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### Seasonal Features of leptospirosis clinical course in Lviv Oblast, Ukraine

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#### Abstract:

In tropical climates, cases of leptospirosis are registered all over the year in contrast to regions with a temperate climate where an increase in leptospirosis morbidity is identified annually from June to October. Therefore, the study of seasonal changing in clinical features of leptospirosis and laboratory findings in these patients are relevant. In this study, 395 medical cards of patients with leptospirosis treated at the Lviv Clinical Regional Hospital of Infectious Diseases were analyzed (2002 to 2015). In this cross-sectional study, data processing was performed using Statistica software. Significantly more patients with leptospirosis were admitted to the hospital in autumn 168 (42.54%) and in summer 150 (37.97%), compared to winter 51 (12.91%,  $p < 0.001$ ) and spring 26 (6.58%,  $p < 0.001$ ). Febrile fever (above 38°) was observed most often in the summer months 182 (46.07%) of patients, significantly less often in winter 101 (25.56%,  $p < 0.01$ ), and autumn 99 (25.06%,  $p < 0.001$ ). Jaundice was most often observed in winter 325 (82.27%), and less often in summer 285 (72.15%), but this difference was not significant. During the winter-spring period, the percentage of patients with more intensive jaundice (bilirubin above 100  $\mu\text{mol/l}$ ) was significantly higher in comparison to the summer-autumn months ( $p < 0.05$ ). In the majority of patients with leptospirosis, we noted a complicated course of the disease in 296 patients (74.93%). There was no significant difference in the frequency of complications during different seasons, although the percentage of patients who developed acute renal failure and pneumonia was clearly higher in winter and spring. Among the changes in laboratory data, the following deserve attention: anemia and hyperleukocytosis were more pronounced in patients in winter and thrombocytopenia was more pronounced in patients from the spring. Hypercreatinemia and azotemia were also more intensive in spring. The above-mentioned clinical and laboratory characteristics of the leptospirosis course determined a trend that suggests that in western Ukraine in winter and spring cases of leptospirosis with a severe course of the disease prevail.

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