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Sexually transmitted diseases

P1583 Prevalence of *C. trachomatis* infection in the general population and in a sexually transmitted disease centre in the Balearic Islands, Spain

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Objectives: We report a prospective study about the prevalence of genitourinary infections by *C. trachomatis* in the general population and in a group of prostitutes treated in an STD clinic during the year 2002.

Methods: The clinical samples (urethral and endocervical swabs) were inoculated in shell vials of McCoy cell line (Vircell, Spain) and incubated for 48–72 h at 36°C and then stained with a monoclonal antibody against MOP of *C. trachomatis* (MicroTrak, Ireland) using a direct immunofluorescence assay.

Results: Over the study period 1504 clinical samples were studied. Of these 580 (38.5%) were urethral samples from males. *C. trachomatis* was isolated in 19 (3.2%) of these samples. Of the female samples (endocervical) 606 (65.5%) were obtained from the general population, of these five (0.8%) were positive for *C. trachomatis*, and 318 (34.5%) were from a the group of prostitutes. In this group 9 (2.8%) cases of infection by *C. trachomatis* were detected ($P < 0.05$). In all samples studied 33 (2.2%) were positive for *C. trachomatis*. The prevalence of the infection by *C. trachomatis* in the last few years in our geographical area (Balearic Islands, Spain) is as follows: in 1999 men 2.5% and women 0.9%; in 2000 men 2.8% and women 0.6%; and in 2001 men 1.8% and women 1%.

Conclusions: An stable prevalence of infection by *C. trachomatis* is observed in the general population in recent years with a positivity percentage for men statistically higher ($P < 0.05$) to that detected in women. In the high-risk group of the prostitutes a prevalence of 2.8% was detected. This value is very much higher ($P < 0.05$) than that of the general population and similar to detected in men with the clinical diagnosis of urethritis.

P1584 *Chlamydia trachomatis* infection and risk of preterm birth

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A group of 103 unselected consecutive patients presenting for routine prenatal care were examined for *Chlamydia trachomatis* (CT) in the clinic of Obstetrics and Gynecology of Varna city. The aim was to determine whether serologic evidence of CT during pregnancy is a risk factor for preterm delivery (before 37 weeks' gestation). A total of 21 women (20%) were found to be seropositive for IgG antibodies to CT. They were similar to the seronegative women with respect to maternal age, history of preterm birth, obstetric or medical problem, smoking status, history of drug abuse, educational status and psychosocial stressors. The seropositive women were significantly more likely than the seronegative women to have a preterm birth [24% (5/21) vs. 7% (6/82); $P = 0.029$]. The positive predictive value of a seropositive result for preterm birth was 31% (five of 16); the negative predictive value of a seronegative result for preterm birth was 8% (six of 76). In conclusion, women with serologic evidence of CT may be at risk for preterm birth. Further study is required to determine whether serologic testing for CT should be a routine part of prenatal care.

P1585 Prevalence of *Chlamydia trachomatis* in Istanbul among men with urethritis

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Background: *Chlamydia trachomatis* one of the most wide sexually transmitted bacterial diseases. It is also known to cause urethritis. However only small number of studies in Turkey have investigated the causes of urethritis.

Objectives: To determine the prevalence of *C. trachomatis* among men with symptomatic urethritis in Istanbul, Turkey.

Methods: Men with diagnosis of urethritis at the Istanbul Faculty of Medicine from January to November 2003 were screened for *C. trachomatis* by Gene-Probe amplified *C. trachomatis* assay using urethral swabs.

Results: The study enrolled 720 men. The prevalence of *C. trachomatis* was 116 of 720 or 16.1%.

Conclusions: *C. trachomatis* is commonly found in men in Istanbul, Turkey. Further surveys are needed in order to determine the prevalence of other sexually transmitted pathogens in patients with urethritis in Turkey.

P1586 The prevalence of pathogenic micro-organisms in men with nongonococcal urethritis

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Objectives: The goal of the study is to find out the etiologic agents in men with nongonococcal urethritis and search the prevalence of *Chlamydia trachomatis*, *Ureaplasma urealyticum*, *Mycoplasma hominis* and *Trichomonas vaginalis*.

Methods: This study includes 200 men with nongonococcal urethritis. *U. urealyticum* and *M. hominis* were diagnosed by using Mycifast 'All-In' test, *C. trachomatis* was diagnosed by direct immunofluorescent test. *T. vaginalis* was diagnosed by the examination of wet preparations.

Results: *C. trachomatis* was isolated in 43.0%, *U. urealyticum* in 27%, *M. hominis* in 1.5%, *U. urealyticum* + *M. hominis* in 6.5%, *C. trachomatis* + *U. urealyticum* in 30.2%, *C. trachomatis* + *U. urealyticum* + *M. hominis* in 2.0%, *C. trachomatis* + *M. hominis* in 8.1%, *T. vaginalis* in 2.5% of patients.

Conclusions: We can conclude that *C. trachomatis* and *U. urealyticum* are important pathogen agents in patients with urethral discharge. Mixed infections are very common, and it is very important to have it in mind for correct and complete therapy.

P1587 Microbiological aspects of male urethritis observed from 1990 to 2002 in a central military hospital, Algiers

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Objectives: To determine the aetiology of the male urethritis observed at the Sexually Transmitted Diseases out patient department of the Central Military Hospital of Algiers. To evaluate the Gonococcal Urethritis (GU) and the Nongonococcal Urethritis (NGU) frequency. To determine also the place of *Chlamydia trachomatis* and other agents of the NGU.

Methods: The patients were addressed to our out patient department by the unit's physician of different military regions or by the university military hospital's specialists. A questioning and a clinical exam were made and a specimen executed. In the laborat-