

Human immunodeficiency virus type 1 infection in women attending a sexually transmitted diseases clinic in Kenya.

Abstract:

A cross-sectional study was conducted among women attending a sexually transmitted diseases clinic in Nairobi, Kenya, to determine the prevalence of and associated risk factors for human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) type 1 infection. HIV-1 antibody was detected in 13.8% of 600 women. This virus was found most frequently in prostitutes (odds ratio [OR], 7.2), in women reporting a history of genital ulcers (OR, 2.3), and in those with a current diagnosis of genital ulcers (OR, 5.1). Lifetime duration of oral contraceptive use was significantly greater in HIV-1-positive women. Multivariate analysis revealed an association between genital ulcers and HIV-1 infection (OR, 3.8). The strongest association for HIV-1 infection, however, occurred with genital ulcers in combination with the use of oral contraceptives (OR, 25.7).