A REVIEW ON THE COMPREHENSIVE BURDEN OF GONORRHOEA IN EUROPE

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AIMS

- To review the comprehensive medical, humanistic and economic burden of gonorrhoea in Europe.

METHODS

Targeted literature review (TLR) on the burden of gonorrhoea. PubMed searches with screening based on:

- POPULATION: Neisseria gonorrhoeae infection
- INTERVENTIONS AND COMPARATORS: no restrictions
- OUTCOMES:
  - CLINICAL (including sequelae and AMR)
  - HUMANISTIC (quality of life (QoL), caregiver impact)
  - ECONOMIC (costs, resources, cost-effectiveness, public health, preference studies)
- STUDIES: observational, economic, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, indirect treatment comparison
- LIMITS: English; 2012-22; AU, FR, DE, IT, ES, UK, US*
- FOCUS OF POSTER: local data from FR, DE, IT, ES, and UK only. (Grey literature and EU/Global-level studies excluded.)

RESULTS

FIVE MEDICAL STUDIES8,10,12-14 AND ONE HUMANISTIC BURDEN STUDY15 IDENTIFIED.

EVIDENCE ON MEDICAL BURDEN

AMR

2 German studies (nationwide8 & Dresden10) with AMR data in gonorrhoea:

- Most gonorrhoea cases (81%) in men.9,10
- Infected women were younger than men (mean 21y vs 33y).9,10
- High rates of non-susceptibility to ciprofloxacin, tetracyclines, penicillin and trimethoprim.9,10
- Emerging azithromycin resistance (5.6% of samples) in the nationwide study threatens European(2020) guidelines of dual ceftriaxone + azithromycin.5

RISK FACTORS AND PREVALENCE

One German study7 (N=2,303 MSM):
- Prevalence in MSM (8.8%) increased among HIV-negative pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) users (4.8%).

One French study11 (N=3,409):
- Most patients were symptomatic.
- HIV-co-infections mostly seen in MSM (13.9%).

DISEASE TRANSMISSION

One UK study10 (N=907, 93% men, median age 31y):
- 12% of samples collected 1 year apart were genetically related, suggesting long-term asymptomatic carriage of gonorrhoea.

EVIDENCE ON HUMANISTIC BURDEN

QUALITY OF LIFE

Another UK study9 assessed QoL and impact of a symptomatic genital infection diagnosis in men:
- Only n=2 gonorrhoea patients included at baseline (no follow-up data).

DISEASE TRANSMISSION

- Despite limitations in study scope, this TLR shows SIGNIFICANT LOCAL DATA GAPS on the comprehensive disease burden in all areas, with some countries (ITALY and SPAIN) without any local disease burden studies identified.

- To understand the role and target of emerging prevention options for gonorrhoea (e.g., vaccination for adolescents and young adults and/or based on behaviour/risk), more local disease burden evidence is needed.

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