

# CHARACTERIZATION OF DEMOGRAPHICS AND OPPORTUNISTIC INFECTIONS OF HIV/AIDS PATIENTS HOSPITALIZED IN TIANJIN, CHINA AFTER IMPLEMENTATION OF PROPHYLAXIS GUIDELINES

## Authors:

Shankar S<sup>1</sup>, Ma P<sup>2</sup>, Menezes L<sup>3</sup>, Mhaskar R<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Morsani College of Medicine, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL, USA;

<sup>2</sup>Infectious Disease and Sexually Transmitted Diseases Department, Tianjin Second People's Hospital, Tianjin, China; <sup>3</sup>Division of Infectious Disease and International Medicine, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL, USA; <sup>4</sup>Department of Internal Medicine, Morsani College of Medicine, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL, USA

## Background:

China's HIV epidemic has been understudied and difficult to characterize due to significant variation among its provinces. This study assesses reasons for hospitalization among HIV patients receiving care at an infectious disease hospital in Tianjin city, China.

## Methods:

Data were abstracted from 223 patients (95.5% male; 4.5% female) hospitalized from January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2015 at the Tianjin Second People's Hospital, Tianjin, China. All diagnoses at time of admission were included; and opportunistic infections (OIs) were identified based on CDC and WHO guidelines. Frequencies were computed for demographic and clinical factors and the Chi square test was utilized to determine their association with number of OIs.

## Results:

Median age of patients was 42.9 (range, 19 – 76) years. Mode of HIV transmission was predominantly 47.5% men who have sex with men (MSM); 25.6% heterosexual, and 16.1% unknown. Admission CD4 was <50 cells/μl, among 53% of patients; 50 to <200 cells/μl in 25.9% of patients; 200 to <350 cells/μl in 11.4% of patients; and ≥350 cells/μl in 9.7% of patients. Nearly 87% of hospitalized patients were diagnosed with an OI at admission, with 47.1% having ≥2 OIs. Most common OIs were pneumonia at 47.5% (19.8% bacterial, 58.4% fungal, 8.5% bacterial and fungal, 0.9% cryptococcal, and 12.3% unspecified); syphilis (29.6%); oral candidiasis (22.0%); *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (9.9%); cytomegalovirus (7.6%); hepatitis B (6.3%); and hepatitis C (5.8%). Patients with syphilis (n=66) were 54.5% MSM and 25.8% heterosexual. Admission CD4 was inversely associated with number of OIs (p=0.001).

## Conclusion:

Hospitalized HIV-infected patients were predominantly middle-aged males being treated for pneumonia or sexually transmitted infections. The high degree of morbidity, two decades post-antiretroviral therapy, suggests the need for early detection of HIV, regular monitoring of disease progression, as well as adherence to ART and prophylaxis.

## Disclosure of Interest Statement:

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