
Abstract
OBJECTIVE:
To study the change of intestinal mucosa barrier in chronic severe hepatitis B patients and clinical intervention.

METHOD:
(1) 30 normal healthy controls and 60 chronic severe hepatitis B patients were enrolled in this study. The change of intestinal permeability was determined by urine lactulose/ mannitol ratio (L/M), and the serum diamine oxidase (DAO) was measured. (2) 60 chronic severe hepatitis B patients were randomly divided into two groups: the control group and the treated group, each group has 30 cases. Patients in the control group received standard treatment for 2 weeks, however, in addition to standard treatment, patients in the treated group also received glutamine 10g tid. Endotoxin (ET), DAO and L/M were compared between the two group.

RESULTS:
(1) Compared to healthy controls, the level of L/M and DAO was significantly increased in chronic severe hepatitis B patients (t = 2.762, P less than 0.01 or t = 6.326, P less than 0.01). (2) Compared to the control group, ET, DAO and L/M were significantly lower 2 weeks after treatment (F = 11.662, P less than 0.01; F = 12.699, P less than 0.01; F = 19.981, P less than 0.01).

CONCLUSION:
(1) There is an early intestinal mucosa barrier damage in chronic severe hepatitis B patients. (2) Compared to standard treatment, adding glutamine can reverse intestinal mucosa barrier damage.