Abstracts

P3.217 HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS (HIV) SERODISCORDANCE AND ASSOCIATED FACTORS AMONG HIV POSITIVE CLIENTS ACCESSING ANTIRETROVIRAL THERAPY IN NIGERIA

Temitope Ogunbiyi,1Wunmi Ladi-Akinyemi,2Babatunde Oladipupo Ladi-Akinyemi,3Olusegun Akinbode,3Lindo Gumede,1Venessa Maseko,2Frans Radebe,2Lindy Gumede,1Venessa Maseko,2Frans Radebe,2Onaolapo Aigberha,4Odomaye Olumuyiwa,3Cecilia Zavala,4Obinna Onwuthi,3Marcella Jloba,3David Mhlongo,1Oladokun Tuyiwa 

1National Institute of Communicable Diseases, Johannesburg, South Africa; 2Institute of Communicable Diseases, Johannesburg, South African Republic; 3Institute of Communicable Diseases, Johannesburg, South African Republic; 4Financial Services Authority, Johannesburg, South African Republic

Introduction In Africa, there is increasing evidence that a large proportion of new HIV infections occur in cohabitating couples, many of whom are unaware of both partners’ serostatus. Sub-Saharan Africa has the highest prevalence and incidence of HIV infection worldwide, mostly attributable to heterosexual transmission. In Nigeria, the bulk of the new infections occur in persons who are not engaging in high risk sex, a sub-population that includes cohabiting or married sexual partners. This study was undertaken to determine the prevalence and assess factors associated with HIV serodiscordance status among HIV positive patients accessing ART in secondary health facilities in Ogun State, South West Nigeria.

Methods This is a descriptive cross-sectional study conducted in four secondary health facilities offering HIV services in Ogun State over a six months period. Sample size of 630 was determined using the Cochrane formula and the respondents were consecutively recruited into the study. Data was collected using a structured interviewer administered questionnaire and analysis was done using the statistical package for social sciences (SPSS) version 17.0. Results was presented using frequency tables, tests of associations was done using the Chi-square test and multiple Logistic regression with level of significance set at 0.05.

Results A total of 637 questionnaires was retrieved (response rate 98%). Two hundred and Seventy eight (43.6%) of the respondents did not know their spouse HIV status while 359 knew partners status. Of the 359, 166 clients are serodiscordant (46.2%) while 193 (53.8%) were seroconcordant. 50.7% were aged 30–39 years, the mean age was 35.8±9.1 years. Significantly more females (74.7%) than males (25.3%) had serodiscordant partners (p-value=0.002). Clients who did not consume alcohol were significantly more likely to have serodiscordant partners compared with clients who consumed alcohol (p-value=0.001). Serodiscordant partners were significantly more among clients with infrequent sexual activities compared with clients with frequent sexual activities (p-value=0.001). Predictors of serodiscordance status among partners were clients who were <35 years old (odd ratio (OR)=1.727, confidence interval (CI)=1.107–2.693) and did not consumed alcohol (OR=2.204, CI=1.070–4.542), with partners whose occupation were skilled (OR=7.159, CI=1.440–35.604) and semi-skilled (OR=6.189, CI=1.216–31.503) and clients with infrequent sexual activities (OR=3.182, CI=1.437–7.046).

Conclusion The study indicates that HIV positive clients could have serodiscordant partners if they could modify their lifestyle, have infrequent sexual activities (Not more than twice in a month) with partners that are gainfully engaged. It is therefore recommended that for early identification of at risk partners, couple HIV counselling and testing needs to be scaled up in addition to group-based interventions in order to pick serodiscordant partners early and provided all the necessary behavioural change support required to remain serodiscordant.

P3.218 DEMOGRAPHIC AND CLINICAL PROFILES OF WOMEN WITH BACTERIAL VAGINOSIS AND SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS: IMPLICATIONS FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF VAGINAL DISCHARGE SYNDROME IN SOUTH AFRICA

Tendayi Chakezha,1Lindy Gumede,1Venesa Museko,2Trans Radebe,1Rannini Kularatne,3National Institute of Communicable Diseases, Johannesburg, South African Republic; 4Institute of Communicable Diseases, Johannesburg, South African Republic

Introduction Current South African syndromic management guidelines for vaginal discharge syndrome (VDS), recommend only metronidazole and clotrimazole therapy for women 35 years or older, whose partners have no urethral discharge. This guidance assumes the older women have bacterial vaginosis or candidiasis without STIs and that their partners are not asymptomatic. We describe demographic, behavioural and clinical characteristics of women with VDS comparing those with frequent and infrequent sexual activities (p-value=0.001). Serodiscordant partners were significantly more among clients with infrequent sexual activities compared with clients with frequent sexual activities (p-value=0.001). Predictors of serodiscordance status among partners were clients who were <35 years old (odd ratio (OR)=1.727, confidence interval (CI)=1.107–2.693) and did not consumed alcohol (OR=2.204, CI=1.070–4.542), with partners whose occupation were skilled (OR=7.159, CI=1.440–35.604) and semi-skilled (OR=6.189, CI=1.216–31.503) and clients with infrequent sexual activities (OR=3.182, CI=1.437–7.046).

Conclusion The study indicates that HIV positive clients could have serodiscordant partners if they could modify their lifestyle, have infrequent sexual activities (Not more than twice in a month) with partners that are gainfully engaged. It is therefore recommended that for early identification of at risk partners, couple HIV counselling and testing needs to be scaled up in addition to group-based interventions in order to pick serodiscordant partners early and provided all the necessary behavioural change support required to remain serodiscordant.
of BV in the genital specimens was assessed using Gram stain smear and Nugent scoring while that of Candida was assessed using microscopy. In-house multiplex PCR was used to detect the following STI pathogens – Neisseria gonorrhoeae (NG), Chlamydia trachomatis (CT), Trichomonas vaginalis (CT) and Mycoplasma genitalium (MG). HIV positivity was determined using commercial rapid tests. Data was captured into a Microsoft Access 2010 database and exported into Stata 14 for analysis using descriptive statistics, comparing four groups. Group 1 – women with BV or Candida infection only, Group 2 – women with BV or Candida with an STI, Group 3 – women with an STI infection only and Group 4 – women with no pathogens detected in the laboratory.

Results A total of 771 women – median age 27 years (interquartile range (IQR) 23–32 years), 140 (19.5%) ≥35 years and 326 (43.4%) HIV positive- were enrolled. Of these: 253 (35.3%) were in Group 1, 238 (33.2%) in Group 2, 99 (13.8%) in Group 3, and 127 (17.7%) in Group 4. The proportions of women who were 35 years or older were 20.2%, 13.9%, 19.2% and 29.1% in Groups 1, 2, 3 and 4 respectively (p=0.006) while the HIV positivity was 43.1%, 55.9%, 43.4% and 32.3% in the groups (p<0.001). Condom use at last sexual encounter was 24.6%, 16.6%, 19.4% and 16.8% in Groups 1, 2, 3 and 4 respectively. The groups were similar in other respects although women in Group 2 had significantly higher rates of CT compared to Group 3.

Conclusion There were smaller but significant proportions of women 35 years or older had STIs with or without BV or Candida. The use of this age-specific threshold to guide syndromic treatment should be reconsidered, and HIV/STI integration promoted for women with VDS.

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P3.219 EVOLUTION OF NEISSERIA GONORRHOEAE RESISTANCE TO ANTIMICROBIALS IN A HISTORICAL SERIES OF ISOLATES FROM SÃO PAULO/BRAZIL
Thais Mattos Dos Santos; Líesia Goffetto; Marcos André Schomer; Hanalidyde de Melo Machado; Jessica Motta Martins; Felipe De Roccj; Ursula Oliveira Machado Souza; Roberto José Cavalho Silva; Maria Luiza Bazzo

Introduction: Neisseria gonorrhoeae (NG) was originally highly susceptible to antimicrobials. The ongoing selective pressure allied to the bacterium’s ability to develop and retain resistance factors has been indicating the possibility of NG to evolve into untreatable forms. Therefore, constant monitoring of antimicrobial resistance and updates of treatment guidelines are mandatory. The aim of this study was to evaluate the evolution of NG antimicrobial resistance in a historical series of isolates from São Paulo/Brazil.

Methods A total of 173 NG isolates obtained between 2003 and 2016 from the STD/AIDS Reference and Training Centre of São Paulo were analysed. The bacterial species identification was confirmed by MALDI-TOF and the minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) for penicillin (PEN), tetracycline (TET), ciprofloxacin (CIP), azithromycin (AZT), ceftriaxone (CRO) and cefixime (CFX) was determined by agar dilution.

Results The isolates were divided into two periods, from 2003 to 2010 and 2011 to 2016. The susceptibility profile for PEN did not differ between the two periods, 77.8% of the isolates had intermediate (I) and 19% resistant (R) from 2003 to 2010, while 74.5% I and 25.5% R from 2011 to 2016. The susceptibility profile for TET showed a different behaviour with more intermediates in the second period (59.6% I and 31.9% R) compared to the first period (29.4% I and 60.3% R). For AZT, there was an increase in the number of resistant isolates over the years: 0.8% I and 1.6% R (2003 to 2010), and 10.6% I and 12.8% R (2011 to 2016). CIP was the drug that presented the major difference between the periods with 86.5% of isolates being sensitive, 1.6% I and 11.9% R in the first period and 46.8% R in the second period. The isolates were 100% sensitive to cefixime and ceftriaxone.

Conclusion The study showed an increase in resistance to azithromycin and especially to ciprofloxacin. Ceftriaxone and cefixime isolates, both rarely used in clinic in Brazil, did not present resistance.

P3.220 HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS INFECTION IN ORAL AND ANOGENITAL SITES: PREVALENCE AND RATES OF CONCORDANCE
Thaissa Cordeiro, Silvia Maria Baeta Cavalcanti

Introduction HPV infection causes cancer at several anatomical sites. However, the natural history of the infection in non-cervical sites have been understudied, especially at the oral epithelium.

Methods In our study, we investigated 351 samples from three different sites of 117 patients, searching for HPV By generic and specific PCR and Microarray, and related risk factors.

Results HPV DNA prevalence was 89.5% (105/117) in the genital lesions, 53.8% (63/117) in oral samples and 59% (69/117) in anal samples. Regarding the risk factors associated with HPV in the genital lesions, we found statistically significant rates for oral (p=0.039) and anal sex practices (p=0.0000012). For oral samples, we observed a relevant correlation concerning oral contraceptive use (p=0.039), tobacco smoking (p=0.036) and alcohol use (p=0.0075) while in anal samples, we found higher risk for HPV infection in patients relating non-exclusive sexual partners (p=0.013). The presence of viral DNA in all the three sites was observed in 36.8% of the cases (43/117). Among them, 18% (21/117) presented concordant HPV genotypes, diverging from the literature, corroborating that there is still much to learn about HPV natural history, since different biological behaviours are expected within different populations.

Conclusion In our study we also evaluated if the detection of oral HPV would suggest an infection in the anogenital tract. Nevertheless, our results showed only 36.8% of correlation pointing out that it is not suitable as an auxiliary biomarker for HPV anogenital infections.
HIGH LEVELS OF SUSCEPTIBILITY IN NEISSERIA GONORRHOEAE ISOLATES FROM SASKATCHEWAN CANADA (2003–2015) TO NEW AND OLDER ANTIBIOTICS USED FOR TREATMENT

1SO Thakur, 2PN Levet, 3G Horman, 1R Dillon. 1Department of Microbiology and Immunology, College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Canada; 2Saskatchewan Disease Control Laboratory, Regina, Canada

Introduction Antibiotics should have an efficacy of at least 95% for treating infections caused by Neisseria gonorrhoeae (Ng). When more than 5% of Ng isolates are resistant to an antibiotic, treatment guidelines must be changed to a more effective antibiotic. Trends in the antimicrobial susceptibility (AMS) of Ng isolates from Saskatchewan, Canada were ascertained (2003 – 2015) to ascertain whether older antimicrobials might be effective.

Methods The susceptibility of 685 Ng isolates to 7 antibiotics was determined by the agar dilution method. β-lactamase production was determined using nitrocefin.

Results From 2006–2012, penicillin resistance was below 5% (0%–4.0%) of Ng isolates tested. Penicillin resistance above 5% occurred in 2003 (6.7%), 2004 (6.8%), 2005 (11.5%), 2013 (27.5%), and 2014 (13.5%). Tetracycline resistance remained above 5% (11.8% to 89.1%) of Ng tested throughout the study. Ciprofloxacin resistance ranged between 0% and 1.9% of isolates tested up to 2009 but was over 5% thereafter. All isolates were susceptible to spectinomycin. Over 95% of Ng isolates tested were susceptible to azithromycin except in 2010 (27.6% resistant; 8/29) and 2013 (7.2% resistant; 5/69). Twelve (1.8%) isolates over the period showed reduced susceptibility to cefixime (2006 - 1/55; 2012 - 2/50; 2013 - 4/69; 2014 - 2/89; 2015 - 1/63) and/or ceftriaxone (2012 - 2/50). One isolate was resistant to both azithromycin and cefixime.

Conclusions Cases of gonorrhoea in Saskatchewan (>95%) are diagnosed by nucleic acid testing with no AMS testing. Our research showed that many no-longer recommended antibiotics (penicillin, ciprofloxacin) were still effective over many years. Even with the recent higher percentages of Ng isolates resistant to penicillin and ciprofloxacin, ~87% of Ng in the province remains susceptible to these antibiotics. The development of NAATs to test for AMS would enhance knowledge of true levels of resistance and allow discretion as to whether older but still effective antibiotics could be used in individual patient care.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH MATERNAL-CHILD TRANSMISSION OF HIV-1 IN SOUTHEASTERN BRAZIL: A RETROSPECTIVE STUDY

1Thiago Nascimento Do Prado, 2Debbie Bain Brickley, 2Nancy Hills, 1Jefferson Vitorino Cantão De Souza, 3Sandra Fagundes Moreira Da Silva, 4Eliana Zandonade, 4Angélica Espinosa Miranda. 1Universidade Federal do Espírito Santo, Vitória – ES, Brazil; 2University of California (UCSF), San Francisco, USA; 3Serviço de Infectologia, Hospital Infantil Nossa Senhora da Glória, Vitória – ES, Brazil

Introduction Mother-to-child transmission (MTCT) is the main mode of acquisition of HIV-1 among young children worldwide. In Brazil, the southeast region is the geographical area that reports the majority of MTCT cases. The goals of this study were to estimate the rate of HIV MTCT and to identify factors associated with MTCT in Espírito Santo State, in southeast Brazil.

Methods This study was a review of the data from the Brazilian National Information on Reportable Diseases System (SINAN) for HIV-infected pregnant women and for AIDS among children under 13 years old. The study population was comprised of all HIV-infected pregnant women reported to SINAN in the State of Espírito Santo, Brazil between January 1, 2007 and December 31, 2012.

Results A total of 470 women were included in the study. The proportion of MTCT during this period was 14.0% (95% CI 10.9–17.0). In a multivariable logistic regression model incorporating the significant covariates identified in bivariate analyses, women who had less than primary school education had increased odds of MTCT (OR=2.64; 95% CI 1.34–5.22) compared to women with more than primary school education. Emergency caesarean delivery was associated with increased odds of MTCT (OR=4.40; 95% CI 1.12–17.08) compared to vaginal delivery. In addition, pregnant women who did not receive ART during prenatal care had higher odds of MTCT (OR=2.21; 95% CI 1.10–4.47) compared to pregnant women who received ART during prenatal care.

Conclusion Health information systems can provide the basis for monitoring and analysing the health situation in municipalities and states, with a view towards health planning and management. This study identified a high rate of HIV MTCT in Espírito Santo State and effort should be made to encourage health care workers and pregnant women to use MTCT prevention services.

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