

"Disseminated Histoplasmosis in Patients with AIDS in Rio de Janeiro - Brazil"
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Objective: Study the prevalence, clinical-laboratorial findings, diagnosis and follow-up of Histoplasmosis in AIDS.

Methods: 148 AIDS patients (G IV CDC 1987) registers from Evandro Chagas Hospital were analyzed.

Results: From 12 of these patients (8,1%) *Histoplasma capsulatum* was isolated from blood, sputum, SNC, spinal fluid and/or lymph node, lung, liver and bone marrow tissue.

Eleven of them were male, homosexual or bisexual, aging between 25 and 50 years and were resident in this city.

One of them was a 40 years old woman living in Rio, as well.

All of them presented fever and loss of weight and 6 (50%) with hepatosplenomegaly.

Hematological findings included anemia in 12 patients (100%) and trombocytopenia in 6 (50%).

Six patients (50%) died with *H.capsulatum* sepsis, 4 of them also presented acute renal failure.

Two of them (15%) died with other opportunistic infections related to AIDS.

Four of these patients (30%) are still alive under specific treatment for this infection.

Conclusion: We conclude that histoplasmosis should be regarded as an important opportunistic infection in AIDS patients, at least in Rio de Janeiro City.

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