IDENTIFICATION OF VIRAL HEPATITIS C GENOTYPES IN PATIENTS ATTENDED IN TROPICAL MEDICINE CENTER OF FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF PARÁ

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INTRODUCTION: Hepatitis C is an infectious disease that causes acute or chronic inflammation of the liver, of those infected, 70-85 % develop a chronic form keeping a liver inflammation for more than six months. OBJECTIVES: This study aimed to identify viral genotypes of hepatitis C in patients attended at the Tropical Medicine Center (NMT), Federal University of Pará (UFPA), as well as investigate the main risk factors to the acquisition of HCV infection in these individuals. MATERIAL AND METHODS: The study included 292 patients attended at ambulatory service in NMT-UFPA from 2009 to 2014, age over the of 18 years of both genders. All participants answered the socioeconomic questionnaire and blood sample was collected for PCR and genotyping. RESULTS: Of these 41.79 % (122/292) were females and 58.21 % (170/292) male. The mean age was 36 years old. Regarding family income, 73 % received 1-2 minimum fees (153/185). Among the risk factors highlighted that 80.82 % (236/292) were not used to using condoms during sexual intercourse, 22.26 % (65/292) had multiple partners. Regarding the sharing sharp materials 59.24 % (173/292) shared manicure kit and 39.72 % (116/292) shared shavers. In molecular analysis by PCR, the presence of genetic material of the virus (HCV) was detectable at 35.96 % (105/292) and undetectable in 64.04 % (187/292). The genotype distribution between the detectable samples was 30.82 (90/292) for genotype 1 and 5.14 (15/292) for genotype 3. CONCLUSION: This study identified the presence of genotypes 1 and 3 circulating among individuals attended at NMT-UFPA and the risk factors identified among the study participants were not using condom and sharing sharp material.

Key words: HCV. Genotype. Identification.