PREVALENCE AND CORRELATES OF DEPRESSION AMONG HIV-POSITIVE PATIENTS IN BIHAR, INDIA: A CROSS-SECTIONAL STUDY

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Introduction Depression is accounted as one of the major contributors towards the neuropsychiatric complication among person living with HIV. Depression leads to the non-compliance and accounted for the worst outcomes. So, this study was aimed to assess the prevalence and correlates of depression.

Methods This was a cross-sectional study conducted at the Anti-retroviral therapy (ART) centre, RMRIMS, Patna, India. The study protocol was approved by the institutional ethics committee of Rajendra Memorial Research Institute of Medical Sciences (RMRIMS), Patna (04/RM/REC/2016). Patients were interviewed with the Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-9) to assess the prevalence of depression. Association of depression with respect to demographic and disease-related factors were also assessed. Data were coded and analysed using SPSS v22.

Results A total of 144 patients suffering from HIV were participated in this study. Among this selected participants, 47% were female. The mean age of participants was 38.8 years (SD=11.4). Depression was prevalent in 57% (95% CI: 48.91 to 65.09) of patient participated in the study and was highly prevalent in female (66%). Prevalence of depression was higher in patient belongs to upper lower and lower socioeconomic class. More than a quarter 28% (95% CI: 21.56 to 36.44) of respondents had mild depression, while 29% (95% CI: 21.99 to 36.41) of participants were suffering from moderate to severe depression. Prevalence of depression was found to be significantly associated with lower socioeconomic class (OR 2.458, 95% CI: 1.081–5.92; p<0.05).

Conclusion Depression is highly prevalent among HIV-positive patients in Bihar region. Higher odds of prevalent depression were observed in lower socioeconomic class. Nearly 30% HIV positive patients were suffering from moderate to severe depression.

IMMUNE RESPONSE TO HEPATITIS B VACCINE IN A GROUP OF HEALTH CARE WORKERS AT THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HYGIEN – RABAT, MOROCCO

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Introduction Healthcare workers are one of the most at risk population of infection with hepatitis B virus (HBV). Our study aims to evaluate the practices and knowledge on the risk of HBV infection and to determine the immune status against HBV among the staff of the National Institute of Hygien (NIH).

Methods This is a descriptive cross-sectional study that involved 47 participants belonging to different categories of the NIH staff. After providing a written consent for participation, recruits answered a questionnaire developed from the WHO guidelines.

The assessment of the immune status focused on the screening and quantification of serological markers: HBs Ag, HBs Ab, Hbc Ab by an automated technology using chemiluminescence on the system Cobas E411 (Roche Diagnostics, USA).

Results The average age of participants was 45±8 years. All respondents (n=47) confirmed their knowledge of modes of transmission of parenteral hepatitis. Moreover, 72% (n=34) recognised the liver cirrhosis as a consequence of HBV infection. The association of hepatic carcinoma with HBV infection has been acknowledged by 44% (n=21) of participants. Similarly 90.7% recognised the existence of a vaccine against hepatitis B. Biosecurity measures were available in all services. No cases of HBV chronic infection were detected. Serological markers of hepatitis B were tested for 45 participants. The results showed that 49% (n=22) have a profile of immunisation mediated by vaccin. Five respondents (11.1%) showed a profile for a past infection healed. No cases of chronic or acute HBV infection were detected.

Conclusion The present study demonstrated that despite good knowledge on the HBV infection, the vaccination rate of INH staff remains low. Regular awareness campaigns should be imposed at the NIH level to update the staff knowledge on the HBV infection and preventive measures including vaccination.

UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF NEEDLE: CORRELATES OF HIV, HCV AND HIV/HCV CO-INFECTION AMONG INJECTING DRUG USERS IN THREE STATES OF INDIA

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Introduction HCV is the most common virus affecting the world’s 16 million injection drug users (IDUs). It is estimated that close to 3 million IDUs are living with HIV and some studies indicate that over 90% of IDUs infected with HIV are also infected with HCV. The main objective of the study is to determine the correlates of HCV, HCV co-infection among injecting drug users in three states of India.

Methods Data were obtained from a bio-behavioural survey-Integrated Behavioural and Biological Assessment (2009–10) (n=1977) in the high prevalence of HIV states of India among injecting drug users, Manipur, Maharashtra, and Nagaland. The respondent-driven sampling method was used to collect the eligible respondent. Dependent variables for this study was HIV prevalence, HCV prevalence, and HIV/HCV co-infection among injecting drug users in three states of India.

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