

National forum of Leptospirosis of Nicaragua



Advances in the diagnosis of leptospirosis in Nicaragua

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Presented by Dr. Aida Soto

During her presentation Dr. Soto explained the different serological diagnostic techniques in the country, such as the gold standard technique of microscopic agglutination test MAT, which was used by the laboratory for the diagnosis of leptospirosis with more documentation since the outbreak of Achuapa in 1995 in Nicaragua. She explained the advantages and disadvantages of the diagnostic test MAT. She then explained that for the year 2001 the enzyme immunoassay technique type ELISA was standardized for early diagnosis of leptospirosis in humans and showed the advantages and disadvantages of the technique, with qualities such as: low cost, quality diagnostic (high sensitivity and specificity), early diagnosis, fast results and simple technique, among others. And with the introduction of the Latex-Lepto Kit in 2002 it was possible to carry out timely diagnosis during the acute stage of the disease. She then referred to the standardization of the Latex-Lepto Kit, showed the results of the effectiveness of the test as well as the advantages among which stood out its usefulness in the screening of suspected patients in remote areas, its easy reading and assistance in the control of outbreaks, the disadvantages of the technique is that it presents reactions with IgG anti leptospire with very high titers. To conclude she showed the impact of technology in the diagnosis and monitoring of the disease through earlier detection of outbreaks and explained the flowchart for the serological diagnosis.