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Blood group does not form a risk factor for tiger mosquito bite

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Background & Aim: Since the arrival of *Aedes albopictus* to Spain a rise in medical consultation of mosquito bites in our primary care centers was detected. This mosquito can act as a vector of arbovirus causing diseases like Dengue or Yellow fever, among others. Such diseases were eradicated but can be considered of a probable recurrence in the XXIst century. It is known that the tiger mosquito has a preference for some persons than to others, even though till now there are only a few factors described, such as sex and age. In experimental conditions, *Aedes albopictus* show a preference to people with blood group O twice as much as to persons with a blood group A (Shirai et al., 2004). This study was undertaken to analyse blood groups of patients who sought primary care attention complaining of mosquito bite with *Aedes albopictus* and compare them with those of general population.

Method: A descriptive transversal retrospective study. Patients of whom their blood type was identified, were selected and classified in two groups: The first group formed by patients consulted during the period between 2002 and 2008 for tiger mosquito bite (n=73). The second is the general population group (n=1720) consulted in the same period.

Results:

- General population group: Average age of 35 years old, 90% females (n=1541). ABO blood group: 48% O (n=823), 38% A (n=660), 10% B (n=170) y 4% AB (n=67). 87% Rh+ (n=1498) y 13% Rh- (n=220).

- Patients consulted for *Aedes albopictus* bite: Average age of 22 years old, 94% females (n=69). ABO group: 45% O (n=33), 43% A (n=31), 11% B (n=8) y 1% AB (n=1). 87% Rh+ (n=63) y 13% Rh- (n=9). There was no statistically significant differences between both groups (p=0.645).

Conclusion: Blood type does not form a risk factor for tiger mosquito bite.