

Thesis Title Risk Factors of HIV Infection in Reproductive
 Women at Chiangrai Hospital

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Abstract

A Case-Control study was conducted to compare the risk factors of HIV infection among reproductive women. It attempted to determine the relative odds between suspected factors and HIV infection. Three hundred and twenty four samples were collected from women, 15 to 44 years of age, who attended Antenatal clinic, Well-baby Clinic and Obstetric unit at Chiangrai Hospital. Cases were 108 HIV positive women and controls were 216 HIV negative women. Data collection was done through interview, using structured questionnaire, regarding the risk factors of HIV infection and demographic characteristics.

Factors found to be associated with HIV infection in univariate analysis were age, education, duration (years) of marriage, the order of pregnancy, number of living sibling, ear piercing, history of receiving parenteral medication from non M-D,

history of sexually transmitted diseases, characteristics of first sexual partner, age at first sexual intercourse, extramarital sexual activity, history of prostitution, and also included husband's sexual behavior such as extramarital sexual activity, history of having sex with prostitutes and sexually transmitted diseases. Out of these, only two factors were identified to confirm it's relationship with HIV infection in further analysis by multiple logistic regression. They were husband's history of sexually transmitted diseases and order of pregnancy whereas the multivariate relative odds for HIV infection was 6.6 (95%CI for OR 3.6,11.9) and 3.6 (95%CI for OR 1.9,6.7), respectively.

The result of this study suggested the need for a more comprehensive control programme for sexually trasmitted diseases in the population. Every prospective pregnant women should have their blood tested for HIV infection. The control programme for HIV infection in reproductive women should also include factors such as extramarital sexual activity and a history of prostitution into consideration, as they were contributing factors to the spread of sexually trasmitted diseases in the population, although they were not found significant in advanced analysis.