

Author's Reply

Prevalence of Human T-lymphotropic Virus Type 1 (HTLV-1) Infection in Different Geographical Locations

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We would like to thank Dr. Ghaffari for his knowledgeable comments on our study. As mentioned in the article, HTLV-1 infection is a risk factor for hematologic disorders, especially malignancies like adult T-cell leukemia/lymphoma and lymphosarcoma T-cell leukemia.¹ Dr. Ghaffari represented additional epidemiological evidence of HTLV-1 prevalence that is somewhat different from our results. Such differences are due to geographical location of the study as Ghaffari et al studies are mostly performed in northern Iran which is not an endemic area for HTLV-1,^{2,3} and as mentioned, the prevalence rates of HTLV-1 infection differ in studies carried out in Iran. Geographical location of studies and sample sizes are main reasons for such differences.¹ Although we could not find any statistically significant association/difference between study groups, the prevalence of HTLV-1 in hematologic disorders was slightly higher than the general population (in accordance with endemic areas of HTLV-1 infection). This is because of different origins of the patients who were referred from various areas to Tehran. In conclusion, we believe our

results are in accordance with previous studies in Iran as well as Ghaffari et al studies and the slight differences are not statistically significant.

Conflict of Interest Disclosures

None.

Ethical Statement


Not applicable.

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