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BOOK OF ABSTRACTS
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6. ANTIBODY TO TOSCANA VIRUS IN MILITARY
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Intraduction: Toscana virus (SFTV) belongs to the Sandfly viruses (SFV) together with next serotypes sandfly Naples virus (SFNV,) sandfly Sicilian Virus (SFSV) and sandfly Cyprus virus (SFCV). Toscana virus was first isolated in 1971 in Tuscany, Italy, from sandfly vector Phlebotomus perniciosus. It causes sandfly fever, also known as “three-day fever” or “pappataci fever”, aseptic meningitis and mild encephalitis.

Objectives. We investigated the presence of IgG antibodies against Toscana virus in serum samples of solgeirs from Serbia before their departure to the peacekeeping mission in Africa. Materials and method 119 healthy solgers were included into the study. All the sera were tested by the indirect immunofluorescent test - Mosaic: Sandfly Fever Virus IgG antibodies (Euroimmun, Germany).

Results: IgG antibodies against Toscana virus were observed in 2.52%(3/119) of samples. Cross reactivity was observed between Sandfly Fever Viruses. Cross reactivity was observed between SFTV and SFNV, between SFTV and SFSV and SFTV and all three serotypes (SFNV, SFSV, SFCV). Cross-reaction issues between SFV can be solved by determination of IgG antibody titer against SFV using IIFT.

Conclusion: Data regarding activity of Toscana virus in Serbia are limited. The results of serological tests indicate that Toscana virus circulate among humans in Serbia.

Keywords: Seroprevalence, Sandfly virus, Toscana virus