LATE PRESENTERS

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BCN Checkpoint: 31% of the new HIV cases detected in a Community-Based Center for MSM are recent infections

BACKGROUND

Definitions:[1]
- ✓ Acute HIV infection is the phase of HIV disease immediately after infection during which the initial burst of viremia occurs (HIV RNA or p24 antigen are present, no antibodies)
- ✓ Recent infection generally is considered the phase up to 6 months after infection during which anti-HIV antibodies are detectable
- ✓ "Early HIV Infection" (EHI) is used to refer to either acute or recent HIV infection

Despite increased HIV testing the number of reported HIV cases remain stable[2]

~38% of ongoing incident HIV infections are attributable to contact with an EHI index (95% CI: 19% - 58%)[3]

METHODS

We analyzed all reactive tests (DetermineTM HIV-1/2 Ag/Ab Combo) between January 2006 and 30 June of 2014. A total of 25.602 HIV tests were performed over a population of 12.314 persons. False positive tests and the cases without a confirmatory result were excluded. According to the questionnaire those who never had done an HIV test before in their history were also excluded. We determined the proportion of cases with a previous negative HIV test within the last 6 months and within the last 12 months. Prior test date was determined by last visit in the center or self-reported in case of first visit. Cases with missing date of last visit were excluded from the final analysis.

RESULTS

Period: January 2006 – June 2014

Number of tests/persons: 25.602 / 12.314

Number of reactive tests:	912
False positives:	- 26
Without confirmation:	- 20
Number of positive results:	866

Have you done an HIV test before? Yes: 792 (91,5%)
No /n.a. 130 (8,5%)

Date last visit w. negative result available: 662 (83,6%)

Last HIV test with negative result < 6 months and < 12 months

Last test	n	%	Cum. n	Cum. %
< 6 months	211	31,9	211	31,9
6 ≤ months < 12	166	25,1	377	57,0
≥ 12 months	285	43,0	662	100,0
Total	662	100,0		

Characteristics

Age groups	%	Origin	%
≤ 24 years	13,0	Spain	53,7
25 -34 years	50,3	Western Europe	12,4
35 - 44 years	29,3	Central - South America	28,6
≥ 45 years	7,4	Others	5,3

Age groups (%)	All (n=662)	< 6 m. (n=211)	< 12 m. (n=377)	Origin (%)	All (n=662)	< 6 m. (n=211)	< 12 m. (n=377)
≤ 24 years	13,0	15,6	13,5	Spain	53,7	57,0	53,9
25 -34 years	50,3	45,5	48,9	Western Europe	12,4	8,5	11,2
35 - 44 years	29,3	30,8	30,2	Central - South America	28,6	30,3	30,6
≥ 45 years	7,4	8,1	7,4	Others	5,3	4,2	4,3

DISCUSSION

- Of all cases detected in BCN Checkpoint 1/3 acquired HIV infection during the last 6 months and 6/10 during the last 12 months

- The biggest challenge in the gay community served by BCN Checkpoint is not so much to detect late presenters but to decrease the on-going new infections

- Early detection contributes to better care and quality of life for people diagnosed with HIV and to break the cycle of HIV transmission

- Next steps for the detection of acute infections:
  - ✓ Campaign to test every 3 months in key populations
  - ✓ Incorporate test able to detect HIV RNA
  - ✓ Campaign to recognize symptoms of acute infection

- Start an open and frank discussion on the use, price and financing of PrEP for MSM in Europe

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