donors in comparison to male donors. TTIs prevalence was highest among blood donors in the age group 21 to 30 years (P = < 0.05). HIV was reported to be more prevalent among replacement donors (0.33%) than volunteer donors (0.12%). Other TTIs were insignificantly more prevalent among volunteer donor than replacement donors.

Conclusions Screening of donated blood should be done with highly sensitive and specific tests so as not to transfuse infected blood. It is also important to strengthen donor counselling before donation.

THE SPATIAL AND TEMPORAL ASSOCIATIONS BETWEEN NEIGHBOURHOOD DRUG MARKETS AND RATES OF SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS IN AN URBAN SETTING


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Background This study examined temporal and spatial relationships between neighbourhood drug markets and gonorrhoea among census block groups from 2002 to 2005. Our central hypotheses was that drug markets through their drug and sex economies set up dense sexual networks among a high STI prevalence group which creates conditions that are necessary and sufficient for STI transmission.

Methods The study design was a spatial, longitudinal ecologic study. The primary outcome of interest was age and sex standardised gonorrhoea counts from 2002 to 2005. The primary exposure of interest was drug markets defined as illicit drug dealing within a specific geographic area and measured using drug market arrest data. Poisson regression was utilised with adjustment in final models for socioeconomic status, stability and vacant housing.

Results Increased drug market arrests in a focal neighbourhood were significantly associated with a 15% increase gonorrhoea (Adjusted RR 1.15; 95% CI 1.09, 1.20). Increased drug market arrests in adjacent neighbourhoods were significantly associated with a 32% increase in gonorrhoea (ARR 1.32; 95% CI 1.22, 1.42), independent of focal neighbourhood drug markets. Increased drug market arrests in the previous year in the focal neighbourhood were not associated with increases in gonorrhoea (ARR 1.00; 95% CI 0.95, 1.06), adjusting for focal and adjacent neighbourhood drug markets.

Conclusion While the temporal lag of one year was not supported, our findings support an associative link between drug markets and gonorrhoea. The findings suggest that drug markets and their associated sexual networks may extend beyond local neighbourhood boundaries indicating the importance of including spatial lag effects in regression models investigating these associations.

TRICHOMONAS VAGINALIS AND ASSOCIATED FACTORS AMONG WOMEN LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS IN AMAZONAS, BRAZIL


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Background STIs facilitate HIV transmission through direct and biological mechanisms. Early detection and treatment of STI can be an addition to the HIV prevention strategies.

Objectives Our goal was to determine the prevalence of Trichomonas vaginalis (TV) and its associated factors among HIV/AIDS women attending an AIDS clinic in Manaus, Amazonas, Brazil.

Methods Cross-sectional study. Women attending an AIDS clinic in Manaus between March and December 2010 for gynaecological examination were invited to participate. Enrolled patients answered a face-to-face interview including demographic, behavioural and clinical data. They also underwent a gynaecological evaluation and cervical scrape samples were collected for wet mount, Gram stain, culture and cytological analysis. A blood sample was obtained to determine TCD4+ lymphocytes and viral load.

Results A total of 341 (91.2%) women participated in the study. The prevalence of TV was 4.1%(CI95%:2.0%–6.2%). Median age was 32 (interquartile range (IQR): 27–38) years and median of education was 9.0 (IQR: 4–11) years of schooling. A total of 165 (53.2%) HIV women were classified as patients with AIDS. In multivariate analyses, squamous intraepithelial lesions in cytology [OR = 2.46 (CI95%:1.31–4.63, p = 0.005)] and reporting anal sex [OR = 3.62 (CI95%:1.08–12.19, p = 0.037)], were associated with TV.

Conclusions These results highlight HIV-infected women should be screened for TV. The control of this infection may have an impact on preventing reproductive complications among these women.

DISTINCT BUT ALSO HIGHLY SIMILAR CHLAMYDIA TRACHOMATIS STRAINS IN NANNING, CHINA AND IN AMSTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS


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Background The highly active anti-retroviral therapy (HAART) has increased survival of patients with HIV/AIDS. However, some individuals may present therapeutic failure due to a variety of factors, including transmitted antiretroviral resistance. Thus, the objective of the study was investigate frequency of primary resistance and recent infection among HIV-1 seropositive individuals at five Voluntary Counseling and Testing Centers (VCT) at Metropolitan Region of Recife in Northeast of Brazil.

Methods For RNA transcription to cDNA and PCR amplification with genetic sequencing of the product was carried out using the TRUGENE® HIV-1 Genotyping Assay. The sequences were analysed using the software OpenGene® DNA Sequencing System and ARV resistance mutations and subtypes were submitted to the Stanford HIV Drug Resistance Database and further confirmed by SIMPLOT v.2. The BED Calypso® assay was carried out for detection of recent HIV infection.

Results A total of 130 samples were analysed. Most participants were males (56%) and aged 31–50 years. Median T CD4+ lymphocyte was 408 cells/mm² and viral load was 3,683 copies/ml. Primary resistance rate was 4.6%. Recent infection rate was 23%. Mutations associated with resistance to NNRTI, NRTI and PIs occurred in 3.84%, 1.53% and 0.77%, respectively.

Conclusions The present study showed that 4.6% of the strains had transmitted antiretroviral resistance mutations, which coincides with the low resistance rates that have been found in Brazil. Despite a high prevalence of recent infection, there were no significant differences in the prevalence of mutations between the recent and chronic infection groups (p = 0.327).