

0105 ORAL MANIFESTATIONS OF ETHNIC CHINESE HIV- INFECTED ADULTS ON HAART

The dawn of highly active anti-retroviral therapy (HAART) has revolutionized the prognostic outcome of patients infected with HIV. Consequently, type and prevalence of oral manifestations have been reduced significantly with the advent of HAART.

OBJECTIVE: to identify the types and prevalence of oral lesions among HIV infected individuals in Hong Kong, on HAART.

METHODS: 101 individuals with HIV infection attending the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Hong Kong were selected. Oral lesions were diagnosed using ECC-clearing house-classification and WHO criteria by a single, calibrated examiner. Data on the type of oral lesion present, CD4+ lymphocyte count, HIV plasma load and past history of oral lesions and the duration of HAART was recorded.

RESULTS: Sociodemographic information: 87males, 14 females, 26 MSM; age range 25-83yrs. Out of the 101 patients, 18 (17.8%) presented with intra oral lesions and 2 (1.98%) had parotid gland enlargement as extra oral presentations. 12.9% had one and 2% had two oral manifestations. Prevalence of oral lesions were significantly higher in the range of 200 - 500 CD4 cells/ μ l ($P < 0.001$). On comparing previously recorded data; we noted HIV-infected adults had a significantly lower prevalence of oral lesions ($p < 0.001$) after HAART. Upon comparison with a healthy group (0.49 ml/min), both HIV groups on HAART (0.4 ml/min) and not on HAART (0.3 ml/min) had a significantly lower salivary flow rates ($P < 0.01$).

CONCLUSIONS: Oral lesions are prevalent albeit at a lower level. However Oral candidiasis, the most frequently detected oral lesion in HIV disease even with HAART, is not prevalent and unstimulated whole salivary flow rates are still significantly lower despite HAART in this group of HIV infected adults.