

NOTA DE ABERTURA

Divulgação Internacional do Estudo sobre *N. meningitidis* do INSA-IRJ

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O estudo sobre “Serogrupos circulantes de *Neisseria meningitidis* em Portugal”, realizado de 2000 a 2001 com a coordenação da Unidade de Resistência aos Antibióticos do Centro de Bacteriologia do Instituto Nacional de Saúde Dr. Ricardo Jorge, de Lisboa, no qual colaboraram tantos Serviços de Pediatria e Pediatras, foi já divulgado em 2004 por duas publicações internacionais de prestígio: *Journal of Medical Microbiology* (<http://jmm.sgmjournals.org>) e *Emerging Infectious Diseases* (www.cdc.gov/eid).

É de assinalar que todos os coordenadores locais do estudo são referidos como coautores no artigo publicado na *Emerging Infectious Diseases*.

Sendo do interesse de todos os Pediatras portugueses conhecer o conteúdo destas duas publicações, quer para o seu conhecimento clínico pessoal, quer para eventual futura referência, apresentamos ambos resumos e convidamo-vos a ler os artigos completos.

“*Neisseria meningitidis* C:2b:P1.2,5 with Intermediate Resistance to Penicillin, Portugal”. Manuela Caniça, Ricardo Dias, Eugénia Ferreira and Meningococci Study Group. *Emerg Infec Dis*, 2004, 3:526-9.

“For 1 year, serogroup, serotype, serosubtype and penicillin susceptibility of meningococci circulating in various regions in Portugal were evaluated. Most frequent phenotypes were B4:P1.15 (13,4%) and C:2b:P1.2,5 (75,9%), which are also common in Spain. Overall, 27,5% of

C:2b:P1.2,5 strains show intermediate resistance to penicillin. Laboratory-based surveillance of meningococcal infection in Portugal provides important information to assess the adequacy of public health measures.

“Invasive culture-confirmed *Neisseria meningitidis* in Portugal: evaluation of serogroups in relation to different variables and antimicrobial susceptibility (2000-2001)”. Manuela Caniça, Ricardo Dias, Baltazar Nunes, Leonor Carvalho, Eugénia Ferreira and Meningococci Study Group. *J Med Microbiology*, 2004, 53:921-5.

The first investigation of *Neisseria meningitidis* isolated from a large area covering a appreciable population in Portugal, before the voluntary vaccination period with the serogroup C conjugate vaccine, is reported. The serogroups and antimicrobial susceptibility of 116 isolates were studied. Serogroups C (50%), B (47,4%) and W135 (2,6%) were found. Serogroup C was most common in the 1-15-years-old group and B in the less than 1-year-old and over 16-years-old groups ($p=0,042$). Clinical diagnosis of meningococcal disease was primarily meningitis for patients with serogroup C and meningitis associated with sepsis for those with serogroup B. Penicillin resistance was significantly associated with serogroup C ($p<0,001$). This work reinforces the importance for public health of monitoring the serogroup and antimicrobial susceptibility of isolates from patients with invasive meningococcal disease.