some times termed serum hepatitis and as the name implies it comes from infected blood and body fluids and not by casual contact. About 1/4 of the world population is infected with this form that is more than 2 billion people and 350 million of these are carriers. Hepatitis C is caused by blood contact and transmission from bad transfusions and drug needle use. The D form of this disease is a simultaneous infection or superimposed on the B form and has the greatest likelihood of liver failure. E hepatitis can come from transfusion and fecal contamination, it has an animal reservoir with domestic pig representing 95% also wild boar and deer can carry this virus.

So what can we do to avoid this scourge in some form. Avoid contaminated food and water, avoid the use of drugs especially those that are injected and you are not certain of the sterility of the needle being used. Hopefully in blood transfusions the blood has been screened for this disease. If you have been infected with B-C-D the drug treatment might suppress or even kill the causative virus. However, there are simple things you can do not to add to the potential damage to the liver, which included limited use of alcohol, avoidance of drug that I had mentioned earlier such as antibiotic amoxicillin, monocycline, NSAID drugs for pain such as ibuprofen and acetaminophen and statin drugs. Just remember that every drug you use must be removed by your liver and excreted through the kidney and stool so limit their use where ever possible. Remember even food can add to the additional strain on an infected liver and keeping your weight low is important because it reduces the likelihood of fatty degeneration of the liver.

Now what can Chiropractic and Applied Kinesiology (AK) do to protect and heal your liver? The answer is plenty! By using Manual Muscle Testing (MMT) we can monitor the effect of hepatitis on your body, because the muscle that is related to the liver is the chest muscle known as the Pectoralis Major Sternal Division. This muscle will always be weak when there is any disease process affecting the liver. We will also use blood work using liver profile testing to measure the response to therapy and nutritional support.

Important nutrition to supporting and healing of the liver besides allopathic drugs that your medical doctor will prescribe to suppress and kill the virus that cause the hepatitis. There are various tissue extracts known as protomorphogens from Standard Process Labs (SPL). What are protomorphogens? They are nucleoprotein extracts of the tissues and organs; these are not whole tissue concentrates, but extracts containing primarily the nucleoprotein substances from the cells of origin. Theoretically, their function is based on antigen-antibody reaction which takes place in the body following cellular damage and which interferes with the rebuilding process of the cell that make up the organ in this case the liver. The SPL product is Hepatrophin PMG, other supportive nutrients that heal the liver are alpha-lipoic acid and milk thistle and Folic acid and Hydroxo-Methylcobalamin (B12) in 5:2 ratio. An additional factor that seems to help the liver is freshly brewed coffee; the antioxidants found here are protective of the liver. The use of chlorophyll to keep the Ileocecal valve working properly and to bind the toxins from the colon will help the recovery from hepatitis.

Chiropractic care will keep your nervous system communicating with the liver, adding to the healing process. We have definite ability with AK techniques of effecting the body's own defenses by improving the way the spleen and thymus gland work. Keeping the action of the diaphragm working will help pump the lymph system and thereby add to the healing process for the liver. Finally, one of the most common malfunctions found in 75% of patients seen is the malfunction of the Ileocecal valve between the small and large intestine which leaks waste back into the small intestine. This causes the liver to work twice as hard removing the waste for a second time.

By combining the medical doctor along with chiropractic and AK you will have the very best chance in overcoming the problem.