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BATTERIOLOGIA

TEMPORAL TREND OF THE NEW POSITIVITY CASES TO THE QUANTIFERON TB GOLD TEST IN THE METROPOLITAN AREA OF BARI

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INTRODUZIONE

Tubercolosis is responsible for high worldwide mortality and morbidity rates. One of primary aspects about the control of new infective cases regardes the identification and treatment of active or latent clinical cases. Aim of present work was to study the monthly time trend of new active or latent tuberculosis cases, by Quantiferon test TB Gold.

METODI

Positive patients, according to Quantiferon TB Gold Test (Cellestis LRD., Victoria, Australia) from July 2017 to June 2019, reported from C.O.U Microbiology and Virology of Polyclinic of Bari, were considered for the present study. Any duplicates of the same patient were removed. The range of positive test is ≥ 0.35 IU/ ml for TB1 and TB2. Indeterminate and inconsistent results among TB1 and TB2 were not considered. The analysis was performed by open source statistical environment R.

RISULTATI

310 patients (110:200= F:M, F/M=0.55) resulted positive. Female median age was 61 yrs [(IQR): 48-71]; Male median age was 63 yrs [(IQR): 42-73]. The difference age between the previous groups was not statistically significant (Kruskal-Wallis test, p value = 0.738). On May 2018 the highest number of positive cases (22) was reported whereas the lowest (4) on August 2018. Evidence of autocorrelation of the time series was not detected. Poisson's regression analysis didn't show any time trend. In fact the best model useful to represent the monthly time trend was a model with only one intercept with 12.92 cases for month (p value<0.001).

CONCLUSIONI

The trend of Quantiferon TB Gold new positive cases was steady during the last two years, concerning elderly people. This result underlines the importance of a careful monitoring of whole community. Further analysis will be necessary to extend the study for long time and to study in deep people's clusters with high risk of tuberculosis.