

## ABSTRACT

### AN EFFICACY TRIAL OF RECOMBINANT HEPATITIS E (rHEV) VACCINE IN THE ROYAL NEPALESE ARMY.

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In the 2000 and 2001 issues of the MJSBH, K.B. Shrestha<sup>1</sup> and D.M. Joshi, *et al*<sup>2</sup> present reviews of hepatitis E virus (HEV), covering the clinical illness, epidemiology, prevention of infection and societal and socioeconomic impact on the people of Nepal and on the Royal Nepalese Army (RNA). Jaundice due to hepatitis E deprives the RNA of manpower and costs in the neighborhood of NRps 5,000,000 every year<sup>1</sup>. In an attempt to ultimately relieve this military and economic burden, the RNA is currently testing a candidate HEV vaccine in collaboration with the Walter Reed/ AFRIMS Research Unit-Nepal (WARUN), field unit of the Armed Forces Research Institute of the Medical Sciences, a subsidiary of the Walter Reed Army Institute of the Medical Sciences. To date the trial is ongoing.

1. Shrestha, K.B., (2000) Hepatitis E in the Royal Nepal Army and the Kathmandu Valley. M JSBR, 3: 1-9
2. Joshi, D.M., Thapa, G.B., Thapa, N (2001), Hepatitis E Virus, MJSBR, 4:1-3