DETECTION OF CANDIDA: DO THEY DIFFER IN HIV POSITIVE INDIVIDUALS WITH AND WITHOUT ART?

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Abstract:

Introduction: Candida albicans is the most commonly isolated pathogen in individuals with HIV. However, there is some resistance to antifungal therapy in many of the HIV patients. This could be attributed to certain other species of candida that might be present in the oral cavity of these individuals. There also may be a difference in the oral manifestations and the candidal species in HIV patients with & without ART. Hence the present study was planned so as to compare the oral manifestations, CD 4 count, and identify & compare the common candidal species in HIV patients with and without ART.

Material and methods: A total of 60 participants were enrolled in the study divided into two groups: Group I (30 participants) - HIV positive without ART. Group II (30 participants)-HIV positive with ART of minimum 1 year duration. Oral manifestations and CD4 count of both groups of all participants were recorded and swabs were collected from the lesions usually the most prominent lesions using a swab stick and transferred to SDA tubes for culture. After 24 hours the growth that was obtained was further subcultured in Chromagar and checked for colonies of different species based on characteristic colour. The data obtained were entered in master chart.

Results: Statistical Analysis being done.

This study might help to find out whether there is any difference in oral manifestations or any change in candidal species in HIV positive participants with and without ART.