

Oral predictors of immunosuppression among apparently health population of HIV infected patients in south western Uganda

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Although many high-quality HIV diagnostic tests are available in the developed world, they are neither affordable nor accessible in rural communities of developing countries. One alternative to improving disease diagnosis may be the use of clinical diagnostic surrogates

Objective: To outline oral manifestations that could predict of immunosuppression in apparently health population of people living with HIV in resource poor South Western Uganda

Methods: Visual oral inspection of apparently health 605 HIV seropositive patients attending clinics in South Western district of Uganda was done. Well-nourished apparently healthy seropositive patients belonging to HIV clinical stage one and or stage two, were selected for this survey. Standard methods were used to reconfirm the HIV status and clinical staging possible oral manifestations.

Result: Two hundred and nineteen (219) HIV clients were diagnosed with early signs of oral manifestation which included 140 (63.9%) Pseudomembranous Candidiasis, 7 (3.2%), Angular Chelitis 53 (24.2%) Erythematous Candidiasis, 9 (4.1%) Oral Kaposi sarcoma and 10 (4.6%) intra oral pigmentation. The key to effective prevention of disease transmission lies on the ability to detect apparently health but infected individuals from among the population long before the disease becomes overt. Poor resources significantly impacts on ability to screen the wider population and hence the need to report screening methods that will achieve a lot with minimum resources of mere visual mouth inspection.

Conclusion: Visual oral inspection of apparently healthy HIV seropositive individuals could reveal clinically based indicators of immunosuppression that can be used as diagnostic surrogate in resource limited settings.

Biography

Agwu Ezera has completed his Ph.D at the age of 25 years from Ambrose Alli University, Ekpoma Nigeria and postdoctoral research while employed at Kampala International University, Western campus, [KIU-WC] Uganda. He is the Dean, School of Allied Health Sciences KIU-WC and has published more than 25 papers in reputed journals presented many papers in international conferences and serving as an editorial board member of reputable journals.

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