

M.B.2381 ADRENAL INVOLVEMENT IN AIDS

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Evaluation of the adrenal function was performed in 30 AIDS (CDC 1987) 3 ARC, 3 group III and 2 group II patients presenting complications of HIV infection from 1988 to 1990 on Evandro Chagas Hospital. All but 6 were homosexuals or bisexuals (3 also were drug addicts). From these 6 patients, 2 were promiscuous women and 4 were men: Blood transfused (1) drug addict (1), not identified factor (2). Cortisol levels were dosed before and after rapid stimulation with synthetic adrenocorticotrophic hormone (ACTH) by radioimmunoassay. As a control group, the test was done in 5 immunocompetent individuals which showed normal responses. Alterations were detected in 10 patients: 3 had adrenal insufficiency (2 AIDS 1 ARC), 7 had subnormal rapid response to ACTH stimulation. Necropsy was done in 8 AIDS patients 2 have had prior normal functional evaluation. Histoplasmosis was founded at the adrenal tissue in 1. Five patients more had adrenal damage: Histoplasmosis (1), cryptococcosis (1), cytomegalovirus (1), Kaposi Sarcoma (1). These pathogens also affected other endocrinal glands. Since AIDS patients present symptomatology similar to adrenal failure, further studies of group IV should allow the establishment of the prevalence pattern and degree of adrenocortical damage involved in causing adrenal failure