DETERMINANTS OF BED NET USAGE IN CHILDREN UNDER 5 AND HOUSEHOLD BED NET OWNERSHIP IN BIOKO ISLAND, EQUITORIAL GUINEA

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Introduction TB is among of the major public health problem in Tanzania. The National TB and leprosy program among of their strategy is intensive case finding which has drawbacks taking the fact that Tanzania is a developing country. The coverage of diagnostic centers is very low and some areas are located very interior that it takes hours to reach the diagnostic centers. PATH Tanzania decided to introduce a cadre called sputum fixers; these are community owned resource persons. They screen the community looking for TB suspects. These TB suspects are those with complain of cough. They fix their sputum on slides and send them to the diagnostic centers. These sputum fixers are given bicycles to transport these slides to the laboratories for analysis.

Methods Ten sputum fixers were identified in five districts in Tanzania whereby the sputum of suspects were fixed and sent to laboratory for analysis. Two sputum specimens were taken to the laboratory from each suspect. Any sputum positive of the two slides taken was regarded TB patients.

Results Out of 1195 suspects whose sputum were taken to laboratory for analysis 137(3.7%) were AFB sputum positive.

Conclusion Introduction of community owned resource persons (sputum fixers) helps in case identification and increase case detection and hence reducing incidence rate after proper treatment.

HIGH HIV PREVALENCE RATES IN A SEMI-RURAL AREA OF SOUTHERN MOZAMBIQUE: POPULATION-BASED DATA COMPARED WITH ANTENATAL CLINIC PREVALENCE ESTIMATIONS

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Introduction Southern African countries bear an inordinate burden of the global HIV/AIDS pandemic. Monitoring the epidemiology dynamics is critical to identify populations at greatest risk for the infection and assess the maturity of the epidemic.

Methods A cross-sectional population-based study was designed to determine age and sex-specific community HIV prevalence in adults aged 18–47 years old living in Manhica district, in southern Mozambique. Study candidates were randomly selected from the Demographic Surveillance System in place at the Centro de Investigação em Saúde de Manhica (CISM) and home-based testing was conducted. The population-based HIV prevalence results were compared with those obtained prospectively from the antenatal clinics (ANC) of Manhica Health Center.

Results In total, 722 adults participated in the cross-sectional survey. The overall HIV prevalence found in adults aged 18–27 years was 23.61% (95% CI 18.13 to 29.08), increasing to 42.62% (95% CI 36.39 to 48.85) in those aged 28–37 years and to 45.31% (95% CI 39.05 to 51.56) in the 38–47 years age-group. HIV prevalence estimates were higher in women than in men, especially in younger adults. The overall HIV prevalence found in the study participants was of 37.40% (95% CI 33.86 to 40.93). Analysis of the ANC data showed an HIV prevalence of 29.35% (95% CI 26.70 to 32.00) among pregnant women from the same area.

Conclusions Our results show higher HIV prevalence in the population-based survey than in the ANC surveillance system of the same district. This raises issues as to the applicability of ANC prevalence data to estimate overall HIV prevalence, and stresses the need for innovative prevention strategies in sub-Saharan countries.

SELF-REPORTED DISCRIMINATION IN EARLY ADOLESCENCE IN A BRAZILIAN BIRTH COHORT: PREVALENCE AND ASSOCIATED FACTORS

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Objective To assess the prevalence of and associated factors with self-reported discrimination among adolescents.

Methods Cross-sectional analyses were carried out with data from the Brazilian 1993 Pelotas Birth Cohort Study. Of the 5249 live born children, data on self-reported discrimination, socio-demographic factors and physical attributes were collected on 4452 adolescents interviewed in 2004–2005. Poisson regression was used in crude and adjusted analyses to estimate prevalence ratios (PR).

Results The prevalence of self-reported discrimination attributed to any reason was 16.3%. In adjusted analyses, discrimination was more likely to be reported by girls (PR = 1.27, 95% CI 1.27 to 1.48); interviewer-classified blacks (PR = 1.28, 95% CI 1.28 to 1.57); poor respondents (PR = 1.58, 95% CI 1.23 to 2.02), those who perceived themselves as very thin or very fat (RP = 1.81 and 1.54, respectively); with worse self-perceived dental appearance (PR = 1.58, 95% CI 1.21 to 2.07); with