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Detection of human enterovirus 71 genotypes in meningoencephalitis in Iran

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After diminishing the importance of polioviruses, non-polioviruses are emerging as causative agents of severe central nervous system (CNS) involvement. Recently, outbreaks of enterovirus 71 (EV71) -associated CNS infections were reported in Asia, Australia and Europe. This is the first study on genotyping of EV71 in children with meningoencephalitis in Iran. Viral RNA was extracted from 170 cerebrospinal fluid samples from children <8 years old with primary diagnosis of aseptic meningitis. Specific EV71 PCR was done to identify the genotype of the detected EV71 viruses. Human Enteroviruses (HEVs) were detected in 89 (52.3%) patients, and EV71 infection was detected in 19 (21.3%) patients out of the 89 EV positive patients, and the genotype C was identified in 15 isolates. Genotype C should be considered as the prevalent EV71 circulating genotype in Iran especially in aseptic meningitis cases.

Biography

Pooneh Rahimi has completed her PhD in Medical Virology at the age of 35 years from School of Public Health, Tehran University of Medical Sciences. She is an Assistant Professor in Department of Hepatitis and AIDS, Pasteur Institute of Iran. She has published more than 10 papers in reputed journals.

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