

## 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on **HIV/AIDS, STDs, & STIs**

October 27-29, 2014 Embassy Suites Las Vegas, USA

### Delayed HIV/AIDS diagnosis in individuals with HIV/tuberculosis co-infection in a Brazilian

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**Background:** Tuberculosis-associated HIV infections affect the dynamics of both diseases. The objective of this study was to evaluate the immunology of individuals with HIV/tuberculosis, initially diagnosed with HIV/AIDS, according to gender.

**Methods:** This descriptive, cross-sectional and retrospective study was performed in 2012 in Ribeirão Preto, São Paulo, Brazil. The subjects were individuals with HIV/tuberculosis co-infection initially diagnosed with HIV/AIDS, all residents to the referred city. The cases were reported and listed on the TBweb program between 2003 and 2011. The database was created using the “linkage” between the TBweb, SINAN, SISCEL and SICLOM databases. The data were analyzed using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) 17.0 for Windows.

**Results:** The 246 participants presented HIV/tuberculosis co-infection with an initial diagnosis for HIV/AIDS, 171 (69.5%) were male. The predominant age group was between 35 and 44 years (44.3%) and 107 (43.5%) were white. Regarding the outcome related to tuberculosis, 33.7% died ( $p=0.355$ ). Of the 203 (82.5%) individuals with cell count lower than 200 cells/mm<sup>3</sup> blood, 140 (81.9%) were male and 63 (60.0%) female ( $p=0.462$ ). Regarding the viral load, 30.1% showed between 1,001 and 100,000 copies at the moment of the HIV/AIDS diagnosis ( $p=0.683$ ). No statistically significant differences were found in the data; however, the results outline the high death rate and low TCD4<sup>+</sup> lymphocyte count.

**Conclusions:** The study results showed that at the moment of the HIV/AIDS diagnosis, the TCD4<sup>+</sup> lymphocyte count indicated a delayed diagnosis, showing a need to broaden the anti-HIV test and perform more prevention actions, in addition to suggesting keeping a closer look on males with a higher frequency of low TCD4<sup>+</sup> lymphocyte levels.

#### Biography

Elucir Gir has experience in Nursing, focusing on Infectious Diseases, acting on the following subjects: AIDS, nursing, and material biological. She has published more than 154 papers in reputed journals and has been serving as an editorial board member of reputed journals.

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