Increasing Access to HIV and Syphilis Screening in Remote Areas Using Rapid Tests

Abstract S2.2 Figure 1  Number of pregnant women tested and treated at clinics before and after Rapid Test introduction in 3 months.

Abstract S2.2 Table 1  Syphilis and HIV screening progress

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DSEI</th>
<th># Screened / sexually active population (%)</th>
<th>Syphilis prevalence in sexually active population</th>
<th>HIV prevalence in sexually active population</th>
<th>Syphilis prevalence in pregnant women</th>
<th>HIV prevalence in pregnant women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Manaus</td>
<td>5,957/10,980 (54.2%)</td>
<td>1.51%</td>
<td>0.08%</td>
<td>3/287 (0.93%)</td>
<td>0/232 (0.0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yanomami</td>
<td>1,757/4,317 (40.7%)</td>
<td>0.06%</td>
<td>0.17%</td>
<td>1/284 (0.35%)</td>
<td>2/240 (0.70%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leste roraima</td>
<td>2,668/4,038 (66.0%)</td>
<td>0.41%</td>
<td>0.08%</td>
<td>2/567 (0.40%)</td>
<td>0/472 (0.0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alto solimões</td>
<td>19,147/25,322 (75.6%)</td>
<td>1.90%</td>
<td>0.13%</td>
<td>30/1,412 (2.27%)</td>
<td>0/1,272 (0.0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parintins</td>
<td>2,324/4,904 (47.4%)</td>
<td>0.34%</td>
<td>0.04%</td>
<td>1/254 (0.39%)</td>
<td>0/253 (0.0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alto rio Negro</td>
<td>4,892/19,872 (24.6%)</td>
<td>0.72%</td>
<td>0.08%</td>
<td>4/639 (0.72%)</td>
<td>0/561 (0.0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Médio solimões</td>
<td>582/9,092 (6.6%)</td>
<td>2.59%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0/77 (0.0%)</td>
<td>0/76 (0.0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Médio purus</td>
<td>330/2,950 (11.2%)</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0/20 (0.0%)</td>
<td>0/20 (0.0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vale do Javari</td>
<td>1,147/2,563 (44.7%)</td>
<td>6.10%</td>
<td>0.17%</td>
<td>3/70 (4.29%)</td>
<td>1/70 (1.43%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>38,799/83,311 (46.6%)</td>
<td>594/38,799 (1.53%)</td>
<td>41/38,799 (0.11%)</td>
<td>44/3,650 (1.29%)</td>
<td>3/3,650 (0.09%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1A Benzaken, 2V M Pinto, 3C H Carvalho, 4R Peeling, 5Fundacao Alfredo da Matta, Manaus, Brasil; 6Secretaria de Saude de Sao Paulo, Sao Paulo, Brasil; 7Fundacao Alfredo da Matta, Manaus, Brasil; 8London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, London, UK

Background  Syphilis continues to be a public health problem in Brazil, particularly among populations with limited access to health services. Indigenous populations, who live in remote locations in the interior of the Amazon forest, are of even greater concern. Traditional laboratory tests for the diagnosis of syphilis are scarce in these regions. The objective of this presentation is to describe the implementation of rapid tests (RT) in the Amazon region.

Methods  We trained health professionals of 9 Special Indigenous Health Districts (DSEI) to screen the sexually active population (over 10 years of age) for syphilis and HIV using RT with Quality Assurance (QA).

Results  In total, 509 health professionals were trained and 160 units participated in the screening efforts. From a sexually active population of 83,511 indigenous people 38,799 (47%) were tested, of whom 594 (1.5%) tested positive for syphilis. 44/3,650 pregnant women (1.5%) tested positive for syphilis, and 3 for HIV (0.1%). There is extensive variation between the rate of syphilis and HIV positivity between DSEIs (Abstract S2.2 table 1). The external QA performance was important in assuring correct results as initial scores were 77.1% for the HIV test and 61.5% for the syphilis test.

Conclusions  This project has demonstrated to policy makers in Brazil the existence of syphilis and HIV among indigenous people and the feasibility of addressing it. As a result of this work, it is now government policy to use RT to screen for HIV and syphilis with QA in remote regions of Brazil. This project provided a model for the introduction of point of care tests supported by a QA programme in remote regions.

Screening High-Risk Populations Using Rapid Syphilis Tests: The Importance of Social and Cultural Contexts

Abstract S2.3

Background  Syphilis has made a dramatic resurgence in China during the past 2 decades with an increasing prevalence in high-risk groups. Screening of syphilis in the populations is critical for control of the disease.
S2.2 Increasing access to HIV and syphilis screening in remote areas using rapid tests

A Benzaken, V M Pinto, C H Carvalho and R Peeling

*Sex Transm Infect* 2011 87: A2
doi: 10.1136/sextrans-2011-050102.6

Updated information and services can be found at:
http://sti.bmj.com/content/87/Suppl_1/A2.1

These include:

**Email alerting service**
Receive free email alerts when new articles cite this article. Sign up in the box at the top right corner of the online article.

**Topic Collections**
Articles on similar topics can be found in the following collections

- Syphilis (793)
- Drugs: infectious diseases (3182)
- HIV / AIDS (2514)
- HIV infections (2514)
- HIV/AIDS (2514)
- Screening (epidemiology) (985)
- Screening (public health) (984)
- Health of indigenous peoples (4)
- Pregnancy (472)
- Reproductive medicine (1356)

**Notes**

To request permissions go to:
http://group.bmj.com/group/rights-licensing/permissions

To order reprints go to:
http://journals.bmj.com/cgi/reprintform

To subscribe to BMJ go to:
http://group.bmj.com/subscribe/