

**INTRODUCTION AND
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Gardnerella (G.) *vaginalis*, previously known as *Haemophilus* (H.) *vaginalis* and *Corynebacterium* *vaginale*, is a small Gram-negative or Gram-variable bacillus (Woolfrey et al., 1986).

The organism was first described by Leopold in 1953. In 1955, Gardner and Dukes isolated it from 92% of cases of non-specific vaginitis and proposed the name "*Haemophilus vaginalis*" (Dunkelburg, 1977).

In 1983, the term Bacterial vaginosis was eventually introduced in an international conference to replace the term *Haemophilus vaginalis* vaginitis (Per-Goran, 1989).

G. vaginalis is also found in the urethra of most male partners of women patients and probably is often transmitted by sexual contact (Duguid, 1989).

If *G. vaginalis* associated with bacterial vaginosis is sexually transmitted, the likely medium would be semen (Ison and Easmon, 1985).

In fact, it is now reputed to be the most prevalent and one of the most contagious of all sexually transmitted diseases. It harbours asymptotically in the male urethra

and, on occasion, manifests itself clinically in a wide range of male genito-urinary problems (Watson, 1985).

AIM OF STUDY:

This work was carried out to study the incidence of Gardnerella vaginalis among a group of 40 infertile male patients, 20 fertile males and the possibility of its relation to male infertility.