

mediate, and 21.3% terminal. According to the chronic cases, 41% showed initial insomnia, 40% intermediate, and 19% terminal.

Insomnia was more associated with female sex, divorced and widows, the lowest income classes D/E, low educational degree, and less associated with younger age group (18-30 years old). Sleep-promoting medication was used by 48% of the insomni-

acs; only 17.5% of them visited a physician with the purpose to complain insomnia.

Our findings showed that the insomnia prevalence in the adult population of São Jose do Rio Preto may be compared with the population of North American and European countries as well as other Brazilian cities.

**KEY WORDS:** insomnia, epidemiology, prevalence.

\*Características clínicas e demográficas da insônia na população adulta urbana de São José do Rio Preto (Resumo). Tese de Doutorado. Faculdade de Medicina de São José do Rio Preto (Área Medicina Interna). Orientador: Waldir Antonio Tognola; Co-Orientador: Rubens Reimão.

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#### CHARACTERIZATION OF *TAENIA CRASSICEPS* CYSTICERCOSIS AND THEIR APPLICATION TO DIAGNOSIS OF THE HUMAN CYSTICERCOSIS (ABSTRACT)\*. **THESIS. SÃO PAULO, 2004.**

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*Taenia crassiceps* cysticerci were kept in vitro during 144h. Excretory / secretory (ES) antigens (peptides of <30kDa) were identified in 24 (ES24) and 48h (ES48). ES peptides (30-, 18- and 14-12-kDa) were recognized by polyclonal antibodies in sera from rabbits immunized with *Taenia crassiceps* (Tcra) and *Taenia solium* (Tso) antigens, and also by antibodies in samples of serum and cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) from patients with neurocysticercosis (NC).

Monoclonal antibodies (MoAb) were prepared against ES-Tcra, Tcra vesicular fluid (VF-Tcra), Tso vesicular fluid (VF-Tso), Tso total (T-Tso) and scolex (E-Tso) antigens.

Twenty-four MoAb were obtained and they were used for the characterization of Tcra and Tso antigens, and for the antigen detection in samples of patients with NC. Nine MoAb (1 anti-ES-Tcra, 1 anti-VF-Tcra, 3 anti-VF-Tso and 4 anti-T-Tso) reacted with peptides in the Tcra (18- and 14-12-kDa) Tso (14-12kDa) antigens. These low-molecular-

weight peptides have been considered the immunodominant and specific antigen for the diagnosis of NC.

The MoAb maintained their reactivity towards VF-Tcra antigen treated with heat and alkaline borohydride and showed reduction after trichloroacetic acid and periodate oxidation treatments. These results indicate that the 18- and 14-12-kDa fractions are glycoproteins.

Peptides of <20kDa in VF-Tcra antigen were purified by anti-Tcra MoAb and were used to detect antibodies in serum and CSF from patients with NC. Anti-Tcra and anti-Tso MoAb were used to detect antibodies by a competitive assay, and anti-Tcra MoAb to detect antigens in serum and CSF from patients with NC. The results showed a better performance than the use of brute antigens or polyclonal antibodies.

**KEY WORDS:** *Taenia crassiceps* antigens, neurocysticercosis diagnosis, cerebrospinal fluid.

\*Caracterização de antígenos de cisticercos e sua aplicação para o diagnóstico da cisticercose humana (Resumo). Tese (Doutorado), Universidade de São Paulo (Área: Análises clínicas). Orientador: Adelaide José Vaz.

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#### INTRASELLAR PRESSURE IN PITUITARY TUMORS. RELATION STUDY: INTRASELLAR PRESSURE vs HYPOTHALAMIC – PITUITARY FUNCTION. (ABSTRACT)\*. **DISSERTATION. SÃO PAULO, 2004.**

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Between August 2002 and May 2003, 30 patients with pituitary adenomas had their intrasellar (tu-

moral) pressure measured during transsphenoidal endoscopic surgery for these tumors. The age var-