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Service (sector) Uveitis and AIDS N° CEP

**Evaluation of CMV retinitis activity using the quantitative PCR technique in AIDS patients**

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Purpose: To evaluate CMV retinitis activity, by using the quantitative PCR assay for cytomegalovirus in the serum of AIDS patients, in order to stop the maintenance treatment.

Method : A prospective study was performed, to detect the presence of cytomegalovirus in blood samples in AIDS patients with CMV retinitis that were on specific maintenance treatment.

Results: All samples were negative for cytomegalovirus in the examined patients .

Conclusion: The quantitative PCR assay for cytomegalovirus in the blood may be an important tool to help the ophthalmologist to stop the maintenance treatment for CMV retinitis.