

Summary

A recombinant Immunoblot was evaluated to detect antinucleoprotein IgG- and IgM-antibodies.

Apart from sera of earlier studies patients were examined during two periods in 1995 and 1996 at the hospital of Gueckedou in Guinea (West Africa) close to the border of Liberia and Sierra Leone. From earlier studies high prevalences of antibodies to Lassavirus in this region were known.

The results of the immunoblot were compared to those by IIF- and IgM-Elisa testing.

A PCR-test was carried out to prove acute Lassavirus-infection and two cases in Gueckedou Hospital were detected.

Basing on the results and current literature the methods of the fundamental Lassavirus-studies of the eighties to detect acute Lassavirus-infection were critical reviewed.