

ABSTRACT

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TITLE:

A STUDY ON THE INFECTIOUS ETIOLOGY OF ABNORMAL VAGINAL DISCHARGE IN WOMEN OF REPRODUCTIVE AGE GROUP ATTENDING A TERTIARY CARE HOSPITAL

BACKGROUND:

Abnormal vaginal discharge is a common clinical problem causing distress among reproductive age group women. It is of great importance to determine the causative agent and give appropriate treatment to the patient to avoid complications and prevent unnecessary over-usage of drugs.

AIM AND OBJECTIVES

To determine the infectious etiology of Abnormal Vaginal Discharge (AVD) in women of reproductive age group attending Gynaecology OPD in Govt. RSRM Hospital and Sexually Transmitted Diseases OPD in Govt. Stanley Medical Hospital and to compare their demographic features and etiological differences between the groups.

MATERIALS & METHODS:

This study has been approved by the Institutional Ethic Committee. Under strict aseptic precautions, 2 high vaginal swabs and one endo-cervical swab are obtained from the patient and used to identify the possible pathogens using various preliminary tests, culture methods and biochemical tests.

RESULTS:

Candidiasis was found to be the most common etiological agent in both the groups followed by Bacterial Vaginosis. Co-infections with Candidiasis and BV were also seen in a fair proportion of patients in both groups. Trichomoniasis, HIV and Syphilis were seen only in individuals with high risk.

CONCLUSION:

High risk individuals were significantly more prone to genito-urinary infections. There is an urgent need to spread awareness among high risk groups of the need for use of preventive measures and to decrease their risk activity.

KEY WORDS :

Abnormal vaginal discharge; high risk groups; Candidiasis; Bacterial Vaginosis; Trichomoniasis.