



POSTER PRESENTATION

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# Serum levels of inflammatory cytokines in leprosy patients

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From 16<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on HIV and Emerging Infectious Diseases  
Marseille, France. 24-26 March 2010

## Background

Measure the serum cytokine levels in untreated leprosy with different parts of the spectrum of leprosy.

## Methods

Concentrations of IL-4, IL-6 and IL-12 in the serum of patients were determined with a commercially available enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) kit (R&D Systems) according manufacturers instructions.

## Results

We observed that mean of IL-4 and IL-6 were higher in lepromatous pole and IL-12 and TNF- $\alpha$  were higher in tuberculoid pole, but only IL-12 were statistic significantly. Our data also demonstrated that most of the patients present very lows or absent levels of TNF- $\alpha$ , IL-4 and IL-6.

## Discussion

This is probably because leprosy is a chronic infectious disease and this profile cytokines is increase acute infections. Thus, studies of cytokine in leprosy have given us a more detailed description of the immunological parameters of the polar types of leprosy and play a significant role in classification and prognosis of this disease.

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Published: 11 May 2010

doi:10.1186/1742-4690-7-S1-P190

Cite this article as: de Paula *et al.*: Serum levels of inflammatory cytokines in leprosy patients. *Retrovirology* 2010 **7**(Suppl 1):P190.

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