

“EFFECT OF LOWER CD4 COUNT AMONG HIV INFECTED PATIENTS ON ENT COMPLICATIONS-A RETROSPECTIVE CROSS SECTIONAL STUDY”

SURYANARAYANA JOSHYAM, SHIVAKUMAR K. L & BASAVARAJIAH D. M.

Department of ENT, Bangalore Medical College and Research Institute (BMC&RI), Karnataka, India

ABSTRACT

In Indian context nearly 70% of HIV-infected patients present with otorhinolaryngological symptoms during the course of the HIV infection and HAART therapy. Very meger literature documented on ENT associated complication with HAART therapy. To fill this gap in the literature; this study intervened with ENT signs and symptoms in HIV-infected individuals in India. The cross-sectional study consisted of 100 HIV infected patients who were on HAART duration from past three years. A detailed history and physical examination was conducted for each patient. CD4 count and HAART details were collected from ART centre. Demographic profile like age, sex, education status, family income was collected through structured questionnaires. HIV-associated ENT complications. Therapeutic features including CD4 count and being on highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART), HAART duration, follow up details were collected systematically with lesser error and greater accuracy. Collected data were analysed by using SAS-16.50 version, descriptive statistics and univariate analysis was employed to draw the significant inference

Among ENT manifestations, otological and nasopharyngeal complaints were most common. A majority of patients tested positive for oral and oropharyngeal clinical manifestations (n=62, 62.2%). Patients indicated xerostomia (39.8%), repeated sore throat (13.3%), dysphagia (12.2%), burning tongue (9.2%), odynophagia (8.2%) and other complaints (3.1%). In physical examinations, study participants showed symptoms of gingivitis (11.2%), candidiasis (9.2%), aphthous (4.1%), mass (1%) and others (3.1%).

ENT evaluations are highly recommended for early diagnosis, especially in patients with specific symptoms in unusual locations. Higher CD4 count can able to prevent ENT associated complications.

KEYWORDS: CD4 Count, ENT, SAS, HIV, HAART