

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Clinical status and prevalence of trichomoniasis STD in Warangal, Andhra Pradesh

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ABSTRACT : Sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) have great impact on health of the individual and community. Prevalence of STDs varies in developing countries like India. Bacterial STDs are becoming less common and viral STDs are increasing. Information pertaining to protozoal STD is not well documented. Therefore, this study was conducted to investigate the clinical status and prevalence of protozoal STD. STD Clinic MGM Hospital, Warangal was attended during 2008 to 2010 and interacted with registered STD patients and recorded STDs symptoms. Percentage of trichomoniasis was second highest among all type of STDs. Its prevalence slightly increased from 2008 to 2010 and higher prevalence was observed in women than in men.

Key words : Trichomoniasis, Lower abdominal pain (LAP), Vaginal cervical discharge (VCD), Prevalence

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INTRODUCTION

An anaerobic, flagellated protozoan causes trichomoniasis which is the most common pathogenic protozoan infection of humans in industrialized countries. Donne in 1936 first described the species from a freshly made vaginal discharge smear (Kreiger and Alderete, 1999). The organism is responsible for approximately one of all cases of clinically evident vaginal infection (Sweet and Gibbs, 2002). The infection rate between men and women are the same with women showing symptoms while infected men are usually asymptomatic (Hook, 1999). Some of symptoms in females are preterm delivery, low birth weight, increased mortality as well as predisposing to HIV infection and cervical cancer (Schwebke and Burgess, 2004). The most of common method of diagnosis is via overnight culture. The presence of *T.vaginalis* can also be diagnosed by PCR, using primers specific for GENBANK/ L 23861. Recent research also suggests a link between infection in male and subsequent aggressive prostate cancer. Infection is treated and cured with metronidazole and should be prescribed to any sexual partner as well because they may be asymptomatic carriers (Cudmore *et al.*, 2004). The damage caused by *Trichomonias vaginalis* to the vaginal endometrium increases the women's susceptibility to an

infection by the HIV virus. Perinatal Transmission occurs to 2.17 per cent of female children of infected mothers (Heince and Gregor 1999). Reports have also documented *T.vaginalis* as a cause of neonatal pneumonia (Mc Laren *et al.*, 1983).

RESEARCH METHODS

STD testing clinic and counseling room at MGM (Mahatma Gandhi Memorial) Hospital, Warangal is well established. STD symptoms of patients from different villages of Warangal (dist.) who have attended the STD clinic during Jan.2008 to Dec.2010 were recorded. On the basis of the symptoms, patients classified into different types of STDs. Standard proforma was followed to record the presenting complaints. The patients were explained and counseled regarding the steps of examination. Different types of lab. procedure were followed (Dyck *et al.*, 1999 and Kreiger and Alderete, 1999).

RESEARCH FINDINGS AND ANALYSIS

Details of Trichomoniasis as percentage wise, year wise and gender wise are presented in Tables 1 and 2.

People from different places of Warangal who have registered for STD testing were 3945(2008), 5974(2009) and 12603(2010). Protozoal STD was 409 (2008), 509