

Press release

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Basic information

Name: Tea Lund Laursen Email: tealaurs@clin.au.dk Phone: 24477140

Department of: Clinical Medicine

Main supervisor: Henning Grønbæk

Title of dissertation: Liver-related effects of chronic hepatitis C antiviral treatment

Date for defence: 13 December 2019 at (time of day): 14:00 Place: Auditorium C114-101

Indgang C, Plan 1

Aarhus Universitetshospital

Palle Juul-Jensens Boulevard 99

8200 Aarhus N

Press release (Danish)

Lever-relaterede effekter af kronisk hepatitis C antiviral behandling

Et nyt ph.d.-projekt fra Aarhus Universitet, Health undersøger de lever-relaterede effekter af nye behandlinger af kronisk hepatitis C. Projektet er gennemført af Tea Lund Laursen, der forsvaret det d. 13/12.

For fem år siden blev behandling af hepatitis C virusinfektion revolutioneret ved introduktionen af nye direkte-virkende antivirale midler. Disse viste sig at være ekstremt effektive til at kurere patienter for kronisk hepatitis C, selv ved etableret skrumpelever. Man forventede, at de nye behandlinger ville forbedre det kliniske forløb og prognosen, men årsagen til den forventede fordel var uklar. Desuden var det uklart hvordan den underliggende leversygdom ville blive påvirket i forbindelse med og efter helbredelse fra virussen. Hovedformålet med ph.d.-projektet var at undersøge de lever-relaterede effekter af de nye behandlinger med fokus på betændelsestilstanden i leveren, strukturelle forandringer i leveren og leverens evne til omdanne sukkerstoffer og aminosyrer. Undersøgelserne i forbindelse med ph.d.-projektet viser at betændelsestilstanden i leveren mindskes hurtigt efter igangsættelse af behandlingen, mens de strukturelle leverskader forbedres langsomt, og følges af forbedringer i leverfunktionen. Overordnet giver studierne ny og væsentlig viden om adskillige gavnlige effekter af behandlingerne, hvilket samlet indikerer både kort- og lang-tidsforbedringer af den underliggende leversygdom med løfter om en bedre prognose.

Forsvaret af ph.d.-projektet er offentligt og finder sted den 13/12 kl. 14.00 i Auditorium C114-101, Aarhus Universitetshospital, Indgang C, plan 1, Palle Juul-Jensens Boulevard 99, 8200 Aarhus N. Titlen på projektet er "Liver-related effects of chronic hepatitis C antiviral treatment". Yderligere oplysninger: Ph.d.-studerende Tea Lund Laursen, e-mail: tealaurs@clin.au.dk, tlf. 24477140.

Bedømmelsesudvalg:

Lektor Carsten Schade Larsen (Formand), MD, Dr. med, Infektionssygdomme, Aarhus Universitetshospital, Aarhus, Danmark

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Press release (English)

Liver-related effects of chronic hepatitis C antiviral treatment

A new PhD-project from Aarhus University, Health investigates the liver-related effects of new treatments of chronic hepatitis C. The project was carried out by Tea Lund Laursen, who is defending her dissertation on 13/12.

Five years ago, treatment against hepatitis C virus infection was revolutionised with the introduction of all-oral direct-acting antiviral drugs. These proved highly efficient in curing patients with chronic hepatitis C, even in patients with cirrhosis. The new treatments were alleged to carry improvements in clinical outcome and prognosis, but the cause for the expected benefit was unclear. Further, little was known about how the underlying liver disease would be affected during and after clearance of the virus. The main aim of the PhD-project was to investigate the liver-related effects of the new treatments focussing on liver inflammation, structural liver changes, and the capability of the liver to metabolise sugars and amino acids. The investigations during the PhD-studies showed that inflammation in the liver resolves rapidly with the initiation of therapy, whereas the structural changes more slowly improves, and followed by improvements in liver function. Overall, the studies provide new and significant knowledge on several beneficial effects of the treatments, suggesting short- and long-term improvements of the underlying liver disease with promises for an improved prognosis.

The defence is public and takes place on 13/12 at 14:00 in Auditorium C114-101, Aarhus University Hospital, Entrance C, level 1, 99 Palle Juul-Jensens Boulevard, DK-8200 Aarhus N. The title of the project is Liver-related effects of chronic hepatitis C antiviral treatment. For more information, please contact PhD student Tea Lund Laursen, email: tealaur@clin.au.dk, Phone +45 24477140.

Assessment committee:

Associate professor, Carsten Schade Larsen (Chairman), MD, Dr. med, Department of Infectious Diseases, Aarhus University Hospital, Aarhus, Denmark

Associate professor, Per Stå, MD, Department of Medicine, Karolinska University Hospital, Stockholm, Sweden

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