**Introduction**

In Greece, until recently there was no investigation of viral hepatitis markers in personnel working in high risk jobs, such as the municipal road sweepers and dustbin men. These are considered as high risk for hepatitis A (an oral fecal transmitted disease) and medium risk for hepatitis B (that they can contact through injuries with infected material during work).

**Aim**

The aim of this study was to investigate the prevalence of viral hepatitis markers in such a group of Municipal workers.

**Patients and methods**

Blood was drawn from the 49 workers of Municipal of Alikarnassos, Heraklion, Crete, Greece. There were 37 men and 12 women, median age 38 years old (25-59 years).

All samples were checked with ELISA for anti-HAV, HBsAg, HBcAb, HBeAg, HBeAb, anti-s and anti-HCV.

All expenses for the tests and the vaccination of the unprotected persons that followed were covered by their health insurances.

**Results**

Thirty-three out of 49 persons (67.3%) were immune to HAV. The 16 remaining (32.6%) had anti-HAV negative, and therefore were vaccinated against hepatitis A. One male was tested positive for HBsAg, HBcAb and HBeAb and he was referred to the liver clinic for further investigation and treatment. One had innate immunity to the HBV (HBcAb and anti-s positive). In one only HBcAb was found positive. HBV-DNA was negative and he was vaccinated for HBV together with the rest of the 46 persons. None was found positive for anti-HCV.

**Conclusions**

- Almost 1/3 (32.6%) of the road sweepers and the dustbin men tested was found unprotected against hepatitis A, a disease with the potential to provoke outbreaks.

- The investigation and following vaccination for hepatitis A and B of this group is of importance not only for them, but for public health has well.

**References**