Incidence of Sexually Transmitted Infections among Persons Previously Diagnosed and Living with HIV/AIDS in New York City, 2001-2002: Preliminary Findings from a Registry Cross Match

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Conclusions

HIV/AIDS Surveillance in NYC

Incident STI among PLWHA


Methods

- Provider and lab-based named reporting
- Laboratory reports: positive Western blots, detectable viral loads, CD4 tests ≥ 500 cells/µL, or ≥ 25% of normal
- 500,000 reports per year

Objective

- To estimate the occurrence of incident STI over a two-year period among adolescent and adult PLWHA

Analysis

- We calculated the number of adolescent and adult PLWHA (as of 12/31/2000) who were diagnosed with one or more incident STI during 2001–2002, per 1,000 PLWHA
- Only one STI diagnosis counted per PLWHA
- Gonorrhea: 739 people had 1 or more incident diagnosis
- Chlamydia: 395 people had 1 or more incident diagnosis
- Syphilis: 480 people had 1 or more incident diagnosis of primary, secondary or early latent syphilis

Description of Matched Sample

- 1,450 (2.2%) of 65,132 PLWHA had one or more incident STI during 2001–2002
- Most PLWHA (83%) did not have an incident diagnosis* of primary, secondary or early latent syphilis

Methodologic Considerations

- Incidence of STI is likely underestimated in this cohort:
  - Viral STI are not reportable
  - Approximately 25% of STI (chlamydia) and syphilis are not laboratory-confirmed (diagnostic testing) and are underreported
  - Only treated syphilis cases are counted by the NYC STI surveillance system

Public Health Implications

- As part of HIV care, PLWHA need ongoing counseling about the importance of being sexually active
- Approximately 2/5 of PLWHA should be routinely screened for STI

HIV transmission risk group

- The number of diagnoses among perinatal/perinatal period was too few to obtain stable estimates.

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