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High prevalence of adenovirus among patients with acute conjunctivitis in Hamadan, Iran

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Viruses are considered to be the most common cause of infectious conjunctivitis. PCR has been approved as the best standard method to diagnose viral conjunctivitis. This study was conducted to investigate epidemiological pattern of conjunctivitis in Hamadan, west Iran. In addition, the frequency of the most important cause of infectious conjunctivitis, diagnosed by PCR, and its seasonal variations and association with certain socioeconomic and health factors were studied. In this cross-sectional study, 125 patients with suspected viral conjunctivitis or keratoconjunctivitis in Hamadan, west Iran from July 2015 to June 2016 were examined for presence of herpes simplex virus 1 (HSV-1), HSV-2, Varicella-Zoster virus (VZV), adenovirus and *Chlamydia trachomatis* using multiplex real-time PCR. Adenoviruses was the most prevalent pathogen (94.4%). HSV-1 was found in two (1.6%) patients. HSV-2, VZV and *C. trachomatis* were not seen in any of the patients. There was no difference in acquisition of conjunctivitis between men and women. Fifty five (44%) patients attended the clinics in summer. This study demonstrated that adenoviruses were a much more common viral cause of conjunctivitis in the studied region compared to findings in others regions. In addition, acquisition rate of eye infection is expected to decrease dramatically in this region through control of adenoviruses. Demographic variables such as age, gender and income level were not significantly associated with acquisition of viral infection.

Biography

Farid Azizi Jalilian has completed his PhD at 2011 from University Putra Malaysia and postdoctoral studies from University Putra Malaysia . He is the director of International affairs at Hamadan University of Medical Sciences, Hamadan, Iran. He has published more than 90 papers in local and International journals .

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