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The Study of seroprevalence of HIV in high risk groups in a tertiary care hospital

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ABSTRACT

This study was done to determine the seroprevalence of HIV in High risk Groups in Kurnool Medical College, India. This study was conducted during April 2011 to March 2012 and included 1197 cases which included FSW (Female Sex Workers) and STD Clinic attendees, all of whom were screened for HIV. Among 888 FSW, 21 were found to be positive for HIV (2.30%). Among 309 STD clinic attendees, 25 were found to be positive for HIV (8.09%).

Keywords: HIV, STD Clinic attendees, Screening.

INTRODUCTION

HIV/AIDS is the largest pandemic ever faced by humankind, with over 30 million people living with HIV/AIDS worldwide. Over 95% of new infections since 2003 have been reported in low and middle – income countries. According to the UNAIDS, “for every two people who start taking antiretroviral drugs, another five become newly infected. Unless we take urgent steps to intensify HIV prevention we will fail to sustain the gains of the past few years, and universal access will simply be a noble aspiration”[1]

In 1986 the Government of India established a national AIDS control committee under the ministry of Health and Family welfare to formulate a strategy for responding to HIV- Aids prevalence[2].

In Brazil AIDS prevalence among the general population has been low in recent years: 0.6%-0.4% among women and 0.8% among men [3].

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study was conducted at Kurnool Medical College, Kurnool, India. This study was conducted during April 2011 to March 2012 and included 1197 cases which included FSW (Female Sex Workers) and STD Clinic attendees, all of whom were screened for HIV. Among 888 FSW, 21 were found to be positive for HIV (2.30%). Among 309 STD clinic attendees, 25 were found to be positive for HIV.

The sample was tested for HIV antibodies as per NACO guidelines. Usually the first antibody test was ELISA (Enzyme linked Immuno sorbent assay). If the initial result is positive it is confirmed using two other supplemental tests.

After the HIV test result is known, post test counselling is done and result declared. It should be private, and kept confidential.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This study was conducted during April 2011 to March 2012 and included 1197 cases which included FSW (Female Sex Workers) and STD Clinic attendees , all of whom were screened for HIV, Among 888 FSW , 21 were found to be positive for HIV (2.30%). Among 309 STD clinic attendees, 25 were found to be positive for HIV(8.09%).

CONCLUSION

FSW and STD clinic attendees have a much risk of acquiring HIV infection compared to the general population, among which the HIV prevalence has been relatively low. Those vulnerable populations should be targeted by focused prevention strategies that provide accurate information, counseling and testing, as well as concrete means to foster behavior change (e.g. access to condoms) , tailored to gender and culture-specific needs.

Programs that provide these services need to be implemented on public health services through out the country, in order to decrease the vulnerability of those populations to HIV infection [4].

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