Human Immunodeficiency Virus in ENT Practice- Its Presentation & Diagnosis

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Abstract:

HIV is a pandemic infection with cases notified in almost all countries. The reported prevalence of symptoms in the head and neck is about 80%; otolaryngologists may be the first physician to see such patients. Oral manifestations are the most common, followed by neck and sinus manifestations. Otolaryngologic symptoms may be important signs of antiretroviral therapy failure. Symptoms are present in acute infections and advanced cases.

Otorhinolaryngology (ENT) diseases in patients living with Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (HIV/ AIDS) are relatively common and of concern to ENT specialists and other health professionals.

Aim: To increase the level of awareness on HIV manifestation in ENT to Otolaryngologists.

Material and Methods: This was a prospective study with data collection, conducted over a period of two years on a group of 15 patients. The study was carried out at the Government ENT Hospital, India.

Results: Age incidence <10yrs-1 (6%), 10-20 yrs-0 (0%), 20-30 yrs-5 (25%), 30-40 yrs-5 (31.2%). Sex incidence male 12, female 4. Mode of transmission Sexual -14, Blood transmission -1, vertical transmission -1. Otolaryngological symptoms and signs: Ear-1, Nose-3, Oral cavity-3, Neck swellings-3, orbit-1,tuberculosis-4 (cervical lymphadenopathy)

Conclusion: Otorhinolaryngology diseases were frequent in HIV positive patients. They may constitute the first reason for consultation and ENT specialists must be prepared to identify such cases. Maintain a high index of suspicion of HIV, imperative to screen such patients for early and accurate diagnosis. Counselling the patient which helps the patient and the caregivers in understanding, accepting, adjusting on surviving with the disease. Clinical cases will be presented during the conference.