



Prevalence of Hiv Infection Among Pregnant Women Attending Ajiko Medical Clinic, Damaturu, Nigeria

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Abstract

Human immunodeficiency viruses causes HIV infection in humans belongs to two species of Lentivirus. It damages the cells of immune system which leads to weak immune system and the ability to fight from infections and diseases. This study was conducted to investigate the prevalence rate of HIV infection among pregnant women of different age groups attending Ajiko medical clinic, Damaturu, Nigeria. The prevalence rate was maximum (12.5%) in 36-45 age group and minimum (5%) in 26-35 age group but their was no HIV infection in 15-25 age group. The overall prevalence rate among pregnant women was 4%. General knowledge , training and campaigns of HIV prevention need to be tailored towards older women of age group 36-45 because of high prevalence rate.

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Introduction

Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) is the major disease spread through certain body fluids that weakens the immune system by destroying the cells such as CD4 cells or T cells of human immune system. It is one of the major health problem worldwide. Around two-third (68%) population of sub-Sahara Africa is affected by Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) which is 12% of the total world's population. The prevalence rate of HIV infection in Nigeria is around 3.6% which is third largest number of HIV infected people in the world [1, 6, 7].

Around 90% of HIV infection are caused through mother to child infection. In Nigeria nearly sixty thousand children are infected through transmission of HIV by their mother. Paediatric HIV has been virtually wiped out in many developing countries. Large decrease in the number of HIV infection among children was found in Ghana and South Africa from 2009 to 2012. In Nigeria only 58% of pregnant women received antenatal care in 2008 while in 2009 only 22% of HIV positive pregnant women received antiretroviral for the prevention of HIV transmission to her baby and 13% of pregnant women were tested for HIV infection [2, 4, 9, 10]

Material and Method

Study Area

The study was carried out in Damaturu, the capital of Yobe State, Nigeria. According to 2006 census

the population of Damaturu is 88,100 with 25.2 degree Centigrade average temperature.

Sample Size

Fifty pregnant women attending Ajiko Medical Clinic, Damaturu were target for the study. Their age and HIV infection were analysed.

HIV Screening

Women attending Ajiko Medical Clinic, Damaturu were tested for HIV infection by using ELISA test. Prevalence of HIV infection in them was calculated.

Prevalence Rate

Prevalence Rate was Calculated by Using the Following Formula

$$\text{Prevalence rate} = \frac{\text{Number of Patients having disease}}{\text{Total Number of Patients diagnose}} \times 100$$

Results and Discussion

A total of fifty pregnant women were tested for HIV infection of which two women were HIV infected. The prevalence rate was maximum (12.5%) in 36-45 age group and minimum (5%) in 26-35 age group but their was no HIV infection was found in 15-25 age group (Table 1). [5] reported that 70% of pregnant women were aware of HIV infection and 33% women knew about the main modes of HIV transmission.

Studied 1.03% of seroprevalence of HIV infection among pregnant women attending antenatal clinic in North India which is much higher than other studies[8]. Some of the researchers revealed that about

Table 1. Showing Prevalence of HIV infection among pregnant women of different age groups

Age Group	No. of cases (N)	HIV positive (n)	Prevalence (%)
15-25	22	0	0
26-35	20	1	5
36-45	8	1	12.5
Total	50	2	Overall Prevalence Rate
15-45			4

73% Of the health care providers studied that a baby born by the HIV positive mother invariably would be infected [3].

Conclusion

In this study the overall prevalence rate among pregnant women was 4%. General knowledge , training and campaigns of HIV prevention need to be tailored towards older women of age group 36-45 because of high prevalence rate.

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