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"Histopathologic Findings in Necropsy of Endocrine Glands in Patients with AIDS"
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Objective: Study the histopathological features in endocrine glands.

Methods: 11 necropsies were performed from 1989 to 1991 at Evandro Chagas Hospital. Endocrine tissues (adrenals, thyroid and pancreas) were fixed in 10% DEHYDE or 10% formol, included in paraffin, were submitted to histopathologic sections, stained by HE, Grocott, Wade, PAS, Mucicarmine and Warthin-Starry.

Results: The adrenals were examined in 10 cases, with involvement in 6 (60%); 3 with histoplasmosis, 2 with cytomegalovirus infection and 1 with Kaposi's Sarcoma. Thyroid was examined in 8 with involvement in 3 (37%); 2 with histoplasmosis and 1 with cryptococcosis. Pancreas was examined in 9 with involvement in 3; 2 with histoplasmosis and 1 with bacillary epithelioid angiomatosis.

Conclusions: The involvement of endocrine glands in AIDS was confirmed. The findings were: Tropism of opportunists infections and tumors; the adrenals were the most frequently damaged. Besides cytomegalovirus which is the most usual infection, they were also involved by histoplasmosis and Kaposi's Sarcoma. Other glands, such as thyroid and pancreas, were also damaged but with less incidence than adrenals. Finally, a thorough study of histopathologic findings should be performed in all AIDS patients.

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