

Hiv Type 1 Subtypes In Circulation In Northern Kenya.

Khamadi, S A; Ochieng, W; Lihana, R W; Kinyua, J; Muriuki, J; Mwangi, J; Lwembe, R; Kiptoo, M; Osman, S.; Lagat, N; Pelle, R; Muigai, A; Carter, J Y; Oishi, I; Ichimura, H; Mwaniki, D L; Okoth, F. A; Mpoke, S; Songok, E M

Date: 2005

Abstract:

Kenya Medical Research Institute, Nairobi, Kenya. skhamadi@nairobi.mimcom.net The genetic subtypes of HIV-1 circulating in northern Kenya have not been characterized. Here we report the partial sequencing and analysis of samples collected in the years 2003 and 2004 from 72 HIV-1-positive patients in northern Kenya, which borders Ethiopia, Somalia, and Sudan. From the analysis of partial env sequences, it was determined that 50% were subtype A, 39% subtype C, and 11% subtype D. This shows that in the northern border region of Kenya subtypes A and C are the dominant HIV-1 subtypes in circulation. Ethiopia is dominated mainly by HIV-1 subtype C, which incidentally is the dominant subtype in the town of Moyale, which borders Ethiopia. These results show that cross-border movements play an important role in the circulation of subtypes in Northern Kenya.