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**Flaviviruses causing infection of the central nervous system associated to underlying diseases in Brazil****Luiz Tadeu Moraes Figueiredo**  
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It is known that some microbial infections of the Central Nervous System (CNS), such as those caused by *Toxoplasma*, *Cryptococcus* and *Cytomegalovirus*, can be related to predisposing underlying diseases. In Brazil, the tropical climate favors proliferation of large quantities of insect vectors and their vertebrate reservoirs, thus supporting the natural cycles of many arboviruses such as *Flavivirus* that can infect man. The present report highlights examples of human CNS *Flavivirus* infections that could be related to underlying diseases. In a study done in the state of Amazonas, cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) from 2 out of 23 patients with meningoencephalitis had the *Flavivirus Rocio* (ROCV) identified in the CSF. They were a 53 year old man and a 30 year old woman both with AIDS and one of them with tuberculosis, both with headache, behavioral changes and seizures. All survived after lengthy hospital stays. In the Southeast of Brazil 2 children with meningoencephalitis had Saint Louis encephalitis virus detected in liquor. They had lymphomonocitary meningitis and both survived. Recently, we had a fatal case of *meningoencephalitis* in a cardiac transplanted adult patient with Zika virus detected in the liquor. It is possible that CNS invasion by *flaviviruses*, including *Rocio*, Saint Louis encephalitis™ and Zika viruses was facilitated by immune immaturity or deficiency and also by previous blood-brain barrier damage. It is important to be aware of flaviviruses in patients from tropical regions with underlying diseases and CNS manifestations.

**Biography**

Luiz Tadeu Moraes Figueiredo has completed Medicine degree from the Medical School of the Federal University of Uberlandia in 1976, Master of Medicine in Internal Medicine from University of São Paulo in 1982 and PhD in Medicine (Internal Medicine) from University of São Paulo in 1985. He did his Post doctorate at Yale University in the United States and Nagasaki University in Japan. He is currently a Professor Titular in the Department of Clinical Medicine of Ribeirão Preto Medical School, University of São Paulo and Coordinator of the Research Center for Virology. He has experience in microbiology, with emphasis in virology, acting on the following topics relating to arboviruses (dengue, yellow fever, ORO fever) associated with rodent virus (Hantavirus, arena viruses) and emerging viruses.

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