

Urethral *Trichomonas vaginalis* infection and HIV-1 transmission.

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PIP: The authors' previous study of 504 male workers in Mombasa, Kenya, provides further documentation of an association between urethral infection and increased shedding of HIV in semen. In this study, *Trichomonas vaginalis* was isolated by culture in 30 men (6%) and was the most commonly isolated urethral pathogen. Men with *Trichomonas vaginalis* were significantly older than those with *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*, suggesting infection may be of long duration. 83% of men with unimixed infections were asymptomatic. Since guidelines for syndromic management of urethral discharge do not include *Trichomonas vaginalis*, even symptomatic men with this condition who seek treatment are unlikely to be diagnosed and properly treated. More research is needed to confirm whether *Trichomonas vaginalis* (especially long-standing, low-grade infection) enhances male to female HIV transmission. Since an effective, single-dose, low-cost treatment for *Trichomonas vaginalis* is available worldwide, mass treatment strategies for this sexually transmitted disease could play an important part in HIV prevention in developing countries.