



SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS, HIV/AIDS

## TRENDS IN SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS AT THE MILLENNIUM: EVIDENCE FROM BANGLADESH.

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**Introduction:** The burden of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) is huge and is disproportionately affecting developing nations. A variety of demographic and medical factors contributes to the high prevalence of STIs. Epidemiologically sound data on the prevalence of STIs are dearth in Bangladesh. The purpose of this study is to determine the prevalence and pattern of STIs in Chittagong, Bangladesh.

**Materials and Methods:** A descriptive retrospective cross-sectional study is carried out at a STI clinic in Chittagong Medical College Hospital using the registered records of patients between the periods 2009 and 2017.

**Results:** A total 30,151 patients were analyzed. Among the patients 21,746 (72%) were male and 8,405 (28%) were female. The mean age was  $30.94 \pm 0.001$  SEM. Common sexually transmitted infections were Non-gonococcal urethritis (31.37%), gonorrhea (27.81%), syphilis (18.06%), genital scabies (6.56%), chancroid (5.3%), genital herpes (4.8%) and genital wart (3.62%). Genital herpes was the most common viral STI and Human immunodeficiency virus (0.10%) infections were rare. Lymphogranuloma venereum, Granuloma inguinale, Hepatitis B and C virus infection was not found among the attendees.

**Conclusion:** Non-gonococcal urethritis is the most common discharging STI and syphilis is the most common ulcerative STI. Viral STIs are in increasing trends also. We hope that reporting this unique presentation of STIs in Bangladesh will be of educational value and help increase awareness and possible options for planning and managing STIs.

**Key words:** Sexually transmitted infections, Prevalence, Bangladesh.

