Epidemiology of anal infection in HIV infected patients attending a Sexually Transmitted Infection Clinic in Brazil

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**Objectives:**
The objective of this study was to determine the prevalence, genotype distribution and risk factors associated with anal HPV infection among persons of both sexes HIV attending a STI clinic in Espírito Santo, Brazil.

**Methods:**
Cross sectional study assessing HIV-infected persons. A comprehensive survey was administered that included a demographic and behavioral assessment. Anal specimens were collected for cytology and HPV screening using Polymerase Chain Reaction.

**Results:**
A total of 169 patients completed the study, 122 female and 47 male, mean age was 40.3 years, 81.4% lived in Vitoria, the average education was 8.6 years, 48.8% were married, 42.1% had between 5 and 20 sexual partners, 25.4% initiated sexual activity before age 15. 72% reported anal sexual activity, 58.3% had a history of STI, the most frequent being condyloma acuminata (25.4%) followed by syphilis (9%). 31.6% knew to be HIV positive for more than 10 years, 65.1% had an undetectable viral load, only 3.5% had CD4 below 200 cells and 82.9% were taking HAART. Anal cytology in both sexes had a 13.2% prevalence changes. The prevalence of HPV infection of any type was 71%, and high-risk HPV types were 52.4%. The HPV types most frequent high-risk types were: 16, 51 and 53. 37.3% had multiple HPV types.

**Conclusions:**
Anal HPV is common among HIV-infected persons attending this STI clinic, repeated annual cytology screening for HIV-infected, particularly for those with increased immunosuppression, anal HPV, history of the other STIs, or abnormal cervical cytology will increase the likelihood of detecting AIN 2-3.

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