Neisseria gonorrhoeae 87 million Global cases of gonorrhoea in 2016

Underdiagnosed and underreported
Incidence is increasing: high levels of antibiotic resistance

LEFT UNTREATED, GONORRHOEA CAN CAUSE:

Mediterranean Africa
Americas
Male sex workers (ex. North America)
African Region

SEX WORKERS: PREVALENCE ESTIMATES FOR UROGENITAL INFECTION ACROSS ALL COUNTRIES WERE APPROXIMATELY 10X HIGHER THAN IN THE GENERAL POPULATION.

Women
Men

RESULTS

CONCLUSIONS

GONORRHOEA: THE STATE OF SURVEILLANCE GLOBALLY AND OBSERVED BURDEN OF INFECTION

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METHODS

Aim of this review:

- To evaluate the prevalence of urogenital and rectal gonorrhoea infections in the general population and in men-who-have-sex-with-men (MSM) and sex workers.
- Describe the state of gonorrhoea surveillance at national level globally.

We conducted a systematic literature search to estimate the prevalence of gonorrhoea, with the proportion of positive tests per number tested at the study level as primary outcome of interest.

Papers published from 22 August 2008 to 11 April 2019 were searched according to pre-specified inclusion criteria. English language abstracts were included and full texts reviewed in English, Spanish, Portuguese, German and French.

Estimates were adjusted for laboratory test performance and geographic location.

We also conducted a grey literature online search (in English) of websites, data repositories and surveillance reports, and public health or governmental agencies to provide contextual information about the surveillance systems in each country or region.

Data are reported from 235/242 empirical studies reviewed and 12 data repositories, including routine (inter)national and surveillance reports.

Number of population-based prevalence points identified at country level (both men and women) according to systematic search criteria. Prevalence was highest in Oceania and countries in Southern and sub-Saharan Africa (data not shown).

Prevalence studies highlight the magnitude of the infection burden, particularly in MSM and sex workers globally. But there is a lack of standardized gonorrhoea monitoring, reporting and surveillance is weak or absent in many countries.

To better inform sexually transmitted infection control programmes (particularly in risk populations), serial prevalence monitoring intervals should be considered, including assessment and reporting of a minimum set of epidemiological variables on the infection.

This will help to optimize evaluations of the burden of disease and maximize the utility of the data collected at local, national and regional level and internationally.

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