

Risk factors of vertical transmission among children attending the ICTC BHU Varanasi

T.B. Singh^{*}, R.N. Mishra^{*}, Ajay Singh^{} and A.K. Gulati^{***}**

^{*} Reader, Division of Biostatistics,

^{*}Professor, Division of Biostatistics

^{**} Research Scholar, Deptt. Of Pediatrics,

^{***} Prof. and Head, Deptt. Of Microbiology.

Institute of Medical Sciences, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi 221005

Abstract

The prevalence of HIV/AIDS is increasing at national and international level. Its positivity is influencing the acceptance of these cases in the society as well as their quality of life. The objectives of this study are to find out the prevalence and risk factors with 95% CI and status of presenting various morbidities.

The study was conducted on 436 children in the age group 0-14 years, out of 5400 screened cases during the period September, 2006 to August, 2007 at ICTC, IMS, BHU, Varanasi, who visited the S.S. Hospital, for their treatment or called for screening if their parent was HIV positive. Two to three ml blood sample was collected in a plain vial and HIV testing was done by strategy II/III guidelines of WHO/NACO. χ^2 test has been applied to find out the significant factors. Multinomial logistic regression method was used to compute the Odds ratio and adjusted odd ratio (95% CI) for the risk factors of HIV.

The prevalence of HIV was 17.9% among children in the age group 0-14 years ranging from 16.9% in rural to 23.2% in urban. Odds ratio was 1.49 with 95% CI (0.80-2.77). The positivity rate was observed 20.4% and 26.7% in the age group 0-4 and 5-9 years with zero positivity in the age group 10-14 years. The prevalence was approximately double in the joint family (22.7%) as compared to nuclear family (12.6%). About 50% prevalence was observed among the children suffering with weakness, loose motion, tuberculosis & anorexia. Both father and mother of positive children had the positive status. 82.1% father and 76.1% mother of all study subjects were HIV positive. More than one fourth children had loosed their father/mother or both. These children are innocent but facing the problem of acceptance in society, care by the parents, co-morbidities, quality of life etc. due to activities performed by the parents.