

2nd World Conference on

STDS, STIS & HIV/AIDS

May 18-19, 2018 | Montreal, Canada

Determining the misuse / overuse of antibiotic in non -viral sexually transmitted infections

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Statement of the Problem: The emergence of multi-drug resistant sexually transmitted infections (STIs) is causing a treatment crisis across the globe. Due to extensive usage of antibiotics in the recent past, infectious agents developed resistance to those antibiotics commonly used for treatment. As results such resistant strains becoming a public health problem in a number of countries including India. NAAT based methods are able to determine multiple misuse and /or overuse of antibiotics from a single DNA sample. By studying the specific infection causing pathogens (Chlaymydia trachomatis, Neisseria gonorrhoeae and Trichomonas vaginalis) that enrolled in the study and recommended treatments using NACO recommended NACP guidelines with Infection treatments with laboratory measures.

Findings: Misuse and overuse of antibiotics in 588 syndromically treated women, 46(7.82%) women tested positive whereas 542(92.17%) samples were negative for

these three pathogens as determined by PCR based assay. The total estimated percentage of the overuse and misuse of antibiotics in the study were 72.17% and 8.69% respectively. Correct and complete treatment estimated it compared to laboratory measures and NACP was 42/46 (91.30%). The overuse of antibiotics prevalence were estimated Azithromycin and Cifixime (55.90%), combination of Dixycilin, Cefixime and Metrodizonole (31.18%) and combination of Dixycilin, Cifixime, Metrodizonole, Azithromycin (13.65%). Recommendations clearly demonstrate that the prevalence of infections is still significant among female patients visiting Obstetrics & Gynecology Departments. The study underpins the need to conduct diagnostic assays for identification of causative pathogen before implementing antibiotic treatment to patients with vaginal discharge. It also divulges the need to review the use of syndromic case management for controlling sexually transmitted diseases.

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