

# HTLV prevalence in people living with HIV/Aids in João Pessoa – PB

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Worldwide, about 33 million people are living with HIV and a slightly smaller number, 15 to 20 million, are HTLV 1/2 infected. HIV and HTLV 1/2 share the same routes of transmission and interactions between them have already been reported in several studies. This interaction may lead to a rapid clinical progression of HIV infection in patients co-infected with HTLV 1/2, and masking the diagnosis of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome by increasing CD4 T lymphocytes. While HIV may increase the risk of developing diseases associated with HTLV 1/2, such as tropical spastic paraparesis/chronic myelopathy. The aim of this study was to estimate the prevalence of coinfection with HTLV 1/2 in people living with HIV/AIDS. We searched for anti-HTLV 1/2, people living with HIV, treated at infectious diseases Clinic of the Clementino Fraga Hospital in João Pessoa-PB, from February to July 2015. We collected 5mL of blood in tubes without anticoagulant after signing the free and informed consent. Then the samples were processed to obtain serum and sent properly packed to the Virology Section of the Laboratory of Immunopathology Keizo Asami (LIKA), in the Federal University of Pernambuco, where they were stored at -20°C until testing. It used commercial ELISA kit (Wiener Lab®) for anti-HTLV 1/2 reagents and samples were confirmed by Western Blotting, (Fujirebio®). The study included 401 people of both genders, being 67.59% male and 32.41% female, with an average age of 41.3 years. The prevalence of coinfection HIV / HTLV was 1.5% (), low compared with other regions of the country due to epidemiological and cultural characteristics of this population. It emphasizes the importance of more prevalence studies, as Brazil presents significant inter-regional differences in the profile of the population.

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