

The pancreas and human immunodeficiency virus

Ethel Zimberg Chehter
Faculdade de Medicina do ABC, Brazil

Human Immunodeficiency virus (HIV) an important infection and it is worldwide. Today 33.5 million people are living with this virus and many will die with this infection. Natural history of HIV induced immune suppression and causes opportunistic infections. The gastrointestinal tract plays an important role in HIV disease. It is a big lymphoid organ so it contributed for the immunosuppression, and also is a source of transmission, reservatoire and lymphocytic depletion. The pancreas is also involved with this infection, but little is known about it. In 2000, Chehter et al published one study of 109 post-mortem's HIV in the pre high active anti-retroviral therapy (HAART) and find the histologic pattern of the HIV in pancreas: In the pancreatic acinus decreased of the zymogen granule, atrophy of the pancreas, steatosis in parenchyma and a nuclear abnormality "dysplasia-like". These findings in more than 50% of the pancreas create a histologic pattern for the HIV in pancreas, but with no clinical manifestations. These findings could be related to abnormalities "protein energy malnutrition-like-(Kwashiorkor)". This decreased zymogen granule could bring malabsortion syndrome? Our group did a study looking for malabsortion syndrome, but we did not find it. Then we look for the effect of the HAART in pancreas: Drugs (HAART) the prolonged life and also the immune reconstitution. In this 20 autopsy-study (2013) we find a pancreas with more atrophy and more decreased zymogen granule, with no clinical manifestations. This study shows that the Langherhans islets were very altered: With nuclear dysplasia and very enhanced, so we think this is possible the effect of the HAART, and now we are studying the Langherhans islets in more detail.

Biography

Ethel Zimberg Chehter completed his MD at age 23 years from Faculdade de Medicina Santa Casa -São Paulo in 1982. He did his Master (1991) and graduated as a Doctor in Medicine in 1997 both at Faculdade de Medicina Universidade de São Paulo. Currently, he is the adjunct Professor of Gastroenterology at Faculdade de Medicina Santo Andre-São Paulo where he teaches Gastroenterology for the graduation course. He has 22 publications in journals and is an International Member of the American Gastroenterology Association.

chehter.ops@terra.com.br