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Prevalence of steatosis and advanced liver fibrosis in infected patients with HIV Bukavu Provincial Hospital: Preliminary study

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Introduction: Today, there is an increase in the prevalence of fatty liver including in people infected with HIV (PHIV) worldwide.

**Objectives:** To assess the prevalence and risk factors associated with fatty liver in PHIV tracked Bukavu general reference to provincial hospital (HPGRB) and to determine the prevalence of advanced liver fibrosis in these patients.

**Method:** It is a cross-sectional study conducted from March 5 till November 20, 2015 which included 70 patients infected with HIV as they presented themselves to the HPGRB during the study period. All realized abdominal ultrasound with CHISON i3 or SONOSCAPE S11 device with a convex probe of 3.5 MHz in addition to laboratory tests to calculate the NAFLD fibrosis score online.

**Results:** Majority of our study population was aged over 35 years (74.3%) with a predominance of males (58.6%). 10% were overweight; 20% had a moderate alcohol consumption; 1.4% had diabetes; 38.5% were clinical stage 3 of the WHO and 8.7% in stage 4. The median CD4 count was 124 (19-618) cells / microliter. 62.9% of patients were treated with AZT+3TC+NVP; 10% in TNF+3TC+EFV; 7.1% for EFV+TNF+EMTRIC. The prevalence of hepatic steatosis was 59.2% and 14.2% of patients had advanced liver fibrosis. Factors associated with steatosis were an albumin level of less than 3.5 g/ dL OR=10.8 (1.5 to 264.6) p=0.02; elevation of alanine aminotransferase (ALT) OR=3.2 (1.1 to 9.8) p=0.02.

**Conclusion:** Prevalence of hepatic steatosis in our study population was high (59.2%). Hypo albumin and ALT elevation are biological factors associated with the presence of this steatosis (p=0.02).

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