Epidemiologic aspects of AIDS in Portugal (2005-2014)

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The acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) was recognized in mid-1981 in USA and over the past three decades has been considered one of the major public health problem in Portugal and worldwide. In addition, Portugal has one of the highest AIDS rates in the European Union. AIDS can be caused by one of the two serotypes of the HIV virus (HIV-1 or HIV-2), which belong to the genus \textit{Lentivirus} and to the \textit{Retroviridae} family. This study aims to describe the epidemiological aspects of diagnosed cases of people with AIDS in Portugal during the period 2005-2014. It is a study of cross-cohort with data obtained from some online platforms, available in the Department of Infectious Diseases of the INSA and the National Programme for HIV/AIDS Infection. As eligible criteria, it was considered every individual who has been diagnosed with AIDS in the Portuguese territory. Between the years 2005-2014, 6.923 individuals were diagnosed with AIDS in Portugal, with 4.400 deaths occurring in the same period. As for the mode of transmission, 54.7\% (n=3.792) cases were associated with heterosexual transmission, followed by cases associated with via drug addict, with 31.4\% (n=2.176). As for the distribution of the most frequently reported diseases in AIDS, \textit{Pneumocystis} pneumonia is the most common illness in all diagnosed cases, with respectively 23.0\% (n=1.455), followed by pulmonary tuberculosis, with 22.1\% (n=1.400). According to the incidence and absolute number of coefficient of cases diagnosed in 2010 to 2014, there was a decrease in the number of cases. The analysis of the temporal trend of the last ten years in Portugal revealed that there was also a decrease in the rate of newly diagnosed cases of AIDS. The national plan to combat HIV infection has been implementing important contributions to reverse the high rate of AIDS diagnoses. In addition, a major goal is to produce epidemiological qualified information to support the monitoring design strategies regarding prevention.

\textbf{Keywords:} AIDS, Portugal, clinical evolution.