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Risk factors associated to syphilis infection among men who have sex with men (MSM): A cross-sectional study in 3 cities, Indonesia, 2013

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This article reports prevalence of syphilis infection using surveillance data on MSM from three Indonesian cities. Factors associated to syphilis and behavioral factors assessed by multivariate logistic regression. According to IBBS 2007 to 2013 syphilis prevalence among MSM increasing from 1% to 12.7%, while in other key at risk populations was decreased. Factors associated to syphilis infection among MSM are: Age, level of education, HIV status, history of STI, condom use, drugs consumption and or drugs injection use, number of sexual partners and access to STI service clinic. The aim of this study is to find associated factors of syphilis infection among MSM. It is a cross sectional study with a sample of 669 MSM through RDS method and derived from the 3 major cities in Indonesia through the interview and laboratory diagnosis of syphilis is performed by TPHA and RPR. The prevalence of syphilis among MSM in 3 cities is 11.36% and significant factors related are HIV status (p=0.000), OR=2.89 (95% CI 1.63-5.11), Age>24 years p=0,008, OR=(p=0.008), OR=1.97 (95% CI 1.19-3.25). Low educational level, condom use, drugs consumption and or drugs injection use, the number of sexual partners, and access to STI service clinic are not significantly related. HIV status as a biological factors have a strong relation with syphilis prevalence among MSM group population within 3 major cities in Indonesia OR=2.89 (95% CI 1.63-5.11).

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