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Last Name - Zajdenweber First Name - Moysés Middle - Eduardo

Service (sector) Uveitis and AIDS

Nº CEP

## Conjuctival malignancies in AIDS patients.

Zajdenweber M.E., Muccioli C., Martins M. C., Lowe M., Belfort R. Jr..

Purpose: To present a series of 7 consecutive AIDS patients who developed conjunctival tumors, and to study their characteristics and clinical course.

Methods: case series

Results: The authors describe a series of 7 consecutive AIDS patients who developed conjunctival malignancies (4 cases of kaposi sarcoma and 3 cases of Squamous cell carcinoma) observed in a 6 month period. All of them were receiving HAART at the time of the diagnosis of the conjunctival malignan. Diagnostic biopsy confirmed the diagnosis in all cases. In the Kaposi Sarcoma patients we found the following histological characteristics: thin, dilated vascular channels lined by flat endothelial cells with lumen-containing erythrocytes in two patents, and in the others: large aggregates of densely packed spindle cells with hyperchromatic nuclei, mitotic figures, and abundant slit spaces often containing erythrocytes in between. Histology examination of Squamous cell carcinoma patients disclosed a tumor composed by invasive lobules, tongues. And sheets of pleomorphic cells with round to oval nuclei, abundant acidophilus cytoplasm, and occasional mitotic figures. All patients were treated by excision of the lesions. One patient with a very aggressive Squamous cell carcinoma was treated with nucleation.

Conclusion: Despite HAART therapy, patients continue to develop malignancies as well as opportunistic infection, although very less frequency. It seems that these clinical lesions have a much more aggressive course.

In our series of patients we observed a good clinical response to the surgical treatment.