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Title: Community acquired lung respiratory infections in HIV-infected patients: Microbial etiology and outcome

Dr. Catia 13360 Cilloniz catiacilloniz@yahoo.com MD ¹, Ms. Encarna 13361 Moreno encarna-moreno@hotmail.es ¹, Dr. Jacobo 13362 Sellares sellares@clinic.ub.es ¹, Dr. Rosanel 13363 Amaro ramaro@clinic.ub.es ¹, Dr. Eva 13364 Polverino epolveri@clinic.ub.es ¹, Dr. Mar 13365 Ortega mortega@clinic.ub.es ², Mr. Albert 13366 Gabarrus gabarrus@clinic.ub.es ¹, Dr. Asuncion 13367 Moreno amoreno@clinic.ub.es ², Dr. Jose Maria 13373 Miro jmiro@clinic.ub.es ², Dr. Josep 13374 Mensa jmensa@clinic.ub.es ² and Dr. Antoni 13379 Torres atorres@clinic.ub.es ¹. ¹ Pneumology, Institut Del Tórax, Hospital Clinic, IDIBAPS, University of Barcelona, CIBERES, Barcelona, Spain and ² Infectious Disease, Hospital Clinic of Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain .

Body: Background: The aim of this study are to examined the correlation of CD4+ cell count and HIV-RNA level with the etiology of CAP in hospitalized HIV-infected patients Methods: Prospective observational study of consecutive adult patients with HIV infection seen in the ED with the diagnosis of CAP. Results: We studied 331 HIV patients with CAP, mean age of 42.1 ± 9.5 yrs. Mean CD4+ cell count 281.3 ± 248.3 /mm³. 128 (39%) patients had CD4+ cell count lower than 200/mm³. The mean HIV-RNA level 234,236 ± 905,6 copies/ml. 83(25%) patients had HIV-RNA level <50 copies/ml. HIV infection had been diagnosed prior hospital admission in 274 (83%) patients and 57(17%) patients the diagnosis of HIV infection was in the episode of pneumonia. Independent predictors of bacterial CAP in multivariate analysis were days of symptoms ≤5 (OR 2.6), C-reactive protein level ≥22 mg/dl (OR 4.3), and co-infection with HCV (OR 2.3). Current smoker (OR 0.2) or ex-smoker (OR 0.2, 95% CI 0.04-0.8), previous antibiotic (OR 3.5), C-reactive protein level <22 mg/dl (OR 12.5), WBC count ≤4,000 x10⁹ cell/L (OR 3.9), LDH ≥450 U/L (OR 13.1), and multilobar affectation (OR 5.3) were independent predictors of pneumocystic CAP in the multivariate analysis. LDH ≥450 U/L (OR 4.3) and mechanical ventilation (OR 22.6) were the only variables independently associated with 30-day hospital mortality. Conclusion: Bacterial pneumonia was significantly higher than pneumonia for P. jiroveci. S. pneumoniae continues been the main pathogens involved in CAP, regard CD4+ cell count stratus and HIV-RNA levels. Our result indicated there are several risk factors to help us recognise bacterial from Pneumocystic infections.