

## Impacts of the arbovirus epidemic in the state of Sergipe: to diagnose better and to prevent new outbreaks

### **\*WORKSHOP REPORT\***

The workshop *“Impacts of the arbovirus epidemic in the state of Sergipe: to diagnose better and to prevent new outbreaks”* took place on 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> November 2019, at the University Hospital of the Federal University of Sergipe (Aracaju, Sergipe).

The event, coordinated by Professor Roque Pacheco de Almeida (MD, PhD) and Prof. Ricardo Queiroz Gurgel (MD, PhD), had a wholesome perspective on the theme “arbovirus”, with topics ranging from virus biology to patient care, specially related to the most impactful viruses in the region: Chikungunya, Dengue and Zika.

As described in the detailed programme, the speakers were some of the most renowned specialists in the field of arboviruses research in Brazil, who shared with the audience the recent findings of basic research on virus biology and their interaction with human cell mechanisms, as well as the development of vaccines.

In addition, health professionals shared their experiences in the field of patient care and assistance, focusing on the co-morbidities following arboviruses infection, such as the Zika Congenital Syndrome and neurological disorders related to Chikungunya and Zika infections. As part of this group, there were representatives of paediatrics, neurology, rheumatology, nursing and social care of the University Hospital, who shared their observations during their day-to-day work, allowing for a rich exchange between theoretical knowledge and practical application. In addition, the development of IT and AI strategies towards health education and patient-assisted care were also discussed.

Another important aspect of the workshop was the participation of governmental agents (State Secretariat of Health of Sergipe, Municipality Secretariat of Health of Aracaju and Central Laboratory of Public Health of Sergipe), which granted the audience a better understanding about how the State and Municipality offices work together in the fight against vectors, the identification of new cases and the design of strategies to prevent new outbreaks.

The workshop was executed as planned and described in the programme, except for the poster presentations session due to an insufficient number of abstract submissions.

In total, 80 people registered for the workshop, and subsequently 50 people attended. Among the participants, there were undergraduates, university professors, health unit workers and technicians. Therefore, this workshop was considered a valid effort towards continuing professional education.

This event was put in place by students enrolled in the Health Sciences Post-Graduate Programme, hosted by the University Hospital. Some members of the organising committee and the academic assistants were Master and PhD students, and therefore the workshop was also an activity that enabled these students to practice professional skills.

The funding granted by REDe was used for flights and accommodation of the speakers, as well as for printing of promotional material, hiring media equipment and catering.

In conclusion and considering the above, I believe the proposed aims of this workshop were successfully accomplished. In addition, it is important to note that local workshop funding is an excellent initiative by REDe, especially for the remarkable opportunity for career development and knowledge sharing of such activities.

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Prof. Dr. Roque Pacheco de Almeida

Coordenador

**Organising committee:** Roque Pacheco de Almeida

Ricardo Queiroz Gurgel

Camilla Natália Oliveira Santos

Juliana Cardoso Alves

Lucas Sousa Magalhães

Fabrcia Alvisi de Oliveira

**Academic assistants:** Aline Silva Barreto

Laís Lima de Oliveira

Monica Rueda Barrios

**Speakers:** Gúbio Soares Campos  
Mércia Simone Feitosa de Souza  
Taise Ferreira Cavalcante  
Marcelo Paixão  
Ana Jovina Barreto Bispo  
Adriana Barbosa de Lima Fonseca  
Roseane Lima Santos Porto  
Maciela Rocha Souza Aragão  
Ana Paula Lemos Vasconcelos  
Cliomar Alves dos Santos  
Regina Adalva de Lucena Couto Ocea  
Cláudio Antônio Bonjardim  
Alexander Roberto Precioso  
Luciane M. Storti de Melo  
Dra. Roseli La Corte  
Adicinéia Aparecida de Oliveira





**WITH THANKS TO:**

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