

STD-aids in Asia and world perspective

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Abstract

In 2008, there were an expected 110 million common STIs among ladies and men in the United States. Of these, over 20% of diseases (22.1 million) were among ladies and men matured 15 to 24 years. In 30 unique microscopic organisms, infections, and parasites prompt more noteworthy than 1 million sexually transmitted contaminations every day. Chlamydia (with an expected 131 million new diseases yearly), gonorrhea (78 million contaminations), syphilis (5.6 million diseases) and trichomoniasis (143 million diseases) are four of the most widely recognized diseases around the world. The four most predominant STIs are trichomoniasis, chlamydial contaminations, gonorrhea and syphilis. High prevalence of gonorrhea 2.7%, chlamydial infection 8.0%, nonchlamydial nongonococcal urethritis 27.7%, active syphilis 6.9%, hepatitis B virus infection 9.1%, herpes simplex virus-2 infection 7.8%, and genital warts 13.2%. Vaginal infection with *T. vaginalis* at mid-gestation was significantly associated with low birth weight. Seropositivity to HSV-2 is higher in HIV-infected persons and adults of lower socioeconomic status. Most women (80%) with HSV-2 antibodies have no clinical manifestations. Untreated early syphilis in pregnant ladies results in perinatal demise in up to 40% of cases and if gained amid the four years going before pregnancy, prompts contamination of the baby in more than 70% of cases. Among the 4390 HIV-positive patients, the majority were men (92.9%). The most common age at diagnosis was 20–29 years (36.5%) followed by 30–39 (33.5%) and 40–49 (13.2%) years. Sexual contact (96.4%) was the predominant risk factor followed by injection drug use (1.9%). Among sexually acquired cases, 54.5% of patients reported they were men having sex with men (MSM) but the actual percentage of MSM was probably much higher, because male homosexuality remained a social taboo in Taiwan. Commercial sex has been an important factor in the spread of HIV/AIDS in Asia.

Sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) including the acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) continue to spread alarmingly in South-East Asia and pose a major public health and developmental threat to the countries of this Region. Although HIV began to spread in Asia much later than it did in the United States and Africa, it is already having considerable impact in many countries as seen by the rapid increase in infection rates among various population groups including the general population. Given the presence of risk behaviour factors, such as high rates of STD, male patronage of sex workers, and low usage of condoms, there is an enormous potential for spread in all countries of the Region. While countries are responding to the pandemic to their best capabilities, much more remains to be achieved in terms of political commitment, appropriate societal response and in the speedy and efficient implementation of programme activities, in the areas of both prevention and care. This article provides a short summary of the current status of sexually transmitted infections (STIs)/HIV epidemiology in the Asia-Pacific region and the world. Information was requested from WHO, UNAIDS as well as from STI experts in a number of major nations in the region. Reliable national STI notification statistics were not available from several of these countries. Varying rates of notification and completeness of data make direct comparison between countries difficult. However, within country trends do provide an idea of the epidemics in the respective countries.

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