



HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS (HIV)

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LECTURE CONTENT ANALYSIS

CORE CONTENT	60%
HORIZONTAL INTEGRATION	20%
VERTICAL INTEGRATION	15%
RESEARCH & ETHICS	5%

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Origin HIV Life Cycle **≻Prevalence** Diagnosis
Transmission
Treatment
Prevention

What is AIDS?Clinical features

INTRODUCTION

- HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) is a virus that attacks the body's immune system. If HIV is not treated, it can lead to AIDS (acquired immunodeficiency syndrome).
- There is currently no effective cure. Once people get HIV, they have it for life.
- But with proper medical care, HIV can be controlled. People with HIV who get effective HIV treatment can live long, healthy lives and protect their partners.

HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS - HIV



WHAT IS HIV?

- Enveloped ribonucleic acid (RNA) retrovirus.
- Lentivirus family.
- HIV genome: 3 retroviral genes (gag, pol, and env) and 6 regulatory genes.
 Species: HIV 1, HIV 2





EPIDEMIOLOGY:

- ➢The acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) was first recognized in **1981.**
- ➢Earliest documented case of HIV infection: Democratic Republic of Congo in **1959.**
- HIV is a zoonotic infection with simian immunodeficiency viruses (SIV) from African primates, probably first infecting local hunters.
- ➢HIV-1 was transmitted from Chimpanzees and HIV-2 from Sooty Mangabey monkeys.

EPIDEMIOLOGY:

• HIV-1 is the cause of the global HIV pandemic.

- There are three groups of HIV-1, representing three separate transmission events from chimpanzees: M ('major', worldwide distribution), O ('outlier') and N ('non-major and non-outlier').
- Group M consists of nine subtypes: A-D, F-H, J and K.
- Subtype C (which predominates in sub-Saharan Africa and India) accounts for half of infections and appears to be more readily transmitted.

PREVALENCE

- HIV continues to be a major global public health issue, having claimed 36.3 million [27.2-47.8 million] lives so far.
- There were an estimated **37.7 million** [30.2-45.1 million] people living with HIV at the end of 2020, over two thirds of whom (25.4 million) are in the WHO African Region.
- In 2020, 680 000 [480 000-1.0 million] people died from HIV-related causes and 1.5 million [1.0-2.0 million] people acquired HIV.

TRANSMISSION OF HIV

Fluids that transmit HIV

- Blood
- Semen
- Vaginal Secretions
- Breast Milk
- Internal Fluids
- Cerebro-Spinal Fluid
- Amniotic Fluid

Fluids that do not transmit HIV (unless blood is present)

- Saliva
- Urine
- Tears
- Sweat
- Feces





Figure 2: HIV life cycle showing the sites of action of different classes of antiretroviral drugs Adapted from Walker and colleagues,³⁶ by permission of Elsevier.

CLINICAL FEATRES OF HIV:

- Seroconversion illness seen in 10% of individuals a few (2 to 4) weeks after exposure and coincides with seroconversion. Presents with an infectious mononucleosis like illness.(fever, malaise, myalgias, pharyngitis, mucopapular rash, meningoencephalitis rare)
- Latent period This is the period when the patient is completely asymptomatic and may vary from a few months to a more than 10 years. The median incubation period is 8-10 years.
- AIDS-related complex or persistent generalized lymphadenopathy.
 Defined as a prodrome to AIDS. May exhibit enlarged lymph nodes, fatigue, fever, night sweats, weight loss, and unexplained diarrhea, but do not have any of the more serious complications of AIDS.
- Full-blown AIDS. Characterized by the development of opportunistic infections.

HIV infection/AIDS

Epidemiology

Incidence (US) ~ 38,000; worldwide ~ 1.7 million (2018) Peak incidence between ages 20 and 30 AIDS peak incidence approx. age 45

Prevalence (US) ~1.1 million; worldwide ~ 38 million (2018)

Etiology

Human immunodeficiency virus Transmission: sexual, parenteral, vertical

Clinical stages

Acute infection - fever, fatigue, lymphadenopathy Latent period - asymptomatic or non-AIDSdefining conditions AIDS-defining conditions

Diagnosis

Screening test (e.g. combination antigen/antibody immunoassay) Confirmatory test (e.g. antibody differentiation immunoassay)

Complications include

wasting syndrome, HIV encephalopathy, HIV-associated risk of cardiovascular disease, opportunistic infections, malignancies

KAPOSI SARCOMA

HAIRY LEUCOPLAKIA

ESOPHAGEAL CANDIASIS

TABLE 68-6Interpretation of laboratory tests in diagnosis of HIV		
Test	Purpose	
Serology		
Antibody demonstration		
ELISA	Screening test	
Rapid tests: dot blot assay, latex agglutination, HIV spot, and comb test	Screening test	
Western blot	Confirmation test	
Indirect immunofluorescence test	Confirmation test	
Antigen detection		
p24 antigen	Early marker of infection	
Molecular diagnosis		
Branched-chain DNA	Detection of virus in blood	
Viral RNA RT-PCR	Detection of virus in blood	
Isolation of virus	Test not readily available	
CD4: CD8 T-cell ratio	Correlates of human immunodeficiency virus disea	

LABORATORY INVESTIGATI ONS FOR THE DIAGNOSIS OF HIV

Antibody Tests

ELISA: Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay

- Screening test for antibodies (blood test)
- If result is positive, the test is performed again to rule out a false-positive.
- If result is positive again, the sample is sent for a Western Blot test.

Western Blot

- A Western blot test is typically used to confirm a positive HIV diagnosis. During the test, a small sample of blood is taken, and it is used to detect HIV antibodies, not the HIV virus itself.
- The Western blot test separates the blood proteins and detects the specific proteins (called HIV antibodies) that indicate an HIV infection. The Western blot is used to confirm a positive ELISA, and the combined tests are 99.9% accurate.

Picture of Western Blot

Need atleast three bands to confirm sample is positive. So sample no. 2 is positive

ANTIRETROVIRAL DRUG THERAPY (ART)

ART has transformed HIV from a progressive illness with a fatal outcome into a chronic manageable disease with a near-normal life expectancy.

The goals of ART are to:

- Reduce the viral load to an undetectable level for as long as possible
- Improve the CD4 count to over 200 cells/mm3 so that severe HIV-related disease is unlikely.
- Improve the quantity and quality of life without unacceptable drug toxicity
- Reduce HIV transmission.

Six months after using antiretroviral therapy

TYPES OF ANTIRETROVIRAL DRUGS

CLASSES	DRUGS
Nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NRTIs)	Abacavir, Emtricitabine, Lamivudine, Tenofovir
Non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTIs)	Efavirenz, Rilpivirine (only if viral load < 100 000)
Protease inhibitors (PIs)	Atazanavir, darunavir, lopinavir
Integrase inhibitors	Dolutegravir, bictegravir

Preferred agents for first-line ART globally are a second-generation integrase inhibitor (bictegravir or dolutegravir) combined with the NRTIs tenofovir plus emtricitabine or lamivudine

WHO AIDS STAGING

STAGE I	STAGE 2	STAGE 3	STAGE 4
Asymptomatic	Moderate unexpected weight loss	Unexpected severe weight loss	HIV wasting syndrome
Persistent generalized Recurrent respiratory lymphadenopathy tract infection Herpes Zoster Angular Cheilitis Fungal nail infection	Persistent oral candidisis	Pneumocystic pneumonia	
	Herpes Zoster	Pulmonary tuberculosis	Karposi sarcoma
		Extra pulmonary tuberculosis	

WHEN TO START ANTIRETROVIRAL THERAPY?

- ART should be initiated in all adults living with HIV, regardless of WHO clinical stage and at any CD4 cell count (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence).
- As a priority, ART should be initiated in all adults with severe or advanced HIV clinical disease (WHO clinical stage 3 or 4) and adults with CD4 count ≤350 cells/mm3 (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence).
- ART should be initiated in all pregnant and breastfeeding women living with HIV regardless of WHO clinical stage and at any CD4 cell count and continued lifelong (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence).

PREVENTIVE MEASURES:

- Avoidance of used syringes, or practice of sharing needles
- $\circ\,$ Protected sex
- Post-exposure Prophylaxis a preventative treatment that uses antiretroviral drugs to treat individuals within 72 hours of high-risk exposure (ex. needle stick injury, unprotected sex, needle sharing)
- HIV positive pregnant woman is prescribed HIV medicines throughout pregnancy and childbirth, and HIV medicine is given to the baby for 4 to 6 weeks after giving birth, reducing risk of transmitting HIV to the baby to 1% or less.
- After delivery, avoidance of breast feeding to the child.

Reduce your risk of getting HIV by:

Using condoms

Ensuring that your partners who are living with HIV are taking treatment

Using PrEP to prevent getting HIV if you have ongoing risk, including during pregnancy

Using sterile needles and syringes for all injections Getting tested and treated for sexually transmitted infections

Guidelines for HIV post-exposure prophylaxis

22 JULY 2024

Guidelines for HIV post-exposure prophylaxis

WHO's updated PEP guidelines prioritize broader access to PEP, including community-based delivery and task sharing to mitigate barriers such as stigma...

ETHICAL ISSUES RELATED TO HIV

- **1. Informed Consent Principle:** Patients must be fully informed about the HIV test, its implications, and the need for consent before testing.
- **2. Confidentiality and Privacy Principle:** HIV status is highly sensitive information that must be protected.
- **3. Duty to Warn vs. Patient Confidentiality Principle:** Balancing patient confidentiality with protecting others from harm.
- **4. Stigma and Discrimination Principle:** Every patient deserves unbiased, non-discriminatory healthcare.