

PROGRAMMED EVALUATION OF THE DIAGNOSIS ALGORITHM IN TUBERCULOUS MENINGITIS

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The study selects a number of 109 tuberculous meningitis in patients hospitalized in the Clinic of Infectious Diseases Timisoara in the interval of the years 1973-1994. The diagnosis of tuberculous meningitis was sustained in 96% of the cases by the positivation of the cultures for *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* and only in 4% of the cases by the favourable evolution during

the treatment with antituberculous drugs. The diagnosis algorithm included following clinical and biological data: age, the presence of noxes in the history of the diseases, the geographical area of the patients, the number of days before the recognition of the meningeal syndrome, the duration of normalization of the CSF, the aspect and the cyto-biochemical data of the CSF, insisting on the number of elements, their type, chloride and protein levels in the CSF. The conclusions of the study offer the possibility of earlier recognition or suspicion of the tuberculous etiology in those cases, in which there exist proteic forms of manifestation of the tuberculous meningeal infection.