

Cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) analyses in HIV-1 primary neurological disease

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This paper will focus on CSF findings in HIV-1 Neurological Disease (ND). Why use CSF as exploration window of the HIV-CNS involvement? Traditionally, CSF analysis has been an effective diagnostic method as well as a means of monitoring treatment in several infectious and immune pathologies of the CNS. Consequently there is an abundance of mature background information [113, 145, 147] particularly in terms of detecting infectious agents, using IgG findings as immunological indexes, and utilizing CSF findings to map the evolution of ND. We will explore the papers that utilize CSF variables as dependent measures to explore the effects of HIV disease, particularly HIV ND, cited in Index Medicus and MEDLINE data base, and published in Spanish, Italian and English, between 1985 to 1991. We will restrict our review to those studies that exclude HIV cases with CNS opportunistic infections or neoplasms, and thus focus on what the CSF can tell us about the primary effects of HIV on the brain as