Sero-prevalence and Factors Associated with HIV and HBV Infection in Patients Attending Juba Teaching Hospital, Southern Sudan

Johnson Mayik Akol

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ABSTRACT

HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis B Virus (HBV) are among the major causes of morbidity and mortality worldwide, with HIV affecting approximately 40.3 million people worldwide. Sub-Sahara Africa bears the greatest burden for both HIV and HB Virus in the world HIV prevalence ranges between 1.7% to 5.5% in northern Africa and from 5.5% to 9.5% in the sub Sahara Africa. HBV infections also ranges from 3%-5% in northern Africa to 10%-20% in sub Sahara Africa. A cross-sectional study was used to determine the prevalence and associated factors for HBV and HIV in south Sudan. About 251 participants were recruited consented. Then data was collected using semi-structure questionnaires and Epi-Info version 3.4.3 was used for data analysis. The overall seroprevalence of HIV was 23% and 15% for HBV. HIV sero-prevalence was highest among females in the age groups of 30-34 years and 35-39 years. HBV sero-prevalence was highest among males aged below 15 years. The risk factors for HIV were being over 30 years of age, alcohol consumption and not-using of condoms during sexual intercourse. The protective factors for HIV were being circumcised, being single which indicate abstinence from sexual activity. No risk or protective factors for HBV were established. There is also need for targeted intervention programs among the population at risk for HIV. Also introduction of HBV vaccination in the Expanded Immunization Program (EPI) in southern Sudan for children <15 years, pregnant mothers, school children, health workers is vitally essential to the reduction of HBV incidence in southern Sudan.