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EIGHT YEARS OF FOLLOW-UP IN EVANDRO CHAGAS: CORRESPONDENCE ANALYSIS ON AIDS MORTALITY DATA:

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Objective: To identify most relevant diseases associated with AIDS patients who died between 1987-94, and to study differences between disease prevalence in the same time period.

Methods: Data collected since 1987 in Evandro Chagas was analyzed, in order to study disease prevalence of all patients who died in the 1987-94 period using Correspondence analysis. One hundred and ninety-one AIDS patients were subdivided in two time periods: before 1990 (inclusive) and after 1990.

Results: Median age was 36 years with male predominance (84.9%). Antiretroviral drugs were not freely distributed by health authorities before 1991, which accounts for low use of these drugs in our patients (33.9%). Oral candidiasis (79.3%), PCP (36.5%), tuberculosis-any site (32.3%), toxoplasmosis (28.6%), Kaposi's sarcoma (15%), Cryptococcosis (15.1%), Cryptosporidiosis (15.0%), Pneumonia (18.8%), CMV retinitis (14.6%) were most frequent infections detected during follow-up period. Correspondence analysis (Eigenvalues of 29% for the first two axes) clearly separates both time periods (before and after 1990); predominating in the latter we found use of antiviral drugs, tuberculosis, CMV retinitis and Toxoplasmosis.

Conclusions: There seems to be a shift for opportunistic infections that have occurred in AIDS patients in the last few years. Among possible causes for this we may include better diagnostic procedures, antiretroviral drugs and longer survival times.

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