

Epidemiology of *Trichomonas vaginalis* infection among infertile women in Gaza city, Palestine

ABSTRACT

OBJECTIVES: The present study was conducted to determine the prevalence and risk factors associated with Trichomoniasis infection among infertile women in Gaza city, Palestine.

MATERIALS AND METHODS: A descriptive analytical cross sectional study was conducted between December 2013 to April 2014 in Al Basma medical center in Gaza city. A total of 120 endocervical swabs were collected from females attending the center for management of delayed conception. The samples were processed using PCR technique with Tv1-Tv2 primers. A structured questionnaire was conducted with all participants regarding sociodemographic data, risk factors and symptomatology.

RESULTS: The prevalence of *T. vaginalis* was 5.8%. Statistical significant relation ($P=0.01$) was found between infection and age of patient, age at marriage, no history of previous vaginal infection and inguinal erythema. Higher infection rate was found among women who were unemployed, of preparatory educational level, from Mid zone, living in crowded house and married to smoker husband.

CONCLUSION: We concluded that the prevalence of Trichomoniasis is attributed to iatrogenic causes mainly not to personal hygiene. We recommend more hygienic measures inspection in Gynecology clinics in Gaza Strip.

CLINICAL SIGNIFICANCE: Avoidance of iatrogenic contamination with *Trichomonas vaginalis* should be conceded among Gynaecologists, so, this will decrease the transmission.

Keywords: Prevalence, *Trichomonas vaginalis*, infertility, Gaza, PCR.