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ANALYSIS OF THE RATE OF HOSPITALIZATIONS FOR AMOEIASIS IN THE STATE OF CEARÁ BETWEEN 2008 AND 2023

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Abstract

Intestinal amoebiasis is a disease caused by *Entamoeba* spp., and has a major impact on human morbidity and mortality. Its incidence is highest in tropical, subtropical and hot climate areas, where hygiene and health education conditions are often inadequate. In view of the above, the present study aimed to provide an updated statistical overview of the statewide hospitalization rate due to amoebiasis in the state of Ceará over the last 15 years. The epidemiological parameters evaluated were: number of hospitalizations by health macro-region, and number of hospitalizations by age group (<1 year, 1 to 4 years, 5 to 9 years, 10 to 14 years, 15 to 19 years, 20 to 29 years, 30 to 49 years, 40 to 49 years, 50 to 59 years, 60 to 69 years, 70 to 79 years and ≥80 years), between 2008 and 2023 in the state of Ceará. The database used for data collection was Tabnet, which is supplied with data from the Unified Health System of the Brazilian. For graphic construction, the *GraphPad Prism* version 8.0 program was used, so that the *heatmap* model was applied to demonstrate the values. In addition, analyses of variance (*Two-way ANOVA*) were performed, followed by the Turkey test, to demonstrate significant differences between the groups. In the analysis of the number of hospitalizations per year and by age group, the evaluation showed that the peak in the number of cases occurred in 2012, with an average of 8.4 cases per macro-region, where the "Cariri" region stands out for the highest average of 5.3 cases per year, significantly higher only than that of the "East Coast/Jaguaribe", of 1.25. Similarly, the average number of cases relative to the age group 1 to 4 was significantly higher than the others, with the exception of those related to patients aged ≥60 years. The study highlights the need for public policies aimed at improving sanitation conditions, health education and access to adequate treatment, with a focus on the most affected regions and vulnerable age groups.

Keywords: Amebiasis, Hospitalizations, Ceará.

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