Abstract

The evolution of nutritional status and body composition of twenty male, age 30 7 years, with HIV infection who didn't use protease inhibitor therapy for a period of 10 days of hospitalization for clinical and nutritional treatment, were assessed. In this period an oral diet was offered plus a specific alimentary supplement. Earlier, 37,8% of individuals presented at least three anthropometric measures below the 5th percentile or BMI < 16,5 kg/m2. Compared to BMI, fat mass (impedanciometry), triceps skinfold thickness and serum albumin, the upper arm and upper arm muscle circumferences were the most sensitive indicators of nutritional status. After 10 days of hospitalization no difference was noticed in any of the biochemical and anthropometric variables, save the measure of triceps skinfold thickness which was increased (before: 83 mm; after 93 mm, P < 0,05) In addition, there was increased in fat mass (before: 21,9±9,3%; after: 23,9±10%, P < 0,05). In spite of relative clinical significance of the results, the alimentary supplementation seems to promote chiefly fat mass acquisition, proved by the results of the triceps skinfold thickness and impedanciometry.

Keywords

Body composition - electrical impedance - HIV/AIDS, Malnutrition