Title: The Frequency of Chlamydia and Gonorrhea in Women Aged 25 and Below in an Urban Emergency Department

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Women aged between 14 and 24 are the most disproportionately affected population by chlamydia and gonorrhea in the United States. This study was performed to assess the frequency of chlamydia and gonorrhea in women under the age of 26 in an urban Emergency Department (ED) and treat those diagnosed to prevent adverse effects of infection. This descriptive study was conducted over 3 months in the ED at Jacobi Medical Center and North Central Bronx Hospital. Trained Public Health Advocates identified women under 26 and requested consent for chlamydia and gonorrhea testing. Participants completed a survey about patient demographics and risk factors. 443 patients tested for chlamydia and gonorrhea in both hospitals. The mean age was 29 ± 10.2 and 73.1% were females. Of the total tested, 50 women aged under 26 completed the survey. 50% were Hispanic, which highly represents the hospital demographic. Risk factors, as per CDC criterion, included: inconsistent condom use (71.4%), multiple sex partners (28%), ever having an STD (22%), and meeting a new sex partner(s) within the last 3 months (10.4%). Of the total tested, there were 89 chlamydia cases and 17 gonorrhea cases. 30.3% of the chlamydia cases and 11.8% of the gonorrhea cases were asymptomatic. All gonorrhea cases were treated and 94.4% of the chlamydia patients received treatment. Implementing screening programs in urban Emergency Departments as a non-traditional testing site is promising and highly accepted. For future analysis, we will continue collecting data to calculate the prevalence of chlamydia and gonorrhea in this population.

Biography:

Dr. Yvette Calderon completed her Medical Degree in 1990 and her Masters of Science in 2005 at Albert Einstein College of Medicine. She is the Chief of Emergency Services at North Central Bronx Hospital and the Adult Urgent Care Director at Jacobi Medical Center in Bronx, NY. Dr. Yvette Calderon has been the principal investigator of multiple federally funded grants focusing on public health interventions in conjunction with Emergency Medicine. Her scientific interests include implementing ED-based prevention and testing campaigns to target uninsured minority patients.

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