PROFILE OF WOMEN INFECTED BY ZIKV IN BRAZIL

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Introduction: Brazil local transmission of multiple arboviruses has highlighted International concerns on public health since February 2015 as the number of Zika virus (ZIKV) cases reported by the Ministry of Health of Brazil soared. The Brazilian Government efforts to notify ZIKV cases, particularly considering consequences of infection on pregnant women and potential associations with fetal anomalies, is analyzed through the work here presented.

Aim: The work aims to characterize the profile of women infected by Zika, with emphasis on pregnant and fertile age individuals, during the ongoing epidemics.

Methodology: A descriptive observational study was performed and data obtained from SINAN-NET database (Notification of Injury Information System) for the period of the epidemiological week 1 until 32 (January/03/2016 until August/13/2106). Descriptive statistics were performed using Microsoft Excel® 2010 and TabWin® 32 softwares. The data describes probable cases of ZIKV infection in women of childbearing age (10 up to 49 year old), pregnant women and the general population. It shows its distribution among all 27 country Federation Units and its 5 regions (North, Northeast, South, South West and Midwest). Furthermore, data on socio-economic characteristics such as age, level of education and ethnicity were gathered and analyzed.

Results: During the first semester of 2016, 196,976 potential cases of Zika were notified through the national public health surveillance systems (which shows an incidence rate of 96.3 cases/100 thousand inhabitants) and those numbers represent a total of 2,277 affected Brazilian municipalities (41% of the country). Regarding the collected data involving notifications among women, there were 132,524 notifications (67.3% of total potential cases), of which 96,494 (72.8%) were among female individuals of childbearing age, and 16,264 (16.9%) were pregnant at the time of data gathering. Amid the general female population, the majority of reported cases were among childbearing age women (61.6%), with declared ethnicity as "pardo" (brown) (58.6%). Higher incidence rates among childbearing age women occurred in the states of Mato Grosso, Rio de Janeiro and Bahia (1,022.6, 566.3 and 461.6, respectively). The highest incidences of ZIKV infection in pregnant women were observed in the states of Mato Grosso (142), Rio de Janeiro (88.1), Rio Grande do Norte (62.2) and Alagoas (60.7).

Conclusion: The work presents considerations on Zika virus infection in Brazil during the first semester of 2016, and the profile of who became infected during that period.