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Service (sector) Uveitis and AIDS Nº CEP

Keratoconjuntivitis Sicca :Prevalence in HIV-positive Patients

Authors: AH Príncipe; BM Fontes; LP Finamor; C Muccioli,. Purpose: To asses the prevalence of keratoconjuntivits sicca in HIV-infected patients and to correlate it with disease stage, immune status and current antiretroviral therapy. Methods: Patients who matched the inclusion criteria and agreed to participate were selected in the Uveitis-AIDS sector from the Department of Ophthalmology - Federal University of São Paulo-Escola Paulista de Medicina and were submitted to an assesment of the lacrimal status through Schirmer 1 (measured in millimeters after 5 minutes) and tear break-up time(TBUT) tests. The diagnosis of keratoconjuntivitis sicca was made if either the TBUT or the Schirmer test was positive(<10 seconds and <10 mm in 5 minutes, respectively). Results were analyzed along with patients´ disease stage, immune status and current antiretroviral therapy. Results: Partial results .The diagnosis of keratoconjuntivitis sicca was made in 70.37% of the patients. The great majority of them were on HAART(highly active antiretroviral therapy) whereas only 14.81% were not on this modality of treatment. The average viral load of the patients diagnosed of having keratoconjuntivits sicca was 91118.88 copies/ml and the average CD4+ T cell count was 332.83 cells/mm³. Among the patients without keratoconjuntivitis sicca, the average viral load was 2825 copies/ml and the average CD4+ T cell count was 341 cells/mm³. Conclusions: HIV-infected patients seems to have an increased prevalence of keratoconjuntivitis sicca as shown in this study and matching data found in current literature. Its association with disease stage, immune status and antiretroviral therapy needs to be further evaluated.