Results 1257 men and 3025 women participated (66–71% response rate). Chlamydia positivity was 4.6% (95% CI: 3.9–5.4); similar between men (5.2%; 95% CI: 3.9–6.4) and women (4.4%; 95% CI: 3.5–5.2). The likelihood ratio test found number of partners to be most significantly associated with chlamydia, followed by partnership duration, Gr 1 concurrent partnerships (yes vs no), condom use (inconsistent vs consistent) and frequency of sex (daily/weekly/monthly vs less). The association was strongest for Gr 1 concurrent partnerships (OR = 2.4; 95% CI: 1.7–3.4) followed by condom use (OR = 2.0; 95% CI: 1.3–2.9), partnership duration (OR = 0.5; 95% CI: 0.4–0.6) and number of partners (OR = 1.2; 95% CI: 1.1–1.3). Frequency of sex was not associated with chlamydia. When all variables were included in the model, condom use (OR = 2.1; 95% CI: 1.4–3.1) had the strongest association with chlamydia followed by partnership duration (OR = 0.5; 95% CI: 0.4–0.7), concurrent partnership (OR = 1.5; 95% CI: 1.0–2.3) and number of partners (OR = 1.1; 95% CI: 1.0–1.2), with the latter two highly correlated (p < 0.01).

Conclusion Sexual behaviour is difficult to capture accurately in questionnaires, but these results suggest that number of partners, partnership duration, concurrent partnerships and condom use are important. It is difficult to separate the effect of concurrency from number of partners.

P3.020 PREVALENCE OF GENITAL CHLAMYDIA TRACHOMATIS AND NEISSERIA GONORROEAE INFECTIONS AMONG ADOLESCENTS IN NORTHERN ITALY


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Background Sexually transmitted infections are widespread globally, especially among people aged 15–25. Chlamydia trachomatis is the most common sexually-acquired bacterial disease. This infection is not notified in Italy; prevalence data on population-based surveys are not available.

Methods We conducted a prevalence survey among students aged 18 or older attending high schools in the Province of Brescia, Northern Italy. A total of 3134 adolescents were offered to enter the study; overall, 1886/3134 (60.2%) participated. Each consenting student answered to a socio-behavioural questionnaire and C. trachomatis and N. gonorrhoeae were searched on first void urine samples using VERSANT™ CT/GC DNA 1.0 Assay (kPCR). We present preliminary data concerning 1311 enrolled individuals attending 16 schools.

Results Overall, 63.8% (836/1311) were females and the median age was 18.4 years. Most students (91.7%) were born in Italy. 77.1% of the enrolled students declared to be sexually active (F > M, p < 0.001), with their first intercourse occurring at a median age of 16.0 years. About 57.0% of sexually active persons reported using condom during the last intercourse and only 26.5% (M > F, p = 0.017) admitted always using it. Females were found to become sexually active earlier, had more partners in the previous six months and less frequently used condoms. No case of N. gonorrhoeae infection was identified, while 8 males and 15 females were positive for C. trachomatis, with a prevalence rate among sexually active students of 2.4% (IC 95%: 1.0–4.8) and 1.9% (IC 95%: 1.0–3.3) respectively. The factors significantly associated with an increased risk of Chlamydia infection were the inconsistent condom use (p = 0.029) and a higher number of sexual partners during the previous six months (p = 0.013).

Conclusion A lower than expected prevalence of C. trachomatis infection was observed among sexually active adolescents in Northern Italy.