LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A study on the possible association of dysfunctional uterine bleeding with bacterial vaginosis, mycoplasma, ureaplasma, and Gardnerella vaginalis

EDITOR—A number of studies in the recent years have shown that bacterial vaginosis or its associated micro-organisms mycoplasma/ureaplasma may be associated with various obstetric and gynaecological complications such as pelvic inflammatory disease and infertility,1 premature rupture of membranes and preterm labour,2 plasma cell endometritis,3 non-specific urethritis in male partners,4 and in our previous study we showed colonisation of the endometrium by mycoplasma and ureaplasma in patients with bacterial vaginosis.

The purpose of this study was to see if there is any association between dysfunctional uterine bleeding (DUB) and mycoplasma, ureaplasma, and/or bacterial vaginosis.

Ten patients, all with dysfunctional uterine bleeding admitted for abdominal hysterectomy, were recruited for the study. Patients were between 38 and 48 years (mean age 44) and all except one were parous. Appropriate ethics committee approval and informed consents were taken.

A detailed history was taken, particularly obstetrics and gynaecological, and any history of bacterial vaginosis or troublesome vaginal discharge. A preoperative high vaginal swab for microscopic diagnosis of bacterial vaginosis was taken. At operation, the endometrial cavity was opened by splitting the anterior wall of the uterus and an endometrial cavity was opened by splitting the wall of the uterus and an endometrial biopsy of patients with bacterial vaginosis shows morphology resembling mycoplasma/ureaplasma. Sex Transm Inf 1999; 75:202–10.

Accepted for publication 7 June 2000

Ethnicity and country of acquisition of HIV in the current Leicester genitourinary medicine clinic cohort

EDITOR—We have surveyed the regular HIV infected attenders in the Leicester genitourinary medicine (GUM) HIV cohort; there are currently 60 men and 16 women. Twenty five per cent are black African and 13% are of Indian/Pakistani/Bangladeshi stock, while 62% are white. This amounts to 19 of 8258 black Africans in the Leicestershire total county population (which includes Leicesterton central district) being HIV positive. Forty seven of 10 773 537 Asians in the Leicestershire total county population were also HIV positive (Leicester City Council, from 1991 census figures, 2000, personal communication).

For acquisition of HIV related to ethnicity, the results are as displayed in table 1.

In 1997, of those with heterosexually transmitted HIV in the United Kingdom, 3.3% were black Caribbeans, 49% were black African, with 33% being white, and 2.3% were Asian.

In 1999, the Communicable Disease Report stated that, of female HIV infected people in England and Wales, 32% were white people and 49.5% were black Africans, and 2.7% were black Caribbeans, and 1.3% were south Asians.

Compared with the latter England and Wales figures, Leicester appears to have a moderate under-representation of black Africans with HIV, and a moderate over-representation of Asians in its cohort. This latter figure is to be expected because Leicester’s Asian population is 23.7% of the total population of the city (Leicester City Council, 1991 census figures, 2000, personal communication). However, the Asian figure is not that high pro rata, possibly because cultural factors prohibit sex outside marriage.

Quinn et al have shown recently that viral load is the chief predictor of the risk of heterosexual transmission of HIV-1, and that transmission is rare among people with levels of less than 1500 copies of HIV-1 RNA per ml.

It may be that HAART (highly active antiretroviral therapy) for HIV infected people has caused transmission to be low in the United Kingdom but, as Cohen says, such a theory has not been proved.6

The viral subtype dominant in parts of Africa (clade C), has unique properties that favour sexual transmission.7 Other factors that make Africans more susceptible to HIV than those who live in more developed countries include lack of host factors that reduce infection risk; the plasma HIV-1 RNA level in seropositive people being higher in sub-Saharan Africans; the lack of mutations in the gene for chemokine receptor 5; circumcision status, with most men in Africa being uncircumcised; and the high prevalence of ulcerative sexually transmitted diseases.8 Some of these factors will operate for Asian patients born in Africa.

Thus, ethnicity and country of acquisition of HIV in Leicester as elsewhere, is a reflection of interwoven, genetic, environmental and behavioural, political, and geographical factors.9 Therefore, we cannot just examine nationality in isolation when considering HIV epidemiology. Travellers from Britain to Thailand, the Philippines, India, and Africa especially should be forewarned of the risks of sex and healthcare needle exposure and/or blood transfusions in all travel medicine consultations.

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Indices of ethnicity in relation to country of acquisition of HIV, as found in the Leicester genitourinary medicine clinic HIV cohort, and assessed in April 2000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country of acquisition</th>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
<th></th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>African</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Total (%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>2 (3%)</td>
<td>2 (3%)</td>
<td></td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>2 (3%)</td>
<td>19 (25%)</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UK</td>
<td>6 (9%)</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td></td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td></td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Thailand.

Accepted for publication 14 June 2000

Table 1 Table of ethnicity in relation to country of acquisition of HIV, as found in the Leicester genitourinary medicine clinic HIV cohort, and assessed in April 2000


1 www.sextransinf.com
Detection of 14-3-3 brain protein in cerebrospinal fluid of HIV infected patients

EDITOR,—The 14-3-3 proteins are a group of highly conserved proteins involved in intracellular signalling. Detection of 14-3-3 brain protein has been described in cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) of patients with transmissible spongiform encephalopathies including both sporadic and variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease.1,2 False positive results have been reported in conditions producing (sub)acute neuronal destruction, including herpes simplex encephalitis, ischaemic stroke, multi-infarct dementia, and paraneoplastic syndromes.3,4 We postulated that 14-3-3 brain protein may be detected in CSF from patients with HIV associated dementia complex (HADC) as this condition is characterised neuropathologically by a giant cell encephalitis, leukoencephalopathy, astroglisis and neuronal loss.

We prospectively studied 17 HIV antibody positive patients (14 men) aged 27–60 (median 37) years, with CD4 counts of 0–220 (median 20) cells x10⁹/l, who underwent lumbar puncture for investigation of HADC (six patients), staging of lymphoma (five patients), or investigation of other conditions (six patients): epilepsy (two), cervical radiculopathy (one), chronic demyelinating polyradiculopathy (one), CMV encephalitis (one), self limiting headache (one). Of those with HADC, the severity of dementia assessed using Memorial Sloan-Kettering criteria,2 was mild in two and moderate in four. The degree of atrophy on cranial magnetic resonance imaging, used as a marker of neuronal loss, was mild in four and moderate in two. Clinical details of those with lymphoma are given in table 1. In each lumbar puncture an aliquot of CSF (250 µl) was frozen immediately at −20°C and stored for subsequent 14-3-3 protein analysis.

CSF was routinely processed as described previously.5 Detection of 14-3-3 protein was done without knowledge of the patient’s diagnosis, using a technique described by Hsich et al.,6 modified to use anti-14-3-3 γ-polyclonal rabbit antibody. In 14 of 17 patients CSF was negative for 14-3-3 protein. Of the three with detectable 14-3-3 protein in CSF, all had lymphoma but only one had CNS disease, the other two had only extraneural disease (table 1). These data, although from a small study population, suggest that detection of 14-3-3 protein in CSF is not useful for diagnosis of HADC. Detectable 14-3-3 protein has previously been reported in a non-HIV infected patient with CNS lymphoma,7 so this observation in our patient is not unique, although brain necrosis from coexisting cerebral toxoplasmosis provides an alternative explanation. Of the two patients with extraneural lymphoma and detectable 14-3-3 protein in CSF, one had EBV DNA in CSF and so was at high risk of developing cerebral lymphoma. This possibility could not be confirmed as necropsy was not performed. In neither of the latter two patients was there a CSF pleocytosis, so contamination by 14-3-3 protein derived from peripheral blood leucocytes is unlikely. In the final case the absence of limbic encephalitis or cerebellar degeneration makes it difficult to ascribe the finding to a paraneoplastic process.

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Hepatitis B vaccination in a high risk MSM population: the need for vaccine education

EDITOR,—Estimates of the prevalence of hepatitis B virus (HBV) markers among men who have sex with men (MSM) vary from 5% to 81%, and the prevalence of HBV surface antigen varies from 1% to 11%.1,2 Despite a safe and effective vaccine against HBV, sexually active MSM are not vaccinated adequately.1,3 Few empirical data describe the factors associated with HBV vaccination among MSM. We conducted a study to identify correlates of HBV vaccination among MSM that could inform future interventions designed to enhance HBV vaccination.

Data were collected at two male “gay” bars in Birmingham, Alabama, USA, using a brief, self administered questionnaire. Of 130 bar patrons, our sample consisted of 111 respondents who identified themselves as MSM and knew their vaccination status. Their average age was 31 years with a range of 18–48 years. The sample was disproportionately white (91.9%); 42% reported being vaccinated for HBV.

Based on bivariate associations nine characteristics were significantly associated with HBV vaccination—age; condom use; frequency of male-anal coitus; knowing relatives with hepatitis; hepatitis knowledge; HBV knowledge; HCV knowledge; HBV vaccination knowledge; number of sources for information about hepatitis; information from a physician; and information from professional training.

Two factors retained significance when adjusting for all other factors in a multivariate logistic regression model: respondents’ HBV vaccination knowledge (OR=10.18; 95% CI = 4.0–25.37, p = 0.0001) and their frequency of condom use (OR=6.1; 90% CI = 2.54–14.67, p = 0.0007). The predictive power of the model (χ² = 42.33; p = 0.0001) was high, correctly classifying 76.4% of the respondents into their actual vaccination status categories (p = 0.0001). These findings suggest that respondents with high HBV vaccination knowledge and condom use are significantly more likely to have been vaccinated against HBV.

There is need to enhance awareness and facilitate vaccination among this high risk population for HBV infection; 32% reported having no information about hepatitis. Many respondents reported engaging in behaviours that put them and their sexual partners at risk for HBV infection; 95.5% and 30.6% reported using a condom less than 50% of the time.
NOTICES

International Herpes Alliance and International Herpes Management Forum

The International Herpes Alliance has introduced a website (www.herpesalliance.org) from which can be downloaded patient information leaflets. Its sister organisation, the International Herpes Management Forum (website: www.IHMF.org) has launched new guidelines on the management of herpesvirus infection in pregnancy at the 9th International Congress on Infectious Disease (ICID) in Buenos Aires.

Pan-American Health Organization, regional office of the World Health Organization

A catalogue of publications is available online (www.paho.org). The monthly journal of PAHO, the Pan American Journal of Public Health, is also available (subscriptions: pubsvc@tsp.sheridan.com).

Imperial College School of Medicine, Division of Paediatrics, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, symposium on Maternal Mental Health and the Child, 12 October 2000

Further details: Symposium Office, Imperial College School of Medicine, Queen Charlotte's and Chelsea Hospital, Goldhawk Road, London W6 0XG, UK (tel: +44 (0) 20 8383 3904; fax: +44 (0) 20 8383 8555; email: sympreg@ic.ac.uk).

11th Regional Meeting of International Union against Sexually Transmitted Infections, South East Asian and Western Pacific Branch and 24th National Conference of Indian Association for the Study of Sexually Transmitted Diseases and AIDS, 13–15 October 2000, Chandigarh, India

Further details: Dr Bhushan Kumar, Organising Secretary, 11th Regional Meeting of IUSTI-Asia Pacific (SE Asia and W Pacific Branch), Department of Dermatology, Venereology and Leprosy, PGIMER, Chandigarh - 160 012, India (tel: +91 (0172) 745330; fax: +91 (0172) 744401/745078; email: kumarbhushan@hotmail.com).

New Zealand Venereological Society Conference, Centennial Convention Centre, Palmerston North, New Zealand, 18–20 October 2000

Further details: Sue Peck, Conference Organiser, SP Conference Management, PO Box 4400, Palmerston North, New Zealand (tel: 64 4 357 1466; fax: 64 4 357 1426; email: suepeck@xtra.co.nz).

Imperial College School of Medicine, Division of Paediatrics, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, symposium on Women and Children with HIV and AIDS, 20 October 2000

Further details: Symposium Office, Imperial College School of Medicine, Queen Charlotte's and Chelsea Hospital, Goldhawk Road, London W6 0XG, UK (tel: +44 (0) 20 8383 3904; fax: +44 (0) 20 8383 8555; email: sympreg@ic.ac.uk).

Imperial College School of Medicine, Division of Paediatrics, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, symposium on key issues in the Care of Women and Gynaecological Cancers for nurses, 30 October 2000

Further details: Symposium Office, Imperial College School of Medicine, Queen Charlotte's and Chelsea Hospital, Goldhawk Road, London W6 0XG, UK (tel: +44 (0) 20 8383 3904; fax: +44 (0) 20 8383 8555; email: sympreg@ic.ac.uk).

Consortium of Thai Training Institutes for STDs and AIDS—International Reunion and Refresher Course on Sexual Health, Lee Garden Plaza Hotel, Hat Yai, Thailand 24–26 November 2000

Further details: Hat Yai Secretariat, Dr Verapol Chandyeying, Dept of OB-GYN, Faculty of Medicine, Prince of Songkla University, Hat Yai, Songkla 90110, Thailand (fax: +66 (74) 446 361; email: cverapol@ratree.psu.ac.th or Bangkok Secretariat, Dr Thanit Palanuvej, Bangkok Hospital, 189 Sathorn Road, Bangkok 10120, Thailand (fax: +66-2) 286 3013; email: ptphanit@email.ksc.net).

Royal Society of Medicine and National Institutes of Health International Conference, RSOM London, 7–8 December 2000

The RSOM in London, UK, and the NIH in Bethesda, Maryland, US, are organising an international conference to be held at the RSOM on “New trends in HIV management and research.” Further details: Victoria Boswell, Academic Conference Assistant, Royal Society of Medicine (tel: +44 (0) 20 7290 2965; fax: +44 (0) 20 7290 2977; email: victoria.boswell@royalsmed.ac.uk).

International Symposium on Disorders of the Prostate, 21–23 March 2001, Castres, France

Further details: Dr Mike Briley, Scientific Director, Pierre Fabre Medicament, Parc Industriel de la Chartreuse, F-81106 Castres Cedex, France (tel:+33 563 714 501; fax: +33 563 725; email: briley@pierre-fabre.imagenet.fr).

Call for papers—6th European Forum on Quality Improvement in Health Care, 29–31 March 2001, Bologna, Italy

Further details: BMA/BMJ Conference Unit, BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JP, UK (tel: +44 (0) 20 7383 6409; fax: +44 (0) 20 7383 6869; email: quality@bma.org.uk; website: www.quality.bmjig.com).


Further details: ECEAR ’2001 Conference Secretary, Division of Retrovirology, NIBSC, Blanche Lane, South Mimms, Potters Bar, Herts, EN6 3QG, UK.

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The paper by Hughes et al “Comparison of risk factors for four sexually transmitted infections: results from a study of attenders at three genitourinary medicine clinics in England” published in the August issue of STI (2000;76:262–7) contained errors in tables 1 and 2. The correct versions of these tables are published here. The multivariable statistical analyses presented in tables 3 and 4, on which the paper focuses and on which the discussion and conclusions are based, are unaffected by the errors and remain unchanged.

**Table 1** Characteristics of patients attending three GUM clinics in England, April 1994 to September 1997

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ethnic group:</th>
<th>White</th>
<th>Black African</th>
<th>Black Caribbean</th>
<th>Asian</th>
<th>Other/mixed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male sexual orientation:</td>
<td>10 145 (49)</td>
<td>1 038 (5)</td>
<td>1 611 (11)</td>
<td>483 (2)</td>
<td>297 (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female sexual orientation:</td>
<td>16 245 (21)</td>
<td>5 254 (21)</td>
<td>2 110 (8)</td>
<td>483 (2)</td>
<td>297 (1)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table 2** Numbers of attenders diagnosed with first episode genital warts, first episode genital HSV, uncomplicated gonorrhoea and uncomplicated chlamydia, showing concurrent infections, in attenders at three GUM clinics in England, April 1994 to September 1997 (+ = present, − = absent)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No of attenders (%)</th>
<th>Warts</th>
<th>HSV</th>
<th>Gonorrhoea</th>
<th>Chlamydia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>35+ (3)</td>
<td>0.86</td>
<td>1.86</td>
<td>6.04</td>
<td>4.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25–34 (3)</td>
<td>0.86</td>
<td>1.86</td>
<td>6.04</td>
<td>4.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20–24 (3)</td>
<td>0.86</td>
<td>1.86</td>
<td>6.04</td>
<td>4.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16–19 (3)</td>
<td>0.86</td>
<td>1.86</td>
<td>6.04</td>
<td>4.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13–15 (3)</td>
<td>0.86</td>
<td>1.86</td>
<td>6.04</td>
<td>4.04</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Current Publications**

Selected titles form recent reports published worldwide are arranged in the following sections:

**Gonorrhoea**

Sexually transmitted disease clinic clients at risk for subsequent gonorrhoea and chlamydia infections—possible ‘core’ transmitters.

RA GUNN, S FITZGERALD, SO ALAR. Sex Transm Dis 2000;27:543–9

Gonorrhoea among men who have sex with men: outbreak caused by a single genotype of erythromycin-resistant *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* with a single-base deletion in mtrR promoter region.

MS XIA, WLH WHITTINGTON, WM SHAPER, KK HOLMES. J Infect Dis 2000;181:2080–2


A typing system for *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* based on biotinylated oligonucleotide probes to PBP gene variable regions.


Expression of AniA, the major anaerobic induced outer membrane protein of *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*, provides protection against killing by normal human sera.

Chlamydia

Duration of untreated genital infections with Chlamydia trachomatis—a review of the literature.


Relationship of hormonal contraception and cervical ectopy as measured by computerized planimetry to chlamydial infection in adolescents.
DJ JACOBSON, L PERALTA, M FARMER et al. Sex Transm Dis 2000;27:313–9

Pooling cervical swabs and testing by ligase chain reaction are accurate and cost-saving strategies for diagnosis of Chlamydia trachomatis.

Reproducibility problems with the Abbott Laboratories Lx assay for Chlamydia trachomatis and Neisseria gonorrhoeae.
AM GRONOWSKI, S COPPER, B BAORTO, PR MURRAY. J Clin Microbiol 2000;38:2416–8

An important proportion of genital samples submitted for Chlamydia trachomatis detection by PCR contain small amounts of cellular DNA as measured by β-globin gene amplification.


Priming with Chlamydia trachomatis major outer membrane protein (MOMP) DNA followed by MOMP ISCOM boosting enhances protection and is associated with increased immunoglobulin A and Th1 cellular immune responses.

Genetic differences in the Chlamydia trachomatis tryptophan synthase α-subunit can explain variations in serovar pathogenesis.
AT SHAW, G CHRISTIANSEN, P ROEPSTORFF, S BIRKELUND. Microbes 2000;2:581–92

Role of hyphal formation in interactions of Candida albicans with endothelial cells.

Measurement of T-cell-derived antigen binding molecules and immunoglobulin G specific to Candida albicans mannan in sera of patients with recurrent vulvovaginal candidiasis.

Evidence for mating of the ‘asexual’ yeast Candida albicans in a mammalian host.
CM HULL, RA BAINER, AD JOHNSON. Science 2000;289:307–9

Bacterial vaginosis

The Papanicolaou smear: inadequate screening test for bacterial vaginosis during pregnancy.

Identification of a human lactoferrin-binding protein in Gardnerella vaginalis.

Trichomoniasis

A randomized trial of intravaginal nooxynol 9 versus oral metronidazole in the treatment of vaginal trichomoniasis.
NM ANTONELLI, SJ DEHIL, JW WRIGHT. Am J Obstet Gynecol 2000;182:1008–10

Host and tissue specificity of Trichomonas vaginalis is not mediated by its known adhesion proteins.

18S ribosomal DNA-based PCR for diagnosis of Trichomonas vaginalis.

Syphilis and other treponematoses

Tracing a syphils outbreak through cyberspace.
JD KLAUSNER, W WOLF, L FISCHERPONCE. JAMA 2000;284:447–9

Strategies for syphills prevention—findings from surveys in a high-incidence area.
TA FARLEY, RH KAHM, G JOHNSON, DA COHEN. Sex Transm Dis 2000;27:305–10

Editorial: syphilis—a barometer of community health.
JN WASSERHEIT. Sex Transm Dis 2000;27:311–2

Use of synthetic cardiolipin and lecithin in the antigen used by the Venereal Disease Research Laboratory Test for serodiagnosis of syphilis.

Comparison of the Serodia Treponema pallidum particle agglutination, Captia syphilis-G and Spirotest Reagin II tests with standard test techniques for diagnosis of syphilis.

Treponema pallidum subsp. pertenue displays pathogenic properties different from those of T pallidum subsp. pallidum.

Hepatitis

Detection of hepatitis C virus in the semen of infected men.
M LEBUEZELLE, JM KUNTSMANN, M DEALMEIDA et al. Lancet 2000;356:42

JG FELDMAN, H MINKOFF, L LANDESMAN, JD HOVITZ. Sex Transm Dis 2000;27:338–42

The natural history of hepatitis C virus infection—host, viral and environmental factors.
DM THOMAS, J ASTEMORSKI, RM RAI et al. JAMA 2000;284:450–6

Herpes

Herpes simplex virus in the human cornea.
HS DUA. Br J Ophthalmol 2000;84:560

Further evidence from a murine infection model that farneslcovir interferes with the establishment of HSV-1 latent infections.

Comparison of virus isolation and various polymerase chain reaction methods in the diagnosis of mucocutaneous herpesvirus infection.

Comparison of a monoclonal antibody-blocking enzyme-linked immunoassay and a strip immunoblot assay for identifying type-specific herpes simplex virus type 2 serological responses.

Long term persistence of herpes simplex virus-specific CDS(4) CTL in persons with frequently recurring genital herpes.
Viral load of human papillomavirus 16 as a predictor of human papillomavirus infection.

Mathematical model for the natural history of human papillomavirus infection.

B-cell-deficient mice.

Decreased vaginal disease in J-chain-deficient mice following herpes simplex virus type 2 genital infection.

The role of the UL41 gene of herpes simplex virus type 1 in evasion of non-specific host defence mechanisms during primary infection.

Difference in incidence of spontaneous mutations between herpes simplex virus types 1 and 2.

Cervical neoplasia and repeated positivity of human papillomavirus infection in human immunodeficiency virus-positive and -seronegative women.

Genital human papillomavirus infection and associated penile intraepithelial neoplasia in males infected with the human immunodeficiency virus.

Cost-effectiveness of screening for anal squamous intraepithelial lesions and anal cancers in human immunodeficiency virus-negative homosexual and bisexual men.

Human papillomavirus infection in atrophic smears—a case report.

Imiquimod: an immune response modifier.

Correlation between pretreatment levels of interferon response genes and clinical responses to an immune response modifier (Imiquimod) in genital warts.

Comparison of human papillomavirus types 16, 18 and 6 capsid antibody responses following incident infection.

Absence of antibody against human papillomavirus type 16 and E7 in patients with cervical cancer is independent of sequence variations.

The human papillomavirus type 16 E7 oncogene is required for the productive stage of the viral life cycle.

Cervical lesions are associated with human papillomavirus type 16 intratypic variants that have high transcription activity and increases usage of common mammalian codons.

Minor capsid protein of human genital papillomaviruses contains subdominant, cross-neutralizing epitopes.

Abnormalities of cornified cell envelopes isolated from human papillomavirus type 11-infected genital epithelium.

In vitro.

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Cervical cytology and colposcopy

Management guidelines for women with normal colposcopy after low grade cervical abnormalities: population study.
GR TEIFE, DM MOFFITT, CH MANN, DM LUESLEY. BMJ 2000;320:1693–6

Accuracy of the Papanicolaou test in screening for and follow-up of cervical cytologic abnormalities: a systemic review.

The borderline cervical smear: colposcopic and biopsy outcome.

Combined Pap smear, cervicography and HPV DNA testing in the detection of cervical intraepithelial neoplasia and cancer.

Comparison of endocervical curettage and endocervical brushing.

Laser scanning confocal microscopy of cervical tissue before and after application of acetic acid.

Cervical intraepithelial neoplasia outcomes after large loop excision with clear margins.

Cyclin E expression and early cervical neoplasia in ThinPrep specimens—a feasibility study.

Other sexually transmitted infections

Features of urethritis in a cohort of male soldiers.

High prevalence of Epstein-Barr virus type 2 among homosexual men is caused by sexual transmission.

Seropositivity to human herpesvirus 8 in relation to sexual history and risk of sexually transmitted infections among women.

Public health and social aspects


Promotion of condom use in a high-risk setting in Nicaragua: a randomized controlled trial.

A randomized trial of hierarchical counselling in a short, clinic-based intervention to reduce the risk of sexually transmitted diseases in women.
EL GOLLUB, J FRENCH, A LOUDDOU et al. AIDS 2000;14:1249–56

Microbiology and immunology

Role played by lactobacilli in controlling the population of vaginal pathogens.
S BORIS, C BARBES. Microbes Infect 2000;2:543–6

The immune responses to bacterial antigens encountered in vivo at mucosal surfaces.

Dermatology

Vulvitis circumspecta plasmacellularis mimicking child abuse.

Two cases of vulval pigmented extramammary Paget’s disease: histochemical and immunohistochemical studies.

Miscellaneous

Syndromic treatment of sexually transmitted diseases reduces the proportion of incident HIV infections attributable to these diseases in rural Tanzania.
KK OROTHI, A GAYVOLI, J TOTTI et al. AIDS 2000;14:1429–38

Control of sexually transmitted diseases for HIV-1 prevention: understanding the implications of the Mwanza and Rakai trials.

Sexually transmitted diseases and the increased risk for HIV transmission: implications for cost-effectiveness analyses of sexually transmitted disease prevention interventions.
HW CHESSION, SD PINKERTON. J Acq Immun Defic Synd 2000;24:48–56

The challenge of sexually transmitted diseases for the military: what has changed?

Reducing risk of sexually transmitted disease and human immunodeficiency virus infection in a military STD clinic: evaluation of a randomised preventive intervention trial.

Assessing the burden of sexual and reproductive ill-health: questions regarding the use of disability-adjusted life years.

Integration of prevention and care of sexually transmitted infections with family planning services: what is the evidence for public health benefits?

Emergency contraception: advance provision in a young, high-risk clinic population.

Prevalence of home pregnancy testing among adolescents.

Sexually transmitted diseases and sexual behaviour in men attending an outpatients’ clinic for gay men in Gothenburg, Sweden.
MAT CHRISTIANSEN, GB LOWHAGEN. Acta Derm Venereol 2000;80:136–9

Adverse childhood experiences and sexually transmitted diseases in men and women: a retrospective study.
SD HILLS, RF ANDA, VJ FILITTI, D NORDENBERG, PA MARCHBANKS. Pediatrics 2000;106;U12–U17

Identification of female cells in postcoital penile swabs using fluorescence in situ hybridisation—application in sexual assault.
KA COLLINS, SJ CINA, MJ PETTENAI. Arch Pathol Lab Med 2000;124:1080–2
Fluctuation in lower urinary tract symptoms in women—reassurance and watchful waiting can prevent overtreatment. S HUNSKAAR. BMJ 2000;320:1418


Reactive arthritis: the result of an anti-idiotypic immune response to a bacterial lipopolysaccharide antigen where the idiotype has the immunological appearance of a synovial antigen. JR KENNEDY. Med Hypotheses 2000;54:723–5


Acute vulvar vestibulitis occurring during chemotherapy with cryptophycin analogue LY355703. TM DEPAS, M MANDALA, G CURIGLIANO, F PECCATORI. Obstet Gynecol 2000;95:1030


Effect of erectile dysfunction on frequency of intercourse: a population based prevalence study in Finland. J KOSKIMAKI, M HAKAMA, H HUHTALA, TLJ TAMMELA. J Urol 2000;164:367–70


Tuberculosis of the penis after intravesicular bacillus Calmette-Guerin treatment. JM LATINI, DS WANG, P FORGACS, WB BEHRE. J Urol 2000;163:1870


Scrotal dog bites. JH CUMMINGS, JA BOULLIER. J Urol 2000;164:57–8
Detection of 14-3-3 brain protein in cerebrospinal fluid of HIV infected patients

R F Miller, A J E Green, G Giovannoni and E J Thompson

Sex Transm Infect 2000 76: 408
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