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Introduction

- ❖ Hepatitis C is a public health problem in sub-Saharan Africa. Main modes of transmission: blood+++, maternal-fetal.
- ❖ Influence of HCV pregnancy: increased risk of gestational diabetes.
- ❖ The objective of this study was threefold: 1)-to determine the prevalence of anti-HCV antibodies in pregnant women in Cotonou, 2)-to identify the factors associated with their carrying and 3)-to determine the prevalence of gestational diabetes in these pregnant women.

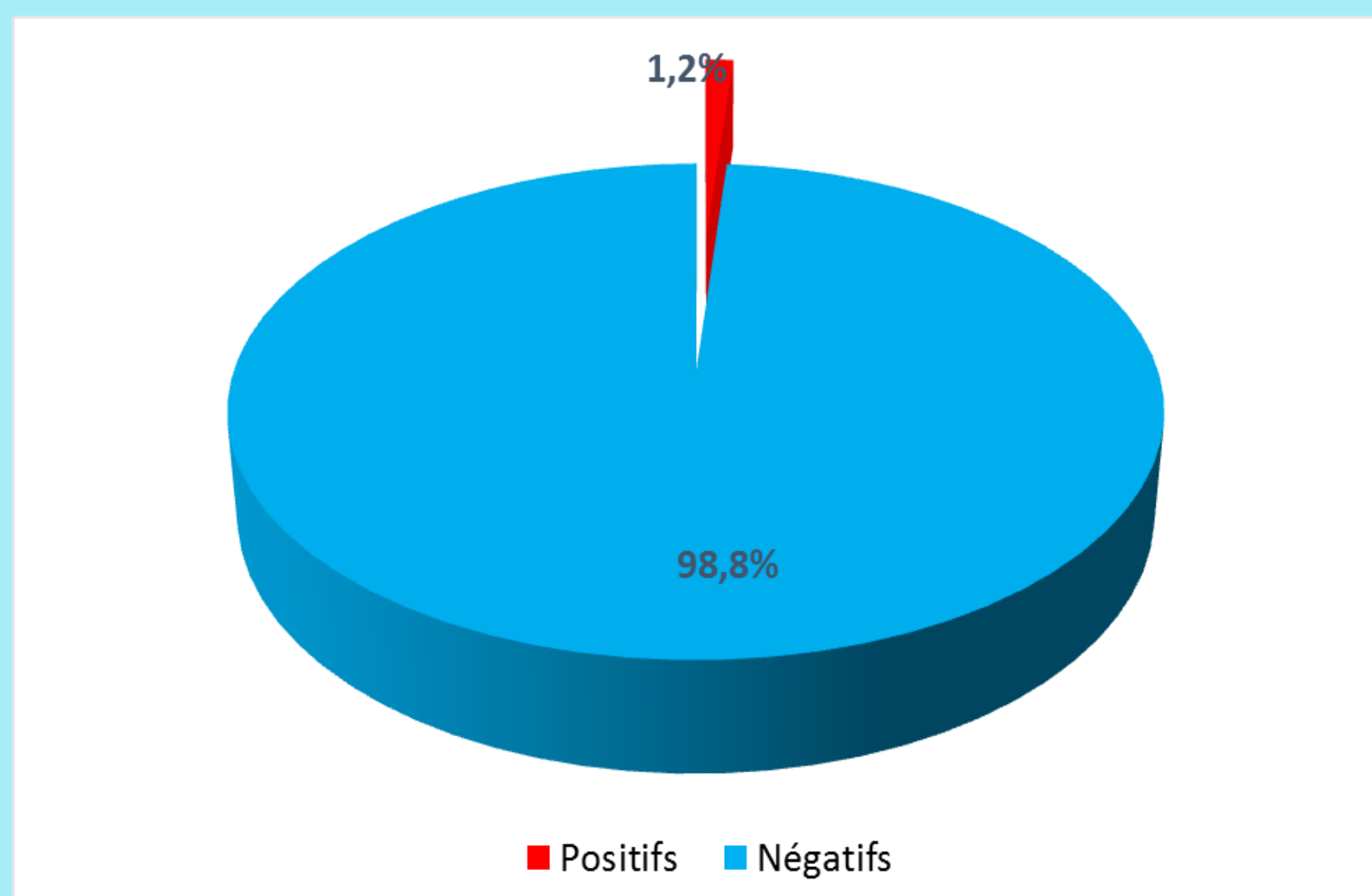
Methods

This was a cross-sectional study conducted from 01/06/2018 to 01/09/2018 with 253 pregnant women who used antenatal care services in four major maternity hospitals (3 public and 1 private) in an African capital. A rapid diagnostic orientation test detecting anti-HCV antibodies was performed in each of the pregnant women. A blood sample was collected from women with positive anti-HCV antibodies for serological ELISA confirmation tests and from all pregnant women for screening for gestational diabetes.

The data were entered and analyzed using SPSS Statistics software version 20.0

Results

- ❖ The prevalence of HCV antibodies among pregnant women in Cotonou was 1.2% (3/253).



Risk factors

- Surgical intervention: 2/3
- Scarification: 2/3
- Sharing of manicure equipment: 2/3
- Tattooing and piercing: 1/3
- Blood transfusion: 1/3

- ❖ Factors associated with HCV carrying could not be identified due to the low number of positive cases. We then just described the usual risk factors present in the three cases. The HCV antibody carriers had a high average age (32 ± 3 years) compared to the rest of the population (29.58 ± 5.5 years). They presented some potential risk factors for HCV infection such as: scarification, piercing, tattooing, manicuring with common equipment, surgery and blood transfusion.
- ❖ The prevalence of gestational diabetes in our study was 7.9%. No association was found between gestational diabetes and hepatitis C (0/3)

Conclusion

- ❖ The prevalence of HCV antibodies among pregnant women in Cotonou was low. Risk factors noted: high age, scarification, history of surgery tattooing, piercing, manicure with common equipment, history of blood transfusion.
- ❖ No association with gestational diabetes.
- ❖ A national study is needed to identify the factors associated with this infection.