

# Overview in Brief: Assessment and Therapeutic Probability Related to Sexually Transmitted Infections

## ABSTRACT

Sexually transmitted infections (STIs) are the primary cause of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). Sexual contact is the primary means of transmission. The causes of STIs can be viruses, bacteria, or parasites. Blood, semen, vaginal fluids, and other body fluids can all be carriers of a sexually transmitted infection. STIs have a long history that began in Ancient Civilizations. The Greeks, Romans, and Egyptians of antiquity are the first cultures to record sexually transmitted diseases. For example, Hippocrates wrote about a sickness that sounds a lot like gonorrhoea around the year 400 B.C. Globally, STIs have a significant effect on sexual and reproductive health. Every day, about a million treatable STIs are contracted. WHO projected that 374 million new cases of one of the four STIs: gonorrhoea (82 million), syphilis (7.1 million), trichomoniasis (156 million), and chlamydia (129 million) will be reported in 2020. In India, STIs and Reproductive Tract Infections (RTIs) pose a significant threat to public health. In India, approximately 6% of adults have experienced at least one STI or Reproductive Tract Infection (RTI), translating to roughly 30–35 million occurrences annually. A sexually transmitted infection (STI) may manifest as an unusual discharge from the penis, anus, or vagina; discomfort while urination; a rash, bumps, or skin growth around your bottom or genitalia (anus); strange bleeding in the vagina; anus or genitalia itch; boils, rashes, or warts near your anus or genitalia. Many STIs caused by bacteria or parasites, including gonorrhoea, syphilis, chlamydia, and trichomoniasis, can be cured with antibiotics, frequently in a single dose. In this work, we evaluate the status, potential treatments, and aetiology of sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

**Keywords:** Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs), Epidemiology, Etiology, Diagnosis, Management

## INTRODUCTION

An infection is a condition brought on by infection with specific bacteria, viruses, or other microorganisms that can spread from person to person through oral, anal, or genital sex with an infected partner, as well as through blood, semen, or other bodily fluids. Additionally, sharing needles, receiving blood transfusions, nursing, and mother-to-child transmission during pregnancy and childbirth can all result in the transmission of these diseases. STIs can cause sores, blisters, or bumps on the genitalia, in the mouth, or the rectal area; they can also cause pain or burning when urinating or having sex; they can cause unusual bleeding or drainage from the penis or vagina; they can cause itching and redness in the genital or anal area; they can cause pain in the lower abdomen; they can cause fever; and they can cause sore, swollen lymph nodes, particularly in the groin. Sexually transmitted infections (STIs) include gonorrhoea, syphilis, chlamydia, genital herpes, human papillomavirus (HPV), and HIV. Certain STDs have the

potential to cause chronic health issues if left untreated. Also known as STIs, STDs, and sexually transmitted infections. Previously referred to as sexually transmitted diseases, sexually transmitted infections (STIs) are caused by the transfer of an organism between sexual partners through various routes of sexual contact, such as oral, anal, or vaginal. Because many infections are left untreated and can result in potentially dangerous complications, STIs constitute a problem and burden on healthcare systems. The most prevalent STDs' natural histories and methods of transmission are covered, together with information on illness prevention, assessment, diagnosis, and therapy(1,2). A significant worldwide health concern is non-HIV sexually transmitted diseases. Nonetheless, efforts to regulate them have not succeeded, and they have been disregarded as a public health concern. Sexual partners can transmit an organism to one another through oral, anal, or vaginal sex. These infections, once referred to as sexually transmitted illnesses, are the result of sexual interaction. All people are susceptible to STIs, but they can be avoided with the right information and barrier removal. The most prevalent STIs include illnesses that can be treated (herpes viruses, human papillomavirus, human immunodeficiency virus) as well as those that are curable (gonorrhoea, chlamydia, syphilis, trichomonas). Generally speaking, there are two associated symptoms: inflammatory lesions and discharge/dysuria. Underlying comorbidities, patient behaviour, and disease prevalence influence the risk of developing these illnesses. Preventing disease spread, morbidity, and mortality requires early detection of sexually transmitted infections (STIs). Underserved groups have a higher frequency of these infections, which are often under-recognised(3). Untreated sexually transmitted infections can progress to systemic illnesses, which can worsen overall health, psychological effects, financial difficulties, and require a longer time to recover from. If sufficient funding for public health is not given to the public sector to deliver necessary services and trustworthy public education about safe sex practices, then complications are likely to arise. Complications from sexually transmitted infections (STIs) are more common in women. These include sterility, infertility from complex gonorrhoea/chlamydial infections, and systemic infection from untreated pelvic inflammatory disease. While offering the best possible therapy by the presenting disease, healthcare practitioners should be knowledgeable about the most prevalent STDs in their community and feel at ease counselling patients on human behaviour changes. To prevent sexually transmitted infections, patients should receive counselling and information on appropriate treatment(4).

## **EPIDEMIOLOGY**

The human papillomavirus, or HPV, is the most prevalent STI in the United States. An estimated 80% of sexually active individuals are infected at any given moment, with 42% of adults aged 18 to 59 among them. Oral HPV will affect 7% of those infected, and an estimated 14 million new instances of this illness are recorded each year. Because HPV is so widespread, almost everyone who engages in sexual activity and is not vaccinated will contract the virus at some point in their lives, according to CDC estimates. At least 291 million women have HPV infections worldwide. According to data from the CDC, there were over 2.4 million STI reports in the US in 2020 that had nothing to do with HPV. Among them, chlamydia was the most prevalent with 1.6 million cases. Subsequently, 133,945 instances of primary and secondary syphilis, up 52% during the same period, and 677,769 cases of gonorrhoea, up 45% from 2016, were recorded in

2020. Congenital syphilis was found in 2148 newborns in 2020, a 235% increase from 163. Men account for more than 80% of primary and secondary syphilis cases that are recorded. Nearly half (47%) of the instances of men that are recorded involve guys who have intercourse with men. Additionally, according to CDC projections, 44% of men who test positive for syphilis and bisexual males who have sex with men will also test positive for HIV. Over a million new treatable STIs are contracted every day in the world; the majority have no symptoms. An estimated 376 million new cases of one of the four treatable sexually transmitted illnesses (STIs) are reported each year. (chlamydia, gonorrhoea, syphilis, and trichomoniasis). With 156 million new cases worldwide each year, trichomonas is the most prevalent of these, followed by chlamydia (127 million), gonorrhoea (87 million), and syphilis (6.3 million). STIs are becoming more common in the US; between 2015 and 2019, the number of STIs that could be reported increased by about 30%. It is believed that 12% of Americans between the ages of 14 and 49 currently have herpes. It is estimated that about 500 million people worldwide are infected with type 2 herpes simplex virus. In 2016, it was predicted that one million pregnant women had an STI, which resulted in about 350,000 difficulties related to delivery or neonatal care. Every year, more than 310,000 deaths from cervical cancer are attributed to HPV infections. Worldwide, syphilis is the second most common cause of stillbirths. In 2016, over 37 million people worldwide were afflicted by HIV/AIDS. In the United States, 15% of people living with HIV are not aware they are infected, and they account for 40% of new HIV infections. The US sees about 35,000 new cases of HIV per year, according to the CDC. 15% to 20% of instances of non-gonococcal urethritis (NGU), 20% to 25% of cases of non-chlamydial NGU, and 40% of cases of recurring or persistent NGU infections are caused by *Mycoplasma genitalium* (5–7).

## **HISTORY**

To identify the main complaints of their patients and create a useful differential diagnosis, medical practitioners are taught efficient communication with patients, partners, and families. Regardless of whether the encounter takes place in an emergency room or a routine clinic, obtaining a thorough history is nonetheless required. When a patient exhibits symptoms and indicators that point to an undetected STD, the clinician's job is to properly communicate with the patient. Clinicians should know that in the US, all teenagers under the age of eighteen have the legal right to an STI screening and treatment without the need for parental approval. Clinicians need to acknowledge the strong relationship between STIs and patient behaviour. During the clinical examination, this relationship should be addressed in a polite, nonjudgmental manner. In addition to providing patients with care and treatment, healthcare practitioners should encourage and recommend healthy behaviours that reduce the risk of re-infection. It is recommended to inquire further with state-specific healthcare systems or see the CDC's "Sexually Transmitted Disease Treatment Guidelines 2021" for additional specifics. The presenting chief complaint and any symptoms gathered during the systems review should serve as guidelines for the physical examination. A chaperone should be present at the patient's bedside during the checkup, and their identity should be included in the patient's medical file. Ask the patient an open-ended inquiry after the examination to make sure there is a free exchange of ideas and to find out if they have any more information regarding their sexual behaviour that has not been covered (8–11).

## ETIOLOGY

STIs are a global health concern that every public health organization needs to be aware of. STIs are more often underdiagnosed and more common in populations with limited access to healthcare. The particular organism, route, indications, and symptoms all influence the presenting illness or disease. Having multiple partners in unprotected sexual contact, having a history of STIs, sexual assault, prostitution, having a partner in additional concurrent sexual contacts or with a history of STIs, and using recreational drugs or alcohol are risk factors that increase the transmission of STIs. Male circumcision appears to considerably lower the risk of contracting human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), where the infective risk drops by 50% to 60%, as well as several other STIs, such as genital herpes and human papillomavirus. The seven most prevalent sexually transmitted diseases (STIs) consist of three treatable but incurable disorders (human papillomavirus (HPV), HIV, and herpes simplex virus) and five curable infections (syphilis, gonorrhoea, trichomonas, and chlamydia). Interestingly, although they can also be conveyed sexually, hepatitis B and hepatitis C are more frequently contracted through other exposures. *Treponema pallidum*, a spirochete bacteria, is the source of syphilis (*T pallidum*). *T pallidum* grows extremely slowly, making it impossible to cultivate or observe using conventional light microscopy. *T pallidum* lacks lipopolysaccharides in its outer membrane and possesses few exposed proteins, which attenuate the early immune response. Infections of this kind are on the rise, according to the CDC, in contrast to earlier data. In the developing world, syphilis is significantly more prevalent, especially among the most impoverished people who have the least access to healthcare(10,12–14). Chancroid: The organism that causes chancroid is *Haemophilus ducreyi*. To thrive in the culture, this picky Gram-negative coccobacillus (extremely short rod) needs certain media and environmental conditions. Under the microscope, the organism tends to form long strands that resemble "railroad tracks" or "a school of fish." The bacterium greatly raises HIV transmission risk and susceptibility. In affluent nations around the world, including the United States, this infection is quite uncommon. Herpes simplex virus 1 (HSV-1) or herpes simplex virus 2 (HSV-2) is the cause of genital herpes. HSV is a lipoglycoprotein-coated double-stranded DNA virus that has a preference for infecting target cells. Although HSV-1 is typically linked to orolabial infections, the CDC reports that it is currently the primary cause of genital herpes in young, gay patients. An estimated 50 million Americans are thought to be HSV-positive(10,15–17). Chlamydia trachomatis is a gram-negative, obligatory, nonmotile intracellular bacterium (*C trachomatis*). Most commonly, serotypes D–K. According to the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the most prevalent treatable STD in the US. There are two infectious forms: reticulate body (RB) and elementary body (EB). After the RB form invades the cell, it produces more infectious EB, which spreads to infect other non-infectious forms. *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*, a Gram-negative diplococci bacteria, is the cause of gonorrhoea. (*N gonorrhoeae*). In the United States, this is the second most prevalent STD (*C trachomatis* is the most common). Glucose is a means via which gonorrhoea invades mucus epithelial cells. Gonorrhea alters cellular proteins to facilitate more organism penetration. Gonorrhea multiplies and causes a localized inflammatory response that results in STI signs and symptoms. Gram-negative intracellular *Klebsiella granulomatis*, originally known as *Calymmatobacterium granulomatis*, is the cause of granuloma inguinale. (Donovanosis is another name for this.) Granuloma inguinale is uncommon in the United States

and is primarily observed in developing nations, particularly in tropical regions. South America, New Guinea, the Caribbean, southern Africa, and India are the regions where this illness is most prevalent(18,19).Stratified squamous epithelium cells' basal cell layer is where the double-stranded deoxyribonucleic acid virus known as the human papillomavirus (HPV) replicates. Conversion carcinoma may occur as a result of this replication cycle-induced hyperplasia. The malignant transformation-inducing HPV types 16 and 18 are oncogenic strains.Condyloma acuminata, or anogenital warts, are frequently caused by strains 6 and 11.Infectious sexual partner (STI) HPV is by far the most prevalent in the United States and globally.Lymphogranuloma venereum: This illness is brought on by a distinct serotype of Chlamydia trachomatis, an obligatory, nonmotile, Gram-negative intracellular bacterium. The bacteria are L1, L2, and L3 serovars, or serotypes. Infections like these are frequent in tropical and subtropical areas but rare in the United States. The most common cause of lymphogranuloma venereum in men is intercourse with other men. Strongly linked to HIV infections(20,21).The terms acquired immunodeficiency syndrome and human immunodeficiency virus.These retroviruses are enclosed and have two single-stranded RNA encapsulations. Primary HIV symptoms are generally identified as acute viral illness and are characterized as flu-like. The period when the symptoms appear varies from 4 to 10 weeks. Infections with HIV-1 predominate in the US.The advanced stage of HIV infection is known as acquired immunodeficiency syndrome, or AIDS. The transition from HIV to AIDS typically takes 11 years on average, although this might vary greatly. Patients with HIV are 77 times more likely to get syphilis than the general population(22–24).

## **PATHOPHYSIOLOGY**

Covering the most widespread illnesses, such as syphilis, gonorrhoea, chlamydia, HPV, genital herpes, and trichomoniasis. Viral, parasite or bacterial illnesses can result from sexual activity. The tiny abrasions in the mucosal membranes of the penis, vagina, anus, or any other mucosal surface allow STIs to enter the human body. Intravenous drug use, exposure during childbirth, and breastfeeding are all potential ways for STIs to spread. Normal cells are invaded by organisms that overwhelm the immune system and produce the characteristic illness signs and symptoms.We'll go over basic symptomatology, including genital, extragenital, and widespread symptoms, along with a physical examination and history to help with differential diagnosis and suggested therapies. A broad synopsis of all prevalent STDs will be provided, along with updated treatment guidelines from the WHO and CDC. Healthcare practitioners, including doctors, need to be aware of the differences between treatable and incurable STDs. If left untreated, STIs can cause serious, permanent health problems such as cancer, scarring, persistent discomfort, infertility, and sexual dysfunction(25,26).

## **PROBLEMS RELATED TO SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES**

Untreated sexually transmitted infections can progress to systemic illnesses, which can worsen overall health, psychological effects, financial difficulties, and require a longer time to recover from. If sufficient funding for public health is not given to the public sector to deliver necessary services and trustworthy public education about safe sex practices, then complications are likely to arise. Complications from sexually transmitted infections (STIs) are more common in women.

These include sterility, infertility from complex gonorrhoea/chlamydial infections, and systemic infection from untreated pelvic inflammatory disease. Pregnant women who have STIs are more likely to experience preterm labour, early membrane rupture, low birth weight babies, chorioamnionitis, miscarriages, stillbirths, and early infant mortality. Infants may get infections as a result of being exposed to different pathogens while passing through the birth canal. Babies who are exposed in this way are especially vulnerable to eye and lung infections. Untreated syphilis moms may give birth to babies who have issues with their bones, brain, hearing, eyes, heart, skin, and teeth, among other organ systems. Certain HPV strains increase the risk of cancer, particularly in women. If HIV infections are not treated appropriately, they may develop into AIDS, a lethal late consequence brought on by a damaged immune system(4,27,28).

## **DIAGNOSIS**

A comprehensive presentation of the CDC's "Sexually Transmitted Disease Treatment Guidelines 2021" includes screening and evaluation suggestions. The following information has been extrapolated from the guidelines and should be utilized at the patient's and physician's discretion. Generally speaking, all patients who exhibit STI symptoms ought to get evaluated for HIV as well as any other STIs that are common in the community. Women and men with genital herpes can be diagnosed by clinical examination, viral culture, or NAAT from genital ulcers. For herpes simplex virus antibodies, a direct immunofluorescence assay can be used to obtain fluorescein-labelled monoclonal antibodies; however, because of the test's insensitivity, this is not currently advised. It is also not advised to use cytologic examination findings of cellular alterations linked to HSV infections for diagnosis. They are viewed as being too sensitive and general. For each patient who tests positive for genital herpes, HIV testing is advised(8,29). Women and men with chancroid: The diagnosis is made based on the clinical history and examination, as well as the rule out of other ulcerative infections including syphilis and herpes. One or more sensitive, suppurative, deep, moderately large, painful ulcers on the genitalia linked to inguinal adenopathy are strongly suggestive of chancroid. (Herpes simplex ulcers are normally smaller, and syphilis chancres are usually painless). The characteristic "school of fish" pattern that gram stain may display is only 80% sensitive. *Haemophilus ducreyi* must be produced in culture to provide a conclusive diagnosis. This is a challenging process that calls for the use of specially enriched media that must be cultivated in high humidity and high CO<sub>2</sub> environments, neither of which are typically available in most clinical laboratories. There isn't a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) serological test for *H. ducreyi* that has been approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Chlamydia: Women: A vaginal swab, a first-catch urine sample, or a self-endocervical swab are used to perform a nucleic acid amplification test (NAAT) to make the diagnosis. Men: NAAT of a first-catch urine or urethral sample is used to make the diagnosis(30,31). Men/Women with Granuloma inguinale: Based on the macroscopic appearance of the lesions and the microscopic discovery of intracellular Donovan bodies on a scraping, tissue, or biopsy specimen, the diagnosis is essentially clinical. Donovan bodies, which stain dark purple when stained with Wright stain, are rod- or oval-shaped intracellular inclusions found in the cytoplasm of infected patients' histiocytes or mononuclear phagocytes. There is currently no FDA-approved molecular diagnostic laboratory test available, and the infecting bacterium is difficult to culture. Women/Men: The diagnosis process begins with a preliminary

test for antibodies in blood or saliva, which is then followed by more specialized testing like PCR or certain immunoassays. Every adult, aged 15 to 65, should have at least one HIV test, according to the CDC. At the very least, yearly testing should be conducted on high-risk persons (e.g., multiple sexual partners, sex workers, men who have multiple sexual partners). In essence, PCR testing is used to diagnose HIV infection. HIV1/HIV2 antigen-antibody immunoassay is advised by the CDC. A fast point-of-care HIV test ought to be made available to patients who are not likely to return for follow-up. Though they may be unfavourable in cases of early infections, results are available in less than 20 minutes. It is also advised to perform a viral load test using RT-PCR. For acute HIV infections, HIV ribonucleic acid testing is the most effective. Confirmatory testing involves an HIV1/HIV2 antibody differentiation assay. Chlamydia, gonorrhoea, and syphilis screening should be performed on HIV-positive people at the time of diagnosis and at least once a year thereafter. Treatment of STIs During Pregnancy: Appropriate antibiotics that have been approved as safe for use during pregnancy can be used to effectively treat treatable STIs, such as chlamydia, gonorrhoea, syphilis, and trichomonas. Although there is no treatment for viral STIs, they can usually be managed with different antivirals and other preventive steps to reduce transmission to unborn children. Men/Women with lymphogranuloma venereum: In areas where this illness is prevalent, the primary method of initial diagnosis is clinical suspicion followed by rule-out alternative causes of vaginal ulcerations associated with inguinal lymphadenopathy. Syphilis, chancroid, herpes, and granuloma inguinale are examples of genitalia ulcerative infections that should be ruled out and which also produce inguinal lymphadenopathy. Other conditions that can cause lymphadenopathy include HIV, penile cancer, and lymphoma. Although PCR-based genotyping is the most conclusive method, serological testing using complement fixation, micro-immunofluorescence, or NAAT can confirm the diagnosis. NAAT testing is typically advised and encouraged for all proctocolitis patients because of its availability. It is diagnostic and confirmatory to find Chlamydia trachomatis in genital, lymph node, or rectal specimens by culture, direct immunofluorescence, or NAAT. All strains of C trachomatis should be tested for in men who have sex with other men and suffer proctocolitis. HIV testing is particularly advised for this group of patients(32–34). Women with trichomoniasis: Diagnosis by vaginal NAAT, endocervical swab, urine analysis, or urethral sample. Alternatively, motile flagellated protozoa can be seen in a wet mount. Individuals who have been diagnosed with trichomoniasis ought to undergo testing for syphilis, HIV, gonorrhoea, and chlamydia(35).

## **MEDICAL TREATMENT OF DISEASES THAT ARE SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED**

Updated Treatment Guidelines for Sexually Transmitted Diseases were released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in 2021. This treatment guideline includes parts that specify care for particular populations, including transgender men and women, youth, pregnant women, people in correctional facilities, and men and women who have sex with each other. Each of these subjects needs to be investigated and examined separately. The main recommended therapies will be covered, and additional reference materials about various management choices will be

acknowledged. Clinicians should speak with their pharmacy department or an infectious disease specialist for additional advice if the patient is allergic to the primary treatment or if the treatment is poorly tolerated.

**Acute epididymitis:** Ceftriaxone 500 mg is given intramuscularly (IM) or intravenously (IV) in one dose, PLUS doxycycline 100 mg twice a day for 10 days. In men under 35, this condition is most commonly brought on by sexual transmission of chlamydia or gonorrhoea. For males over 35, enteric microbes alone are most likely to blame: 500 mg of levofloxacin taken once daily for ten days. Levofloxacin 500 mg is taken orally every day for 10 days in addition to ceftriaxone 500 mg intravenously or intramuscularly in men whose underlying aetiology is unknown(8,36).

**Chlamydia:** Treatment for coinfections with the most prevalent STIs should be coordinated. It is best to take 100 mg of doxycycline orally twice a day for seven days. One dose of 500 mg of levofloxacin or one gram of azithromycin per day for seven days would be the alternative therapy. It is advised to take 500 mg of amoxicillin three times a day for seven days or 1 g of azithromycin orally during pregnancy. Alternative formulations are acceptable, but they should be assessed individually, taking the patient's concerns into account. Testing for *Mycoplasma genitalium* specifically is advised for nonspecific urethritis that is persistent or recurring. If doxycycline 100 mg twice daily for seven days is not available, the course should be repeated. After that, take 400 mg of moxifloxacin orally twice daily for seven days. Follow-up testing should be arranged with the patient following the initial course of treatment.

**Chancroid:** Improvement is usually noticeable in one to two weeks, both subjectively and objectively. If you don't answer, it could be a sign of drug resistance, non-compliance with treatment, HIV coinfection, or an inaccurate initial diagnosis. One dose of azithromycin, one gram, taken orally

One dosage of ceftriaxone (250 mg) intravenously

A single dose of ceftriaxone and azithromycin is advantageous. 500 mg of erythromycin taken three times a day for seven days and 500 mg of ciprofloxacin twice a day for three days. Three to seven days following therapy, patients should have their response to treatment assessed. There has been some reported resistance to ciprofloxacin and erythromycin, but there is little information available on antimicrobial resistance.

**Genital Herpes:** Antivirals should be used to treat the systemic infection and treat any associated discomfort or itching. This is part of the therapy and management of a primary infection. The patient and the doctor should talk about available medications and any financial constraints that might prevent the patient from receiving the right care. Initial therapy for patients may involve the use of one of three primary antiviral medications: valacyclovir, famciclovir, or acyclovir. For a duration of seven to ten days, take 400 mg of acyclovir three times a day, 250 mg of famciclovir three times a day, or 1 g of valacyclovir two times a day. Once the patient and the optimal management plan have been discussed, several formulations and therapy courses should be initiated.

**Gonorrhoea:** main treatment and management should be bolstered by the history, physical examination, and clinical presentation. It is important to take into account and treat concurrently any coinfections with the most prevalent STDs. One dosage of an IV or IM third-generation cephalosporin (ceftriaxone 500 mg) is recommended. Ceftriaxone 1 g once or every 24 hours is required for infections that are complicated or widespread, depending on how they appear clinically. An alternate regimen of one oral dosage of azithromycin (2 g) and one intramuscular injection of gentamicin (240 mg) is advised if the patient is allergic to ceftriaxone or cephalosporins. If ceftriaxone is not available,

800 mg of cefixime taken orally is the suggested substitute. A week of doxycycline 100 mg twice a day is advised for chlamydial coinfections. HIV: Determining the patient's viral load and CD4 count, as well as initiating highly active antiretroviral medication (HAART), comprise primary treatment and care. It is advised to seek guidance from an infectious disease specialist knowledgeable about HIV therapies to ascertain the best course of action and whether antiretroviral therapy is required. A single combination medicine should be begun with thorough monitoring if a patient is seen for an urgent issue, such as sexual assault or exposure to an STI through high-risk sexual activity with a concern for HIV. Antiviral treatment ought to begin very early. Less than 200 copies/mL of a virus makes it almost non-transmissible. For all high-risk, sexually active patients who test negative for HIV-1, pre-exposure prophylaxis is advised. HAART comprises the subsequent courses: Inhibitors of nucleoside/nucleotide reverse transcriptase. combinations of fixed-dose NRTIs. reverse transcriptase inhibitors that are not nucleosides. inhibitors of integrases. Inhibitors of Protease. Inhibitors of fusion. antagonist of chemokine receptor 5. inhibitors of post-attachment(19,20,32,37–42).

## **DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION**

Our review articles begin with an introduction to sexually transmitted infections (STIs), covering its many origins, epidemiology, and alternate therapy. Our findings indicate that although medications are useful in the treatment of sexually transmitted infections (STIs), they are not a cure for all illnesses. To address sexually transmitted illnesses, more randomized controlled trials are needed (STIs). In the future, we want to do a preliminary investigation on sexually transmitted infections (STIs). With the assistance of our colleagues, future counseling-based research in our country or state will assess patients' mental and physical health and offer more accurate information on sexually transmitted diseases (STIs) and their treatment.

## **ETHICAL STATEMENT**

Maintain a high standard of conduct and tell the truth in all of our contacts and work-related activities. Let us be truthful in our speech and behaviour.

## **INFORMED CONSENT**

Using websites, review articles, and other sources to produce research content.

## **REFERENCES**

1. Smith L, Angarone MP. Sexually Transmitted Infections. *Urol Clin North Am*. 2015 Nov;42(4):507–18.
2. Wagenlehner FME, Brockmeyer NH, Discher T, Friese K, Wichelhaus TA. The Presentation, Diagnosis, and Treatment of Sexually Transmitted Infections. *Dtsch Arztebl Int*. 2016 Jan;113(1–02):11–22.
3. Low N, Broutet N, Adu-Sarkodie Y, Barton P, Hossain M, Hawkes S. Global control of

- sexually transmitted infections. *Lancet*. 2006;368(9551):2001–16.
4. Andrist LC. Taking a sexual history and educating clients about safe sex. *Nurs Clin North Am*. 1988 Dec;23(4):959–73.
  5. Huynh K, Kahwaji CI. HIV Testing. In *Treasure Island (FL)*; 2024.
  6. Bray F, Ferlay J, Soerjomataram I, Siegel RL, Torre LA, Jemal A. Global cancer statistics 2018: GLOBOCAN estimates of incidence and mortality worldwide for 36 cancers in 185 countries. *CA Cancer J Clin*. 2018 Nov;68(6):394–424.
  7. James C, Harfouche M, Welton NJ, Turner KM, Abu-Raddad LJ, Gottlieb SL, et al. Herpes simplex virus: global infection prevalence and incidence estimates, 2016. *Bull World Health Organ*. 2020 May;98(5):315–29.
  8. Dalby J, Stoner BP. Sexually Transmitted Infections: Updates From the 2021 CDC Guidelines. *Am Fam Physician*. 2022 May;105(5):514–20.
  9. Mohseni M, Sung S, Takov V. Chlamydia. In *Treasure Island (FL)*; 2024.
  10. Workowski KA, Bolan GA. Sexually transmitted diseases treatment guidelines, 2015. *MMWR Recomm reports Morb Mortal Wkly report Recomm reports*. 2015 Jun;64(RR-03):1–137.
  11. Bugg CW, Taira T, Zaurova M. Pelvic inflammatory disease: diagnosis and treatment in the emergency department [digest]. *Emerg Med Pract*. 2016 Dec;18(12 Suppl Points & Pearls):S1–2.
  12. Farley TM, Samuelson J, Grabowski MK, Ameyan W, Gray RH, Baggaley R. Impact of male circumcision on the risk of HIV infection in men in a changing epidemic context - systematic review and meta-analysis. *J Int AIDS Soc*. 2020 Jun;23(6):e25490.
  13. Gray R, Kigozi G, Kong X, Ssempiija V, Makumbi F, Watty S, et al. The effectiveness of male circumcision for HIV prevention and effects on risk behaviours in a posttrial follow-up study. *AIDS*. 2012 Mar;26(5):609–15.
  14. Hook EW 3rd. Syphilis. *Lancet (London, England)*. 2017 Apr;389(10078):1550–7.
  15. Mathew Jr J, Sapra A. Herpes Simplex Type 2. In *Treasure Island (FL)*; 2024.
  16. Saleh D, Yarrarapu SNS, Sharma S. Herpes Simplex Type 1. In *Treasure Island (FL)*; 2024.
  17. Irizarry L, Velasquez J, Wray AA. Chancroid. In *Treasure Island (FL)*; 2024.
  18. Springer C, Salen P. Gonorrhea. In *Treasure Island (FL)*; 2024.
  19. Santiago-Wickey JN, Crosby B. Granuloma Inguinale. In *Treasure Island (FL)*; 2024.
  20. Luria L, Cardoza-Favarato G. Human Papillomavirus. In *Treasure Island (FL)*; 2024.
  21. Rawla P, Thandra KC, Limaiem F. Lymphogranuloma Venereum. In *Treasure Island (FL)*; 2024.

22. Capriotti T. HIV/AIDS: An Update for Home Healthcare Clinicians. *Home Health now*. 2018;36(6):348–55.
23. Swinkels HM, Justiz Vaillant AA, Nguyen AD, Gulick PG. HIV and AIDS. In *Treasure Island (FL)*; 2024.
24. Chesson HW, Heffelfinger JD, Voigt RF, Collins D. Estimates of primary and secondary syphilis rates in persons with HIV in the United States, 2002. *Sex Transm Dis*. 2005 May;32(5):265–9.
25. Clinicians H. HIV / AIDS An Update for Home. 2018;
26. Garcia MR, Leslie SW, Wray AA. Sexually Transmitted Infections. [Updated 2024 Apr 20]. In: StatPearls [Internet]. Treasure Island (FL): StatPearls Publishing; 2024 Jan-. Available from: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK560808/>. 2024;560808.
27. Guaschino S. [Complications of sexually transmitted diseases: clinical course and treatment]. *Ann Ist Super Sanita*. 2000;36(4):431–5.
28. Waymack JR, Sundareshan V. Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome. In *Treasure Island (FL)*; 2024.
29. Xu F, Sternberg MR, Kottiri BJ, McQuillan GM, Lee FK, Nahmias AJ, et al. Trends in herpes simplex virus type 1 and type 2 seroprevalence in the United States. *JAMA*. 2006 Aug;296(8):964–73.
30. Cook RL, Hutchison SL, Østergaard L, Braithwaite RS, Ness RB. Systematic review: noninvasive testing for *Chlamydia trachomatis* and *Neisseriagonorrhoeae*. *Ann Intern Med*. 2005 Jun;142(11):914–25.
31. Glatz M, Juricevic N, Altwegg M, Bruisten S, Komericki P, Lautenschlager S, et al. A multicenter prospective trial to assess a new real-time polymerase chain reaction for detection of *Treponema pallidum*, herpes simplex-1/2 and *Haemophilus ducreyi* in genital, anal and oropharyngeal ulcers. *Clin Microbiol Infect Off Publ Eur Soc Clin Microbiol Infect Dis*. 2014 Dec;20(12):O1020-7.
32. Jennings LK, Krywko DM. Pelvic Inflammatory Disease. In *Treasure Island (FL)*; 2024.
33. Bachmann LH, Johnson RE, Cheng H, Markowitz L, Papp JR, Palella FJJ, et al. Nucleic acid amplification tests for diagnosis of *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* and *Chlamydia trachomatis* rectal infections. *J Clin Microbiol*. 2010 May;48(5):1827–32.
34. Meyer T. Diagnostic Procedures to Detect *Chlamydia trachomatis* Infections. *Microorganisms*. 2016 Aug;4(3).
35. Meites E, Gaydos CA, Hobbs MM, Kissinger P, Nyirjesy P, Schwebke JR, et al. A Review of Evidence-Based Care of Symptomatic Trichomoniasis and Asymptomatic *Trichomonas vaginalis* Infections. *Clin Infect Dis an Off Publ Infect Dis Soc Am*. 2015 Dec;61 Suppl 8(Suppl 8):S837-48.
36. Rupp TJ, Leslie SW. Epididymitis. In *Treasure Island (FL)*; 2024.
37. Mansour T, Limaiem F. Cervical Screening. In *Treasure Island (FL)*; 2024.

38. Kemnic TR, Gulick PG. HIV Antiretroviral Therapy. In Treasure Island (FL); 2024.
39. Montauk SL, Mandell K. Update on drug therapy for HIV and related infections in adults. *Am Fam Physician*. 1992 Dec;46(6):1772–81.
40. Richens J. Donovanosis (granuloma inguinale). *Sex Transm Infect*. 2006 Dec;82 Suppl 4(Suppl 4):iv21-2.
41. No Title. Geneva; 2016.
42. Leslie SW, Sajjad H, Kumar S. Genital Warts. In Treasure Island (FL); 2024.

UNDER PEER REVIEW