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HIV-associated neurocognitive disorder in a Brazilian sample: Preliminary date

Gascón Maria Rita Polo, Mazzaro Yolanda Marques, Capitão Cláudio Garcia, Coutinho Elizeu Macedo, Smid Jerusa, Bermudez José Vidal, Benute Gláucia Rosana Guerra, Lucia Mara Cristina de Souza and Penalva Oliveira Augusto César
Institute of Infectious Diseases Emilio Ribas, Brazil

In addition to acting on the immune system, HIV also acts on the central nervous system. This action causes neurological and cognitive damage which ranges from a specific or general depending on the stage of infection and the HIV-associated neurocognitive disorders (HAND) is prevalent, however, few studies concerning this condition have been conducted in Latin American countries. The correct ways to test and detect HAND are needed for early diagnosis and treatment. To determine the presence of HAND (asymptomatic neurocognitive impairment (ANI), mild neurocognitive disorder (MND) and HIV dementia (HAD)) in an outpatient population of HIV patients in São Paulo, Brazil. Cross-sectional cohort studies were designed to evaluate the presence of HIV-associated neurocognitive disorders. Six hundred patients, older than 18 years, of both sexes, with no active neurologic disease were selected to a full neuropsychological assessment from January 2013 to November 2014. Until the moment, 35 HIV patients were randomly enrolled from outpatient clinic. So far the preliminary results demonstrate a sample of 70.6% men, mean age of 42.2 years (SD=9.9) and mean schooling of 12.3 years (SD=3.2). Seven patients had normal functioning. ANI and MND were found to be n=26 and n=2, respectively, in the sample. No HAD was diagnosed. The relevant neurocognitive defects were sustained and divided attention, verbal episodic memory, visuospatial constructional functions, visuographic memory, planning function and motor speed. The preliminary analysis showed HIV positive individuals achieved a significant lower performance on executive function test. The study with 660 patients is already recruiting patients to the improvement of these data.

Biography

Gascon Maria Rita Polo graduated in Psychology at Mackenzie University in 2006. She obtained Master Degree in Science in Coordination for Disease Control State Department of Health in 2010 and Specialization in Neuropsychological in Pysco-Sugery Studies Center from Clinicas Hospital (HC/FMUSP). She is Psychologist at Clinicas Hospital, Brazil

mariaritapolo@yahoo.com.br