

## Questão 70

**COVID AND SMELL LOSS: SOME ANSWERS EMERGE**

Researchers are making headway in understanding how coronavirus causes loss of smell. Several potential treatments to tackle the condition are undergoing clinical trials, including steroids and blood plasma. Recently, a study surveyed 616,318 people in the United States who have had COVID-19. It found that, compared with those who had been infected with the original virus, people who had contracted the Alpha variant were 50% as likely to have chemosensory disruption. This probability fell to 44% for the Delta variant, and to 17% for Omicron. However, a significant portion of people infected early in the pandemic still experience chemosensory effects. A 2021 study followed 100 people who had had mild cases of COVID-19 and 100 people who repeatedly tested negative. More than a year after their infections, 46% of those who had had COVID-19 still had smell problems; by contrast, just 10% of the control group had developed some smell loss, but for other reasons. Furthermore, 7% of those who had been infected still had total smell loss, or 'anosmia', at the end of the year. Given that more than 500 million cases of COVID-19 have been confirmed worldwide, tens of millions of people probably have lingering smell problems.

(Adaptado de: <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-022-01589-z>. Acesso em 22/06/2022.)

Segundo o texto,

- a) o percentual de pessoas infectadas pelo coronavírus a apresentarem problemas de olfato vem aumentando à medida que o vírus evolui.
- b) esteroides e plasma sanguíneo são tipos de tratamentos eficazes contra a perda de olfato após infecção por coronavírus.
- c) a perda total de olfato, chamada de "anosmia", ainda estava presente, em 2021, em 7% das pessoas infectadas por coronavírus no começo da pandemia.
- d) problemas olfativos provavelmente persistem em 500 milhões de pessoas que foram infectadas pelo coronavírus.

**RESOLUÇÃO**

A perda total de olfato, chamada de "anosmia", ainda estava presente, em 2021, em 7% das pessoas infectadas por coronavírus no começo da pandemia. No trecho do texto: "Furthermore, 7% of those who had been infected still had total smell loss, or 'anosmia', at the end of the year."

**ALTERNATIVA C**