

VIROLOGY LECTURE

By: Dr. Mohammed Arif

Associate Professor &

Consultant Virologist

Head of the Virology Unit

College of Medicine & KKUH

Hepatitis D Virus

Virology:

- Defective virus
- Cannot replicate by its own
- It requires helper virus
- The helper virus is HBV
- HBV provides HBsAg to HDV
- HDV uses the HBsAg protein as an external coat
- HDV is 36-nm in diameter
- Composed of outer coat (HBsAg)
- The inner core contains delta-Ag
- ss-RNA genome (Circular)

Hepatitis D Virus (Continued)

Transmission:

- Parenterally
- Similar to HBV

Types of Infections:

1. Co-infection:

- The patient is infected with HBV and HDV at the same time
- Leads to severe acute hepatitis
- Self-limiting

Hepatitis D Virus (Continued)

2. Super infection:

- Delta virus infects those who are already have chronic hepatitis B
- Leads to severe chronic hepatitis

Lab Diagnosis:

- Detection of IgM to HDV