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CÁNCER INCIDENCE IN PEOPLE WITH AIDS IN TARRAGONA AND GIRONA.

Authors: Galceran J¹, Borràs J¹, Marcos R², Romaguera A³, Soler M³, Ameijide A⁴, de Sanjosé S⁵, Casabona J⁶.

¹Tarragona Cáncer Registry, ²Girona Cáncer Registry, Institut Català de la Salut, ⁴Institut de Recerca en Ciències de la Salut, ⁵Institut Català d'Oncologia and ⁶Centre d'Estudis Epidemiològics sobre la Sida de Catalunya. Spain.

Background and objectives: Apart from AIDS-defining cancers, other types of cancer have also been associated with this infection. Kaposi's sarcoma incidence increased in Tarragona province from 1987. In 1999, a study showed that HIV infection raised incidence of invasive cervical carcinoma in Catalonia. The aim was to evaluate the incidence of the different cancer types in the AIDS patients of Tarragona and Girona provinces. Methods; A linkage between the Catalonian AIDS Registry and the Tarragona and Girona Cancer Registries was carried out. Cancer incidence of Tarragona and Girona AIDS patients aged 15-69 with the cancer diagnosed between 60 months before and 60 months after the AIDS diagnosis was evaluated. For each type of cancer and sex, the number of observed cancers in AIDS patients was compared with the number of expected cases and SIR estimated. The number of expected cases before AIDS diagnosis was adjusted to the survival of Tarragona cancer patients. Results: Between 1981 and 2001, 838 and 821 people were diagnosed with AIDS in Tarragona and Girona provinces respectively and they were related to 43,632 Tarragona cancer patients (1981 to 1998) and to 18,787 Girona cancer patients (1994 to 1999). 213 cancers in 202 people were identified. Among men, Kaposi's sarcoma (505.6), non Hodgkin's lymphoma (107.0), the neoplasm not included in the definition of AIDS as a whole (5.5), Hodgkin's disease (31.0) and cancers of liver (29.5), lung (7.0) and brain and CNS (45.3) presented elevated SIRs. Among women, elevated SIRs were found in Kaposi's sarcoma (1031.8), non Hodgkin's lymphoma (194.2), invasive cervical carcinoma (41.7) and the non-AIDS-related cancers as a whole (12.4). Hodgkin's disease presented a non statistically significant SIR of 33.7. *In situ* cervical carcinoma showed a statistically significant SIR (21 A). Conclusions: This study shows a high incidence of the AIDS-related cancers and also of some non-AIDS-related cancers in Catalonian people with AIDS in the nineties and confirms the association between this infection and the *in situ* cervical carcinoma.