

POSTER PRESENTATION

Open Access

# Microbial infections in HIV/AIDS women with abnormal vaginal discharge in Lagos, Nigeria

NM Otuonye\*, SI Smith, NN Odunukwe, CT Oparaugo, AA Adesesan, RN Okoye, CV Gab-Okafor, RC Chigbo

From International Symposium HIV and Emerging Infectious Diseases 2014  
Marseille, France. 21-23 May 2013

## Introduction

Vaginal infections which are caused by bacterial vaginosis (BV), bacteria pathogens (BP) trichomoniasis (TV), and yeast infections are common among HIV-infected women. This may be a marker for increased transmissibility to sexual partners, infants at delivery, significant morbidity, underscoring their importance from a public health perspective.

## Methods

Three eighty seven (387) patients who presented to the HIV clinic with symptoms of lower abdominal pain, itching and abnormal vaginal discharge were selected after obtaining written informed consent. Patients on oral or vaginal medications for vaginitis were excluded. High vaginal/cervical swabs were collected, cultured and processed using standard microbiological methods. Anti-microbial sensitivity patterns of the isolates were determined. The characteristics of the discharge, vaginal pH >4.5, presence of 'clue cell' and Amine test with 10% KOH were used for Bacterial vaginosis (BV) investigations. The age range of study population was between 20 – 45 years with mean of 24+. All patients complained of abnormal vaginal discharge. One hundred and twenty (38.46%) had lower abdominal pain, itching / irritation 200 (64.10%) and 30 (9.61%) had sore and blisters on the genitals. Vaginal pH > 5.0 was recorded in 215 (68.91%) of the patients.

## Results

A total of 80.6% of HIV/AIDS women were infected with microbial infection. Microbial agents isolated were as follows: *Candida* species 163 (52.2%), BV 77 (24.6%), bacterial pathogens 66 (21.2%) and *Trichomonas vaginalis* 6 (2.0%). Thirty bacterial isolates co-infected with *Candida* species while 3 *T. vaginalis* co-infected with *Candida*

species, 15 BV co-infected with other bacterial pathogens. About 4 patients had triple infection of BV, yeast and bacterial pathogens.

## Conclusion

Most of the bacterial isolates were sensitive to Ciprofloxacin, Ofloxacin, levofloxacin and gentamicin antibiotics. Microbial infections in HIV/AIDS women was statistical significant ( $p > 5.0$ ). Treating an HIV positive woman presenting with abnormal vaginal discharge would reduce transmission of HIV virus to her sexual partners and perinatal HIV transmission.

Published: 23 May 2014

doi:10.1186/1471-2334-14-S2-P40

Cite this article as: Otuonye et al.: Microbial infections in HIV/AIDS women with abnormal vaginal discharge in Lagos, Nigeria. *BMC Infectious Diseases* 2014 **14**(Suppl 2):P40.

Submit your next manuscript to BioMed Central and take full advantage of:

- Convenient online submission
- Thorough peer review
- No space constraints or color figure charges
- Immediate publication on acceptance
- Inclusion in PubMed, CAS, Scopus and Google Scholar
- Research which is freely available for redistribution

Submit your manuscript at  
[www.biomedcentral.com/submit](http://www.biomedcentral.com/submit)

 **BioMed Central**

Nigerian Institute of Medical Research, Lagos, Nigeria