

PC0395

SEROPREVALENCE OF HIV, HBV AND SYPHILIS AMONG BLOOD DONORS IN A SLUM-BASED HOSPITAL OF RIO DE JANEIRO.
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Objectives:

To determine the seroprevalence of HIV, HBV and Syphilis in voluntary Blood donors of a Rural Blood Bank in the poorest area of R.de Janeiro.

Methods:

A total of 6143 serum samples were screened (mid 1987 to 1993) for anti HIV antibodies by ELISA Technique. For confirmation IFI. For Syphilis VDRL and TPHA methods were used. For hepatitis B the markers studied were HBsAg and anti HBC ELISA. Among the studied population 84% were male and 16% female. The mean age was 32 years old.

Results:

The overall prevalence of soropositivity estimated for the period of time in question was for HIV 0.94%, Syphilis 2.4% and HBV 7.1%.

Conclusion:

The prevalence of anti HIV positive blood units was not consistent with the estimate averaged for the Nation (0,3%).

"Positive donors" have been increasing remarkably each year. Their poor level of knowledge about AIDS and STD, their high level of risk behavior and low salaries not allowing to buy condoms shows the necessity of an urgent intervention programme with effective prevention strategies to this community. Post-Test counseling showed that some voluntary Blood donors with risk behavior had undergone donation only to know their "Serologic tests", so blood safety gets vulnerable because of the "window period" between infection and the detection of demonstrable HIV antibodies. It is crucial to create Units for Anonimous Testing to ensure Blood Safety.

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