

HEMATOLOGICAL EVALUATION IN UNTREATED PARACOCCIDIOIDOMYCOSIS-PATIENTS.

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Introduction. Paracoccidioidomycosis (PCM) is a systemic granulomatous disease restricted to Latin America that frequently disseminates to several organs. The clinical evaluation of PCM-patients is frequently completed by laboratory tests. The objective of this study is to evaluate some hematological variables in untreated patients. **Patients and Methods.** We studied 83 patients with PCM confirmed by identification of the etiological agent or detection of serum antibodies by double agar gel immunodiffusion test, clinically classified according to Mendes (1994): 29 presented the acute/subacute severe form (G₁), 35 the chronic moderate form (G₂) and 19 the chronic severe form (G₃). Hematological exams were performed in routine clinical laboratories at the University Hospital – UNESP. Comparison of medians were carried out by Kruskal-Wallis test and significance was set up at $p < 0.05$. **Results.** Hemoglobin (g%) [G₁=11.1; G₂=15.1; G₃=14.6] and hematocrit (%) [G₁=34.5; G₂=44.2; G₃=43.4] showed low values only in G₁ [G₁ < (G₂=G₃)]; eosinophils count (no./mm³) [G₁=616; G₂=430; G₃=256] was increased only in G₁ [G₁ > (G₂=G₃)]; platelet count (no./mm³) [G₁=380,500; G₂=311,000; G₃=358,000] was normal in all the groups, but with difference among them [G₂ < (G₁=G₃)]; neutrophils [G₁=5,519; G₂=6,360; G₃=6,6,832], total lymphocytes [G₁=1,821.5; G₂=2,121; G₃=2,125] and monocytes [G₁=480; G₂=485; G₃=820] count were normal (G₁=G₂=G₃). Erythrocyte sedimentation rate (mm/1st hour) [G₁=43; G₂=29; G₃=30] was always increased [G₁ > (G₂=G₃)]. **Conclusions.** The hematological alterations caused by *P. brasiliensis* suggest careful follow-up of PCM-patients, with routine evaluation of the hemogram and erythrocyte sedimentation rate.