HIV patients with and without HCV coinfection regarding isolated anti-HBc and occult HBV infection.

Conclusion: Our study showed that HIV-HCV coinfected individuals were more likely to have isolated anti-HBc than subjects with HIV alone. It demonstrated that the presence of isolated anti-HBc in HIV-HCV co-infected individuals may reflect occult HBV infection in these patients.

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27.005

HIV voluntary counseling and testing (VCT) in three sites in Nigeria

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Background: VCT is an entry point to many HIV care and treatment programs. This operation is mostly a walk-in clinic, and clients come to be tested by self referral or following guidance from health care personnel. The question of the efficacy of this method is open, and the clients mix does not necessarily reflect the typical clients who need to be tested. In order to learn more about the characteristics of this population, data were collected from three centers of a single project in Nigeria, one in the Muslim north, one in the Christian south, and one near the central region of the capital during the years 2006—2007.

Methods: VCT rosters and client forms of consecutive clients were reviewed for demographic data and personal details, compared with HIV test results, from three VCT centers: Kano (1130 clients), Nnewi (4312 clients) and Gwagwalada (1073 clients). Data were logged on EXCEL sheets and analyzed with EPI-INFO and ANOVA software.

Results: In Kano 56.6% were HIV+, in Nnewi 30.7% and 53.2% in Gwagwalada. In all three sites female gender and age were risk factors. Muslims had significantly lower rates than others, and marital status was a marker for HIV: Married clients were more frequently positive (66.6%) than single ones (41.7%) OR = 2.97), separated or widowed clients had the highest prevalence of HIV (89 and 90%) (p = 0.00024). Clients’ professions influenced the relative risk for HIV: Among drivers (OR = 2.7), musicians (OR = 9.3) and restaurant workers (OR = 3.9) the prevalence was high, while clergymen (OR = 0.5), teachers (OR = 0.4) and health care professionals (OR = 0.4) were less frequently afflicted. Higher levels of education were found to be protective (71.4% versus 36.7%).

Conclusion: The question of who should come to be tested is addressed, but not answered. We identified criteria which identify high and low prevalence groups, these could be useful when populations are targeted for promotion of counseling and testing.

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Does knowing someone who has died of AIDS affect condom use? An analysis from Ivory Coast

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Background: Prior research indicates that personally, knowing someone who has died of AIDS is associated with greater perceived risk behaviour risk of contracting HIV and changes in sexual risk behaviours.

Methods: The current study with a sample of 9,686 persons examined whether personally knowing someone who died of AIDS influence condom use using the 2005 Ivory Coast Demographic and Health Survey (ICDHS).

Results: Unadjusted model suggests that those who reported personally knowing someone with AIDS were 1.72 times more likely to have used condom at last sexual intercourse (p < .001). After controlling for potentially confounding variables, logistic regression showed no association between condom use and knowing someone who died of AIDS. Condom use at last sex was strongly associated with condom use at first sex, gender, age group, residency, employment status, information, AIDS-related knowledge and lack of homophobia toward Persons Living with HIV/AIDS.

Conclusion: Findings suggest that preventive efforts should be expand given the current level of AIDS mortality in Ivory Coast. Campaigns must reinforce messages that in the absence of vaccine against AIDS, condom is the only best protection against AIDS during sexual intercourses.

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27.007

The features of HIV-infected patients at A. Wahab Sjahranie General Hospital Samarinda, Indonesia

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Background: Indonesia is a country with rapid growth of HIV cases. With population of more than 230 millions, it is estimated there will be one to five million people infected with HIV in 2010. In East Kalimantan Province, until August 2009, more than 1100 cases of HIV are reported, although the exact number of cases must me much higher.

Objectives: To know the features of HIV-infected patients who come to Voluntary Counseling and Testing (VCT) Clinic and treated at the Infectious Diseases Ward of A. Wahab Sjahranie General Hospital Samarinda, East Kalimantan, Indonesia.

Methods: An observational study was performed at VCT Clinic and Infectious Diseases Ward of A. Wahab Sjahranie General Hospital Samarinda from December 2005 to August 2009. Data collected were included number of visits to VCT Clinic, number of positive HIV test, sex, age, specific groups, route of transmission, stages of HIV, CD4 counts on admission, opportunistic infections, ARV treatment, mortality.

Results: During the period of study there were 2591 visits to VCT Clinic, 2176 people were tested for HIV, and positive results were 143 (6.6%). Most patients with positive