

Abstract

OBJECTIVES: *Mycoplasma genitalium* has been associated with cervicitis, endometritis, and tubal factor infertility. Because the ability of this bacterium to ascend and infect the fallopian tube remains undefined, we performed an investigation to determine the prevalence of *M genitalium* in fallopian tube, endometrial, and cervical specimens from women laparoscopically diagnosed with acute salpingitis in Nairobi, Kenya. **METHODS:** Women presenting with pelvic inflammatory disease were laparoscopically diagnosed with salpingitis. Infection with *M genitalium* in genital specimens was determined by polymerase chain reaction (PCR). **RESULTS:** Of 123 subjects with acute salpingitis, *M genitalium* was detected by PCR in the cervix and/or endometrium in nine (7%) participants, and in a single fallopian tube specimen. In addition, those infected with *M genitalium* were more often HIV infected than women not infected by *M genitalium* (seven of nine (78%) v 42 of 114 (37%), $p < 0.03$). **CONCLUSIONS:** *M genitalium* is able to ascend into the fallopian tube, but its association with tubal pathology requires further investigation.