

Clin Infect Dis. 2013 Mar 26. [Epub ahead of print]

Incident hepatitis C virus infection in men who have sex with men: a prospective cohort analysis from 1984 to 2011.

Witt MD, Seaberg EC, Darilay A, Young S, Badri S, Rinaldo CR, Jacobson LP, Detels R, Thio CL.

Department of Medicine, David Geffen School of Medicine, University of California, Los Angeles, CA and Los Angeles Biomedical Research Institute at Harbor-UCLA, Torrance, CA.

Abstract

Background. Prospective characterization of the hepatitis C virus (HCV) transmission in both HIV-infected and -uninfected men who have sex with men (MSM) over the entire HIV epidemic has not been comprehensively conducted. **Methods.** To determine the trends in and risk factors associated with incident HCV in MSM since 1984, 5,310 HCV antibody (anti-HCV) negative MSM in the Multicenter AIDS Cohort Study were prospectively followed from 1984-2011 for anti-HCV seroconversion. **Results.** During 55,343 person-years (PYs) of follow-up there were 115 incident HCV infections (incidence rate 2.08/1000 PYs) scattered throughout the study period. In a multivariable analysis with time-varying covariates, older age (incidence rate ratio (IRR) 1.40/10 years, $P < 0.001$), enrollment in the later (2001-2003) recruitment period (IRR 3.80, $P = 0.001$), HIV infection (IRR 5.98, $P < 0.001$), drinking > 13 alcoholic drinks/week (IRR 1.68, $P < 0.001$), hepatitis B surface antigen positivity (IRR 1.68, $P < 0.001$), syphilis (IRR 2.95, $P < 0.001$), and unprotected receptive anal intercourse with > 1 male partner (IRR 3.37, $P < 0.001$) were independently associated with incident HCV. Among HIV-infected subjects, every 100 cell/mm³ increase in CD4 count was associated with a 7% ($P = 0.002$) decrease in the HCV incidence rate up to a CD4 count of 500 cells/mm³; whereas, there was no association with HAART. **Conclusions.** The spread of HCV among both HIV-infected and -uninfected MSMs in the United States has been ongoing since the beginning of the HIV epidemic. In HIV-infected men with < 500 CD4⁺ T-cells, the HCV incidence rate was inversely proportional to CD4 T-cell count.

PMID: 23532480 [PubMed - as supplied by publisher]

LinkOut - more resources

