MICRORGANISMS PRESENT IN CULTURES OF CATHETERS OF PATIENTS OF A TERTIARY HOSPITAL, MUNICIPALITY OF FORTALEZA-CE.

ALMEIDA FILHO, M. A.; SANTOS, F. R. S. dos; ARAUJO, J. F. S. da; ARAÚJO, L. M. M.; SOUZA, J. C. de; SAMPAIO, I. S. de; PANTOJA, L. D. M.; MOURÃO, C. I.

UNIVERSIDADE ESTADUAL DO CEARÁ, FORTALEZA, CE (AVENIDA DR. SILAS MUNGUBA, 1700 - CAMPUS DO ITAPERI, CEP 60741-000, FORTALEZA - CE, BRASIL)

Catheters are invasive resources passive of colonization by microorganisms that can generate infectious complications. Within this context, the present study aimed isolate and identify species of microorganisms in the culture of patients' catheters of a tertiary hospital in the city of Fortaleza-CE. Therefore, the samples of central catheters, peripheral or arterial were investigated. After aseptic removal and packaging in a sterile flask, the material was sent to the Microbiology Laboratory and seeded according to the Maki Technique. Succeeding, the samples were incubated in an atmosphere at 10% CO2 at 35 ° C for up to 48 hours. Having growth, the samples were classified by the number of colonies, following by the microbial identification. In the case of no growth after 48 hours, the Petri dishes were incubated again for 24 hours more. A positive result was considered when the growth was greater than or equal to 150 CFU by petri dish. 51 patients were analyzed, aged between 22 and 91 years, 53% women and 47% men. The catheter culture samples were 41% positive. The microorganisms found were *Staphylococcus epidermidis* (19%), *S. aureus* (14,2%), other coagulase-negative staphylococci (9,5%), *Acinetobacter baumannii* (9,5%), *Enterobacter cloacae* (9,5%), *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (9,5%), *Proteus mirabilis* (9,5%), *Stenotrophomonas maltophilia* (4,7%), *Achromobacter xylosoxidans* (4,7%), *Morganella morganii* (4,7%), *Klebsiella pneumoniae* (4,7%), *Escherichia coli* (4,7%) and fungi of the genera *Candida*, which are responsible for 85% of the ICUs' fungus infections in the country, highlighting for the species *C. tropicalis* (14,2 %). The microbial diversity observed might be associated with the infections of the primary bloodstream, which are caused by increased susceptibility to patient infections, both by clinical status and by invasive procedures, thus increasing the risk of transmission of these microorganisms among patients, and their presence may facilitate the formation of biofilms that cause the aggravation of illnesses. Thus, there is a need for preventive measures to minimize contamination, such as encouraging the training of health professionals in order to guide them to always perform an adequate antisepsis of the hands and a correct and rigorous sterilization of the equipment used in the catheter application procedures.

Key words: Catheter tip, Biofilms, tertiary hospital.