

**PB0573**

**AUTOPSY FINDINGS IN A SERIE OF 56 AIDS PATIENTS IN BRAZIL. Veloso, Valdilea; Grinsztejn,B; Werneck-Barroso, E; Freitas,W; Scrapião, M.; Bottino,A; Chicarino, J. - Evandro Chagas Hospital/IOC/FIOCRUZ**

**Objective:** To assess the diagnosis provided by autopsy that were not clinically suspected in a serie of 56 AIDS patient and evaluate their clinical significance.

**Methods:** The autopsy findings from 56 AIDS patientes (CDC-87) (49 male, 8 female, mean age 38 ± SD 9.6, 29 hom/bisexual, 13 heterosexuals, 2 IVDU, 1 blood receptor and 11 with unidentified risk; mean survival was 12,5 months ± SD 11) from 1989 through 1993 were evaluated in order to record those that were not clinically suspected. Ultimate cause of death (CD) was also analysed.

**Results:** Bacterial pneumonia was the most frequent autopsy finding 50% (28/56), CD in 9 cases and the main unrecognized infection (26/28) followed by CMV infection (22/26), toxoplasmosis (6/12), histoplasmosis (5/7), cryptosporidiosis (4/7), tuberculosis (3/9), criptococosis (3/12), *P.carinii* pneumonia (2/6), MAC (2/3), intestinal zygomycosis (1/1), herpetic esofagitis (1/1), bacillary angiomatosis (1/1). Neoplastic disease was not suspected in 2/7 cases (SK). The ultimate cause of death was not properly identified in 41.07% (23/56) patients.

**Comments:** The high number of deaths determined by bacterial pneumonia clinically unsuspected indicate a necessity of a high index of suspicion of this condition as it is potentially treatable. CMV remains the most frequent clinically undiagnosed opportunistic infection in AIDS patients. The low number of undiagnosed tuberculosis in our serie probably represents a high index of suspicion of this infection in Brazil and its occurrence early in the progression of the immunodeficiency.

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