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Thesis


Supervisor: M.D. Hiram Laranjeira de Almeida Jr.

Avaliação terapêutica do pimecrolimo creme 1% no tratamento da dermatite seborréica da face em pacientes HIV – positivos, de Andréa Pinheiro de Moraes. Tese apresentada a Universidade Federal do Ceará para obtenção do título de Mestre em Dermatologia. Fortaleza - 2006.

Supervisor: M.D., PhD, Professor Maria Elisabete Amaral de Moraes

Abstract: Seborreheic dermatitis (SD) is a one of the most common dermatosis in HIV-positive patients between 40 to 80% of AIDS patients and 20 to 40% of HIV-positive patients. To investigate efficacy and safety of pimecrolimus cream 1% in HIV-positive patients with facial SD a phase II study was done. First of all 4 HIV-infected patients (GROUP A) with mild-severe SD were treated twice-daily with pimecrolimus cream 1% for 7 days and after this 21 HIV-infected patients (GROUP B) with mild-severe SD were treated twice-daily with pimecrolimus cream 1% for 14 days. Thereafter, treatment was discontinued and patients followed up for 5 weeks. Skin evolvement (erythema, scaling, burning, pruritus, infiltration/population, excoriation and lichenification) at baseline, Days 7, 14, 21, 35 and 49 was assessed using 4-point clinical score and digital photographs. Marked improvement was seen in clinical parameters at Day 7, with >90% patients clear of symptoms at Day 14. Erythema and scaling relapsed at Day 35 in approximately 50% of patients, but all symptoms were milder than at baseline. All patients responded to therapy, despite their immunologic astatus. Pimecrolimus cream represents a new, attractive and effective therapeutic option for SD in HIV-patients.


Supervisors: M.D., PhD, Professor Antonio Augusto Moura da Silva
M.D., PhD, Professor Alba Maria Pinho de Carvalho

Abstract: Evaluation of the first ten years (1995-2004) of validity of the Brazilian Leprosy Elimination Plan (LEP) based upon the crossing of looks from different subjects in the analysis of this public policy. The historical course of the actions opposed to leprosy in social and sanitarian imagination is described, emphasizing processes of building

and deconstructing stigma. The researcher’s route of gaze conversion in the articulation of Health and Social Sciences is told, describing the composition of the methodological investigation path under the perspective of complementarities between the epidemiological approach and looking at the new world of senses and meanings of the narrative interview. Controversies surrounding the aim of “elimination of leprosy as a public health problem” defended by WHO (World Health Organization) and adopted by the Brazilian Health Ministry (BHM) as a mainstay of the public policy opposed to this endemic are exposed. Throughout the analysis, the frailty of the elimination concept defended by WHO/BHM is showed, based upon statistical time trend analysis of epidemiological and operational indicators as well as testimonies from different subjects involved in LEP. Personal, family and professional repercussions of “being a Hansen’s disease patient” are approached, considering as a starting point the threat of breaking social ties, outlining processes of unbelonging. The multidrug therapy (MDT) treatment is described, singularizing fortuitous damages brought to the clients, including considerations about patients and physicians different cure times for and meanings of treatment interruption. The restricted perspective of the statistic leprosy elimination aim is contrasted with the course of growing breadth of leprosy control actions in Brazil. The articulation of health activities opposed to leprosy with the effort of humanized care of the clients now occurring in BHM is glimpsed.


Supervisor: M.D., PhD, Professor Flávio de Queiroz Telles Filho
M.D., PhD, Professor Neiva Leite

Abstract: Fungal infections of the feet become important in medical practice because of their interference in personal, professional and social activities. In spite of that, little is known about the incidence of such infections among soccer players. The aim of this research was to investigate the relationship between skin fungal infections of the feet and professional soccer. Seventy-six male athletes were studied, ranging from 18 to 35 years old, belonging to three different professional soccer teams; non-athlete subjects from the same gender and age group were used as a comparative sample. After an interview, each individual was subjected to general clinic and dermatological exams – with emphasis on the examination of the examination of the feet and toenails – followed by laboratory tests intended to investigate the presence of fungi on skin flakes and on toenail flakes and fragments. The tests employed were the Chi Square test, Student’s t-test, Newman-Keuls’ test and logistic regression, with a significance level of p<0.05. The incidence of fungal infections of the feet (p<0.5734) was found to be similar among both the athlete and non-athlete groups. Among the infected athletes (n=23), the identified agents were Trychophyton mentagrophytes (34.78%), Trychophyton rubrum (21.74%). In the non-athlete group the predominant agent was found to be Trychophyton rubrum (40%). There was no difference (p<0.6402) on the statistical presence or absence of an agent between groups. Independently of their professions, individuals who used to dry their feet showed a lesser tendency for positive results in the laboratory tests, specially on the interdigital area (p<0.0001). One team hads of infected subjects (p<0.0411). On the three studied teams there was a tendency (p<0.0778) for the prevalence of infection among the athletes who played as wingers and midfielders.

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