Introduction

Chronic hepatitis C is one of the commonest infectious diseases of the Liver. According to World Health Organization (WHO) report, approximately 170 million individuals in the world population are suffering from this disease(**Sharara, et,al.*1996).***

Hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection is a major cause of chronic hepatitis,cirrhosis, and hepatocellular carcinoma worldwide **(Lau,et,al2006**).

At present, it is not known whether liver damage is due to a direct viral cytopathic effect, to an immune-mediated process, or both. In most studies, a direct correlation between the serum HCV RNA levels and the degree of liver injury has been investigated, so as to show direct HCV cytopathic damage. **(Gordon,et,al2008**).

Unfortunately, the results reported are conflicting. The discrepancies may reflect the different methodologies and techniques, the timing of sampling, and the patient populations studied. The hepatic tissue is the major site of HCV infection and replication. Several authors have analyzed the relation between serum HCV viremia and the stage of liver disease with contradictory results.

Elena.R.G,et.al.reported that the serum HCV viremia reflects the extent of HCV infection in the liver, and shows

that this correlation does not depend on the stage or grade of the liver injury. **(ELENA RODRI,et,al1999).**

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In conclusion, in this report we have shown that the serum HCV viremia reflects the extent of the infection in the liver and that the liver injury in chronic HCV infection is not directly related to the number of infected hepatocytes or to the HCV RNA concentration in serum.