

## Study on The Seroprevalence of Herpes Simplex Virus -1 in Individuals Referred to Diagnostic Laboratories of Central Part of Rasht, Iran

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**Background & Objectives:** Herpes simplex virus-1 is the cause of many diseases and is very contagious. Most of people are affected to HSV-1 until adult age. HSV-1 persists in CNS after initial infection. Aim of this study is investigation in seroprevalence of HSV-1 in people referred to diagnostic laboratories of central part of Rasht, Iran.

**Methods:** This is a study on frequency of IgG titer to HSV-1 using ELISA. Blood sample is taken accidentally from 300 individuals referred to 5 diagnostic laboratories of central part of Rasht. All sera are examined using ELISA for measuring IgG titer to HSV-1.

**Results:** In this study positive seroprevalence of IgG against HSV is 58% (174 of 300). This positive seroprevalence showed increasing rate based on age but showed negative relationship with education level (about 50% in individuals without high school education) and did not show significant relationship with career. Frequency of positive sera is the same in men and women but is very higher in married people but it seems that it is related to age.

**Conclusion:** Regarding to persistent infection of HSV in the body after first affection, positive seroprevalence of IgG to HSV can be considered as an indication of number of affected people in a community and this study showed over 50%. Increasing rate of positive seroprevalence based on age is expected and decreasing rate according to educational level indicate the role of social and health care knowledge in this regard.

**Keywords:** HSV; Seroprevalence; ELISA