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Service (sector) Uveitis and AIDS - Federal University of Sao Paulo N° CEP

EPIDEMIOLOGY OF UVEITIS Specific project at Federal University of Sao Paulo

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ABSTRACT

PURPOSE: The Cataract and Diabetes Retinopathy Projects of the UNIFESP/EPM evaluate patients in every 2 months and we decided to use the same strategy with patients who had uveitis, describing their sex, age and type of uveitis.

MATERIAL AND METHODS: During the Uveitis Project witch occurred on 7th May 2005 at the Vision Institute – UNIFESP, 305 patients were evaluated. The spoken and written media called patients with symptoms suggesting uveitis.

RESULTS: The mean age of the 305 examined patients was 56,3 years. One hundred thirty nine (45,6 %) were female and 166 (54,4%) were male; sixty-one patients (20%) were diagnosed with uveitis. From 30 patients with active uveitis, 11 (36,7%) presented anterior uveitis, 4 (13,3%) intermediate uveitis, 10 (33,3%) posterior uveitis and 5 (16,7%) diffuse uveitis. Considering the patients with posterior uveitis, 2 presented lesions with etiology needing investigation, 8 presented a probable diagnosis of active lesion by *toxoplasma gondii* and 29 with diagnosis of healed lesions probably by toxoplasmosis. Thirty-two patients were sent to the Uveitis and AIDS Department; 25% presented another ocular diseases and were sent to other Departments according to their ocular diseases.

CONCLUSIONS: The majority of the uveitis was posterior and the most probable etiology was Toxoplasmosis. About 70% of the patients were in the age group from 31 to 70 years old. Among the patients with diagnosis of uveitis, 73,8% was in the age group from 20 to 59 years old.

Keywords: Uveitis/etiology; Uveitis/epidemiology; Toxoplasmosis