

Poster Sessions – Abstract P297

Clinical and laboratorial impact of antiretroviral therapy in a cohort of Portuguese patients chronically infected with HIV-2

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Introduction: HIV-2 infection is endemic in West Africa and some European countries, namely Portugal. HIV-2 antiretroviral (ARV) treatment presents some restraints related to intrinsic resistance to non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTI) and fusion inhibitors, and poorer response to protease inhibitors (PI).

Material and Methods: Retrospective observational study of a cohort of 135 infected HIV-2 patients, diagnosed between 1989 and 2008.

Objectives: Evaluation of epidemiologic, clinical, immunologic and virologic progression, comparing to groups of patients (naïve vs ARV experienced); characterization of therapeutic, immunologic and virologic response. SPSS version 20.0 was used for statistical analysis.

Results: The study included 135 patients: 41% (n = 55) naïve and 59% (n = 80) with ARV experience. The comparison between groups (naïve vs ARV) revealed: male prevalence 76% vs 50%; mean age 54.5 years vs 54.8 (p = 0.90); main geographic origin Guiné Bissau (47% vs 44%) and Portugal (22% vs 33%); and transmission mainly acquired by heterosexual contact (87% vs 80%). Mean time since diagnosis was 14 vs 13 years (p = 0.31); 2% vs 50% presented AIDS criteria at diagnosis (p < 0.001) and 93% vs 38% registered TCD4 > 350 cell/mm³ at diagnosis (p < 0.001). Immunological evolution showed no significant decline in naïve population ($\Delta = -67$ cell/mm³ – p = 0.18) and a significant recovery in ARV experienced ($\Delta = +207$ cell/mm³ – p < 0.001). Global mortality rate found was 18% (6% vs 13% – p = 0.122). Eighty patients initiated ARV: 84% presented a time interval of ARV exposure between 0–5 years (42%) and 5–10 years (42%). Fifty percent experienced ≤ 2 ARV regimens and the remaining > 2 regimes. Considering the first ARV therapy: 56% initiated PI, 30% NTRI and 5% integrase inhibitor (II)-based regimens. Currently, 54 patients maintain regular follow-up and ARV therapy: 60% NTRI + PI; 37% NRTI + PI + II and 3% NRTI + II. TDF/FTC is the backbone in 56%. Most frequent PIs are LPV/r (54%), DRV/r (19%) and ATV/r (12%). Mean time of exposure to NRTI = 3 years, PI = 7 years and II = 2 years. Immunologic recovery was sustained for each of the ARV class considered (NRTI $\Delta = +144$ cell/mm³; PI $\Delta = +92$ cell/mm³; II $\Delta = +116$ cell/mm³).

Conclusions: This is a cohort accompanied for a long period and the majority of patients present extensive ARV experience. The ARV-experienced patients registered a favourable response to treatment, with sustained immune recovery ($\Delta = +207$ cell/mm³) and virologic control in 74%. Immunologic behaviour evidenced a sustained gain for each of the ARV class considered.

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