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MED LAB TP

PREVALENCE OF TRICHOMONASIS
AMONG PATIENTS ATTENDING NAIROBI
WOMENS' HOSPITAL

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ABSTRACT

Trichomonas vaginalis is a parasitic infection that is associated with the vagina, urethral and urinary tract of both males and females. The parasite was first isolated in 1836 by Donne and it's characterized by jerky motility in wet mounts. It's an obligate parasite and thus cannot live without close interaction of the vagina, urethral and prostrate tissue, the parasite inhabits the mucosa feeding on bacteria and leucocytes.

Human beings acquire infection basically through sexual contact. In Kenya, the parasite is mo prevalent in urban areas due to large number of commercial sex workers basically due to slums and poor sanitation. However, not all individuals exposed to the parasite exhibit clinical significance, especially in males which is asymptomatic and this is due to the high concentration of zinc in prostate fluid in the urogenital tract- high concentration of zinc has a lytic effect on the parasite and this is responsible for the itching and discomfort inside penile urethra especially during urination. The parasite only affects humans and thus no animal reservoir.

This research was geared towards establishment of the occurrence, prevalence and diagnosis of *trichomonas vaginalis* among patients attending Nairobi women hospital in hurlingham.

Both clinical and microscopic diagnostic procedures and kits were used in order to clearly differentiate *trichomonas vaginalis* from other species of trichomonas.

Results gotten will be used to educate others on long term effect of untreated *T.vaginalis* infection especially towards the prevalence of H.I.V and thus look for amicable ways to overcome such problems in the near future. With right data at hand we can create a positive impact on individual infected and/or affected to seek right medical attention incase of above manifestations.