

Abstracts de autores argentinos

MoPeD3964. YOUTH INITIATIVES: NATIONAL YOUTH NETWORK ON SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH IN ARGENTINA**C Correa****Institution, Buenos Aires, Argentina**

Issues :In Argentina the lack of sexual education at schools and adolescents sexual and reproductive public health services puts increase young women risk of unplanned pregnancies, HIV/AIDS, sexual violence. Youths are informed about HIV/AIDS, but behavior changes depend on factors: cultural, economic, religious, and resources issues.

Description :In 1999 was created the National Youth Network on Sexual and Reproductive Health, integrated by 18 youth groups from Argentina which develop workshops, training and peer education activities to other adolescents, specially in HIV/AIDS prevention and their rights. The Net promotes youth activities in defense and advocacy of their Sexual and Reproductive Rights (SRR). Youth associated with other groups, collaborated on the prevention of STD's and HIV/AIDS. The Net promotes youth participation, advocacy and defense of their rights: including SRR; trains new peer educators through the web site and workshops in which's they exchange and share their knowledge and experiences with others.

Lessons learned:The Net stresses the importance to have a space for youth to debate about SRR, STDs and HIV/AIDS prevention. Activities through Net have more impact at national level than individual action. Youths are creative, realistic and innovative and they know very well their problems and how to reach them, so prevention campaigns with youth perspective and participation will be more creative and effective to promote behavior changes. An example is the joint work of adolescent in a public hospital in Rosario. Adolescents did peer education to HIV prevention.

Recommendation:To promote young participation, youth-to-youth partnerships and networking as they lead to their empowerment and to strong advocacy for their SRR. To recognize youths as subjects of rights. To develop prevention campaigns on SRR and health into account youth needs and gender issues.

TuPeC4691. MYCOBACTERIUM AVIUM COMPLEX GENOTYPES ASSOCIATED WITH HIV INFECTION IN ARGENTINA ACCORDING TO RESTRICTION ANALYSIS OF HP65**A M Reniero1, M Vargas2, B Lopez3, N Simboli3, L Barrera3, V Ritacco4****1Hospital Central de San Isidro, Acassuso, Argentina; 2SECyT, Buenos Aires, Argentina; 3INEI ANLIS Carlos G Malbran, Buenos Aires, Argentina; 4CONICET, Buenos Aires, Argentina**

Background: To examine the distribution of *Mycobacterium avium* Complex (MAC) genotypes among isolates from HIV-infected patients in Argentina.

Methods: The study included all clinical isolates identified as MAC among all mycobacterial cultures from HIV-infected patients submitted for typing to a national reference laboratory during 2002. After discarding 3 MAC isolates with failed experimental results, the sample consisted in 58 isolates from 48 patients. Analysis of restriction polymorphisms was performed on BstEII and HaeIII digests of a PCR-amplified segment of the hsp65 gene according to the method described as PRA by Telenti et al (J Clin Microbiol 31:175, 1993).

Results: All 10 patients with two isolates harbored a single MAC genotype. The Table shows the distribution of PRA types identified in the 48 patients during 2002 according to clinical localization:

	Disseminated	Pulmonary	Other	TOTAL (%)
<i>M. avium</i> type I	22	8	0	30 (62.5)
<i>M. avium</i> type II	3	4	0	7 (14.6)
<i>M. avium/M. intracellulare</i> type III	0	0	1	1 (2.1)
<i>M. intracellulare</i> type I	4	4	1	9 (18.7)
<i>M. intracellulare</i> new pattern*	0	0	1	1 (2.1)
TOTAL	29	16	3	48 (100)

B10676. 12 MONTHS OF PROSPECTIVE FOLLOW-UP OF HAART (HIGHLY ACTIVE ANTIRETROVIRAL THERAPY) IN A HOSPITAL-BASED COHORT OF HIV-SEROPOSITIVE PATIENTS IN SAN ISIDRO, BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA**MA Beltran, V Nasiff, R A Gil, N Sanga, S Loza****Hospital San Isidro, San Isidro, Argentina**

AIDS and HIV-1-seropositive patients from Argentina have free access to HAART since 1996. We assist patients from 1987 at our Service. Since march 2002 we included all our patients in a prospective follow-up cohort. We describe in this report events related to HAART during 12 months.

OBJECTIVE: to describe: 1- baseline HAART characteristics at cohort inclusion. 2- previous duration of HAART. 2- incidence and motives for HAART changes or discontinuation.

Motives were described as : 1 - early (ET) (when they occurred at less than 12 months of treatment) and 2- late toxicities (LT). 3 - immunological/virological failure (IVF) or 4 - clinical failure (CF).

RESULTS: 1 - 227 (62.02%) patients of 366 were receiving HAART. 83 (36.56%) were receiving their first HAART (FH) and 144 a second, third or ulterior HAART (UH).

56 (67.46%) FH patients received 2 RTI + 1 NNRTI, had a median of 282 CD4+/ml and 130 copies/ml of plasmatic viral load (PVL), 28 (33.73%) were at C stage.

70 (48.61%) UH patients received 2 RTI + 1 NNRTI, had a median of 240 CD4+/ml and < 50 copies/ml of PVL, 72 (50.0%) were at C stage.

2 - retrospective duration of HAART at baseline for FH patients ranged from 0 to 67 months. 25 percentile was 5, median was 21 and 75 percentile was 36 months.

For UH patients ranged from 1 to 59 months. 25 percentile was 6, median was 17.5 and 75 percentile was 32 months.

3 - by Kaplan-Meier analysis, the probability of maintaining an unchanged HAART during 12 months was 0.87 for FH and 0.68 for UH. For FH: 3 (ET) (3.61%), 3 (LT) and 1 (1.20%) (IVF). For UH: 7 (ET) (4.86%), 16 (LT) (11.11%), 10 (IVF) (6.94%) and 6 (CF) (4.16%).

CONCLUSIONS: during follow up we observed more stability of FH compared to UH. More UH patients had to change treatment because of LT and failure (IVF and CF).

TuPeE5499. AN EFFECTIVE PREVENTION STRATEGY FOR DISADVANTAGED POPULATION IN ARGENTINA**R Strauss, K Frieder, J Miño, L Agemian, D Silver, V Segovia, M Taratuto****Fundacion Huesped, Buenos Aires, Argentina**

Issues: During the last years poverty has been striking very strongly in Argentina. Workers have been fired by the thousands and the number of people living in slums plus the increase of homeless has been constantly rising up to levels never acknowledged before. Laborers who had been laid off their jobs were forced to look for alternative means of survival. Many of them took to the streets in large cities and their suburbs to go through the garbage left at night by offices, stores and individuals, making a selection of cartons and papers for recycling. «Cartoneros» pushing their supermarket carts down the streets have become a regular scenario in most neighborhoods.

Description: The immediate consequence of this situation are the soup kitchens set up each night by neighborhood institutions. In a public square of the Belgrano area in Buenos Aires, approximately 200 people, comprising whole families line up to get their food. Taking advantage of these gatherings, a group of volunteers from Fundación Huesped -some of which are people living with HIV/AIDS- distribute condoms and information. At the same time they approach each person standing in line trying to talk about safe sex, the importance of HIV testing, drug and alcohol use. Although some of them admitted their HIV/AIDS status, they usually do not have any access to care and/or information.

Lessons learned: These «face to face» talks have been very effective as for most of the «cartoneros» this is their only chance to get information on HIV prevention and healthcare.

Recommendation: It is strongly recommended to take advantage of prearranged get togethers and have a chance to insert HIV/AIDS issues with population sectors severely neglected and battered by the general social and economic decay. The fact that some «cartoneros» commit themselves and are actually helping out with our volunteers, shows the importance of our regular presence.