Within this concordant pair, both women reported engaging in oral sex and sharing wet towels during sexual activity. One woman in this pair reported recent sex with a male partner while the other woman denied history of other sexual partners during the past 3 months and had not had sex with a male partner in 5 years. Additionally, a follow-up visit of one of the members of this concordant union demonstrated a RAPD pattern discordant with previous findings indicating that the individual’s initial treatment was successful and that she had acquired a new TV infection.

Conclusions Given the phenotypic similarity of banding patterns within one AAWSW sexual partnership, female to female transmission of TV may have occurred. The frequency of TV transmission between WSW is unknown at this time; however, the use of RAPD appears to be informative for differentiating isolates of TV. A prospective study examining the epidemiology and incidence of TV infection among WSW is necessary.

Conclusions

Regardless the low cost and large availability of GRAM stain and cytological tests in health services for women with AIDS, there are difficulties which remain to identify interventions that refer to social, cultural and environmental influences on vaginal infections in this group.

P3-S7.08 CLINICAL EVALUATION OF THE APTIMA® TRICHOMONAS VAGINALIS ASSAY ON THE TIGRIS® DTS® SYSTEM IN ASYMPTOMATIC AND SYMPTOMATIC FEMALE SUBJECTS

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Background This study evaluated the clinical performance of the APTIMA® Trichomonas vaginalis (ATV, Gen-Probe Incorporated) Assay, a nucleic acid amplification test for the diagnosis of Trichomonas vaginalis (TV) infection, in asymptomatic and symptomatic women.

Methods This prospective, multicenter clinical trial enrolled 1025 women attending US OB-GYN, adolescent, family planning, or sexually transmitted disease clinics. Four specimen types were collected from each subject: physician-collected vaginal swab, endocervical swab, ThinPrep specimen, and first-catch urine. Of three vaginal swabs collected from each subject, one was used for wet mount microscopic examination, one for culture, and one for molecular testing for TV. The order of collection for each vaginal swab sample was rotated to minimise sampling bias. Each specimen was tested by ATV assay using the automated TIGRIS DTS system. ATV assay performance in each sample type was determined by comparing ATV assay test result to the patient infected status (positive in saline wet mount and/or culture) for each sample.