

R1 R2 R3 PG0 PG1 Estagiário Tecnólogo
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Service (sector) Uveitis and AIDS N° CEP

Cytomegalovirus Retinitis in the era of HAART

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Objective: To describe six patients with human immunodeficiency virus infection (HIV), who failed to respond to highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART), resulting in a decrease in CD4 T lymphocyte counts, and development and/or reactivation of cytomegalovirus (CMV) retinitis. Methods: Prospective study of 6 consecutive patients who failed HAART therapy, developing CMV retinitis which was very difficult to control. Results: Six patients (three male and three female) with a decrease in CD4 counts (from 1- 31 cells/mm³), developed CMV retinitis despite the use of HAART; the patients were put on specific treatment for CMV and complete healing of the lesions was observed after 2-9 months (average 5 months). Conclusion: HAART therapy is effective in maintaining the immune status in most of the HIV patients; however, failures in treatment have been reported recently. Patients who do not adhere to the treatment can be more vulnerable to the development of HAART failure and CMV retinitis which can be difficult to control, needing a much longer period of specific treatment.