DIRECTED SCREENING FOR HIV INFECTION IN EMERGENCY SERVICES: VIHGILA STUDY

942

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BACKGROUND

About 10 cases of HIV infection are diagnosed daily in Spain. Despite being a preventable disease, he trickle of new infections is incessant, in an infection that has been hidden for many years. It's fundamental establish various strategies aimed at identifying the infected population.

Up to 30% of patients diagnosed with HIV could have been identified earlier if in an Emergency Department (ED) a diagnostic test would have been performed in a consensual medical context (1). The recent "SEMES-GESIDA 2020" consensus (2) recommends performing HIV serology tests in EDs in 6 very specific clinical scenarios: presence of STDs, post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP), practice of chem-sex (CS), sdme. mononucleoside (SMN), community pneumonia (NC) in those under 65 years, herpes zoster (HZ) in those under 65 years. This study analyzes the results of the implementation of the mentioned consensus, through a directed protocol (HIVGILA-SOCMUE Project).

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METHODS

10 EDs from hospitals in Catalonia are included. Specific training of staff is carried out in all hospitals medical, nursing and microbiology service: explaining the details and concrete way to apply the consensus. In each of the EDs has a doctor and nurse responsible for implementing the protocol, carrying out a control strict of all procedures. Data is updated weekly with centralized monitoring.



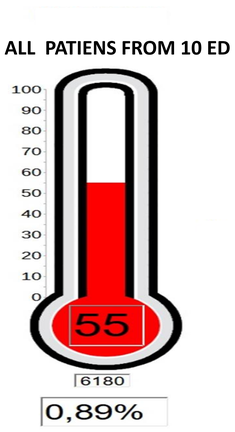
Emergency Room is an optimal place for performing HIV test

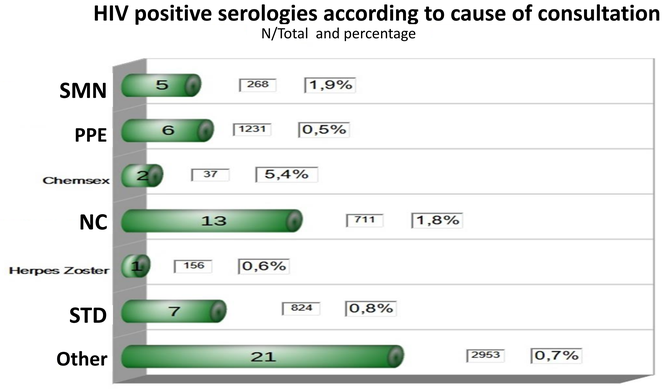
We recommend HIV serology assess in 6 clinical scenarios

Around an 1% of all HIV serologies were positive

RESULTS

After 60 weeks of follow-up (June 1, 2021-August 30, 2022), 6180 HIV serologies have been performed and diagnosed 55 new patients with HIV (0.9%). 33/55 (61%) of new diagnoses occur in the 6 scenarios described: 6 HIV cases out of 1,231 PPE (0.4%), 7/796 STDs (0.8%), 13/694 NC (1.8%), SMN 5/257 (1.9%), CS 2/35 (0.7%), HZ 1/149 (0.6%), patients with other pathologies 21/2817





CONCLUSIONS

1. The application of the SEMES consensus shows a high diagnostic efficiency: almost 1% of the serologies are positive for HIV. These percentages are 10 times above the percentages considered efficient (>0.1%) for the performing a screening.
2. Performing serology on patients with NC and SMN shows a very high level of efficacy, close to 2%.
3. EDs appear to be an optimal place to screen and diagnose infection for HIV.
4. It is necessary to train health teams to implement HIV detection protocols

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