

Nutritional status and family issues in children with HIV in the HAART era, Lima, Peru, from 2007 to 2009

Edwin Miranda

Service of Infectious Diseases, National Institute of Child Health, Peru

The aim of the study is to describe the nutritional status and family issues in children with HIV in the HAART era, in a country stadium concentrating on HIV epidemic with free access to antiretroviral treatment. Through retrospective study, we reviewed the medical records of children with HIV infection by vertical transmission, who started HAART between 2007 and 2009 in a hospital in Peru, all under 14. These were compared with HIV-uninfected control group to determine the risk of malnutrition. Of the 75 children enrolled, 34 (45%) were men, the average age of initiation of HAART was 3.6 years, median viral load of 5.14 log copies/ml, children with severe immunosuppression (CD4 <25%) was 68.0% (51/75), 15% have experienced the loss of a parent, 36% receive care from a family member other than parents or in orphanages, 20% are children of mothers single and the percentage of children with HIV with some degree of malnutrition is 69.3%, the weight-for-age more frequent with 66.7%, this is an OR of 6.2 and 10.5 respectively. There is high risk of nutritional deficiency especially in the weight for age in children with HIV at the time of diagnosis. Many children with HIV have new forms of coexistence, in the care of relatives or orphanages that make them prone to difficulty in social integration.

emirandach@hotmail.com