

A correlation between Brazilian history and the R337H mutation in TP53 gene.

A unique mutation in TP53 gene has been highly found in Brazil, the R337H point mutation. First described in Southern Brazil, researches has demonstrated a prevalence of 0,3% in the population. In Barretos's Cancer Hospital, there is an oncogenetic clinic responsible for the follow up of families with this specific mutation. As time goes by, we realized that the mutation is not restricted to southern Brazil. Our data shows that the mutation is spread out across the country. Brazil is a huge country where the first europeans to get here were portugueses in the year 1500. Since then, imigration and migration processes have built its people's genetic characteristics; and within those, pathogenic mutations came along. In the year of 1808, other european families than just portuguese ones came to Brazil, when portuguese crown decided to open the country to foreigners. Several migratory movements occurred during the centuries, but some are of special interest in this context, as the so called "Marcha para o Oeste", in the 30's years of the XX century. This populational movement picked up people from Parana and São Paulo states and located them in Central and Northern regions of the country. Later, in 70's, Transamazonic's road construction brouhgt a lot of families from southern to northern Brazil. It has influenced the northern culture and language so profoundly that there are events of southern traditions in northern states nowadays. We intend to discuss the necessity to realize that R337 mutation should be interpreted as a public health issue, due to the existence of specific cancer prevention's protocol.