

Clinical Sciences Oral Abstract Session / Sciences cliniques présentation orale d'abrévés

Theme: Coinfection and comorbidity / Thème : Coinfections et comorbidités

Abstract #88

Self-reported anal cancer screening prior to release of new clinical guidelines: Results from the Ontario HIV Treatment Network (OHTN) Cohort Study

Ann Burchell^{1,2}, Troy Grennan⁴, Gordon Arbess¹, Christine Fahim¹, Daniel Grace², Charlie Guiang¹, Paul MacPherson⁵, Irving Salit⁶, Michael Silverman⁷, ACCESS Study Team¹, **Lucia Light**³
¹Unity Health Toronto, Toronto, Canada, ²University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada, ³Ontario HIV Treatment Network, Toronto, Canada, ⁴BC Centre for Disease Control, Vancouver, Canada, ⁵Ottawa Hospital, Ottawa, Canada, ⁶University Health Network, Toronto, Canada, ⁷St. Joseph's Hospital London, London, Canada

Background: In 01/2024, the International Anal Neoplasia Society released new guidelines recommending anal precancer screening in high-risk populations, including men who have sex with men (MSM) and transgender women living with HIV starting at age 35, and all others living with HIV starting at age 45. We estimated the proportions undergoing anal screening in 2023 as a baseline for monitoring the future implementation of this guideline.

Methods: We analysed data from the Ontario HIV Treatment Network Cohort Study, a multi-site clinical HIV cohort. During interviews in 2023, respondents were asked about anal screening modalities in the past 12 months: (1) an anal Pap test (for precancer); and (2) a digital anal rectal exam (DARE, for early-stage cancer). We estimated the proportions reporting anal screening and examined correlates using multiple logistic regression.

Results: Among the 2,238 interviewed, 18% were aged 35-44 and 72% were aged 45 and older. Among the 1720 respondents who were assigned male sex at birth, 24 identified as transgender women or genderqueer, and 1692 as cisgender men. We observed statistically-significant ($p < 0.05$) differences in screening by guideline-defined cancer risk category and age (Table). Screening also varied by region but not by race, viral load suppression, CD4 cell count, tobacco smoking, or history of AIDS.

Conclusion: Limitations include voluntary participation and self-report. A minority reported screening. It was more often reported by MSM/transgender women and among older respondents, but least by cisgender women and heterosexual men. Ideally, post-guideline implementation will incorporate strategies to facilitate the scale-up of equitable screening.

Supporting Document

Table. Proportion (%) of participants reporting anal screening in the past 12 months, Ontario HIV Treatment Network (OHTN) Cohort Study, January to December 2023

	MSM and transgender women (n=1390)			Cisgender women (n=508)			Heterosexual men (n=283)		
	Pap	DARE	Either	Pap	DARE	Either	Pap	DARE	Either
Age (years)									
<35	20.1	9.8		3.4	0.0		0.0	0.0	
35-44	24.3	13.6	21.0	2.3	1.5	3.4	5.1	2.6	0.0
45-54	25.5	19.2	28.5	7.1	3.2	2.3	2.8	1.4	5.3
55-64	26.0	16.8	29.9	2.5	3.3	7.1	5.1	7.1	4.2
65 and older	31.8	24.7	31.1	6.7	4.4	5.0	4.1	12.8	9.2
			39.2			8.9			12.8