
chlamydial infection of female genital system

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This work was aimed of detection of *C. trachomatis* by direct methods in non pregnant women of the child bearing period. These laboratory techniques were: 1- Giemsa stain technique. 2- Direct immuno fluorescence technique. 3- Tissue culture technique using BGM monolayer cells. Group I : 200 women suffered from some lower genital tract symptoms and/or signs were taken as cases. while Group II 100 women not complaining from any lower genital tract symptoms or signs were taken as control. Study groups (cases and controls) were divided into subgroups according to symptoms, signs, age, residence, number of abortion(s), use of contraceptive method, week of menstrual cycle, and fertility condition. It is concluded that Tissue culture technique for detection of *C. trachomatis* is better than Giemsa stain and DFA techniques. *C. trachomatis* infection were present in both cases and controls. Prevalence of positive results of *C. trachomatis* were significantly lower in control group. Younger women were more positive for *C. trachomatis* infection. Women from rural areas were more significantly positive for *C. trachomatis* infection. Women using contraceptive pills were more significantly positive than those using other contraception methods. Detection of *C. trachomatis* were more significantly positive during second and third week of menstrual cycle. Infertile women were more significantly positive for *C. trachomatis* infection. Women had abnormal cervix were more significantly positive for *C. trachomatis* infection. Recommendations: It is better to use more than one method for diagnosis of chlamydial infections to get the actual results about the disease, evaluate the magnitude of the problem, and then establish the ideal lines for eradication of this agent from the community. Chlamydial infection is notoriously a disease of poverty, lack of water, and poor hygiene. Initiating efforts to control this disease requires an awareness of the problem by both public health authorities and the population concerned. The success of mass campaigns depends greatly on education, finance and politics. Further studies should be carried out to assess the Chlamydial role in genital infections in our community. Although tissue culture is the method of choice for identification of endocervical chlamydial infection, immunofluorescence test can be used as an alternative method to tissue culture for detection of *C. trachomatis* infection in high prevalence women. The DFA test appears to be rapid, it could be done within 30 minutes. Careful training in reading DFA smears, will be critical in the resulting sensitivity and specificity of the test. Knowing how to recognize artifacts and to differentiate them from elementary bodies, reticulate bodies is of importance.