

**THE PREVALENCE OF ASYMPTOMATIC PHARYNGEAL  
GONORRHEA AMONG MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN  
ATTENDING STD OP AT GOVERNMENT RAJAJI HOSPITAL ,  
MADURAI.**

**ABSTRACT**

**BACKGROUND**

Gonorrhoea is caused by an obligate human pathogen *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*. *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* colonises and infects mucosa of urogenital, anorectal , pharyngeal and ocular regions causing urethritis, cervicitis, proctitis, pharyngitis, and conjunctivitis respectively. Rectum and pharynx serve as reservoirs of asymptomatic gonococcus in Men having sex with men (MSM). Asymptomatic nature of gonococcus among Men having sex with men are alarming , serving them as reservoirs for gonorrhoea at other sites and may also lead to drug resistance.

**AIM**

To study the Prevalence of asymptomatic pharyngeal gonorrhoea among Men who have sex with Men attending STD op at Government Rajaji hospital, Madurai

**MATERIALS AND METHODS**

In this study 50 asymptomatic Men having sex with Men attending STD op with oro-receptive contact in past 3 months were undergone pharyngeal swab for gonococci. Those pharyngeal samples which were culture positive for gonococci were subjected to Gram Stain, Carbohydrate Utilisation Test and Oxidase Test.

## **RESULTS**

Out of 50 cases enrolled in our study, one case(2%) showed culture positive for Gonococci and 98% showed culture negative for Gonococci. The prevalence of pharyngeal gonorrhoea among Men having sex with Men with oro-receptive contact in past 3 months noted in our study was 2% .It was similar to the Indian study conducted by Vandana et al where the prevalence of pharyngeal gonorrhoea was 1.09%.

## **CONCLUSION**

Prevalence of 2% asymptomatic pharyngeal gonorrhoea among Men who have sex with Men noted in our study made us to do routine screening for pharyngeal gonorrhoea for Men who have sex with Men patients with oro-receptive contact. Although CDC recommends that all MSMs should be screened for pharyngeal gonorrhoea annually, routine screening tests are not performed. These observations made in our study, made us realise the importance of screening MSM patients for pharyngeal gonorrhoea.

**Keywords:** Men having sex with men , Pharyngeal gonorrhoea , oro-receptive contact.

