

Keywords: sexually transmitted infections, adolescents, emergency medical services, public health

Trends in Sexually Transmitted Infections in the adolescent population: a cross-sectional study in a large region of northern Italy.

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Background: more than 1 million sexually transmitted infections (STIs) are acquired every day worldwide, representing a resurfacing public health concern, especially when involving the adolescent population. This intervention aims to describe the 10-year trend of STIs occurring among adolescents who refer to the Emergency Departments (ED) in one of the largest Regions in the north of Italy.

Methods: a cross-sectional study was performed in the Piedmont Region. Data were obtained from the Ministerial Health Information database for the period 2011-2020. All ED access among adolescents aged 11-19 years old were included, and reliable STIs were identified through International Classification of Diseases (ICD) codes. Age-specific and crude rates and ED access rates, with their 95% confidence intervals (CI), were calculated to estimate the STI ten years trend.

Results: a total of 1 219 075 ED visits occurred over the study period with an STI rate of 9.6 cases per 100.000 inhabitants, representing a total of 27.8 ED accesses rate per 100 000 visits. Most infections are among women (83.5%) and in the 17-19 years- old age group (71.5%). The crude infection rate increased from 2011 to 2019 (from 22.2 to 25.7 every 100 000 inhabitants), excluding a drop in 2014 registered both for the total ED accesses and the STIs rate. Due to the Pandemic, the 2020 STI rate showed a significant decrease (6.1×10^{-5}) compared to the previous years but representing an increase in the proportion of ED accesses, 29.2 compared to the 2019 accesses rate. Genital Herpes and Gonorrhoea were the most frequent condition diagnosed over the study period. Among all conditions, only genital warts showed a significant decrease over the study period from 1.5×10^{-5} in 2011 to 0.3×10^{-5} in 2020.

Conclusions: STIs are still a public health concern, especially among female teenagers. Together with the primary care settings, ED visits play an important role in STIs prevention, diagnosis, and treatment, particularly in asymptomatic conditions. Future research is needed to identify the determinants of such increase and to plan targeted screening interventions.

ID: 211

Oral Presentation

Topics: NEUROLOGY

Keywords: Headache, Diplopia, High intracranial pressure

Headache and diplopia in an adolescent

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Background: Idiopathic Intracranial Hypertension (IIH), also known as pseudotumor cerebri syndrome, is a rare disease in children. It is a complex condition characterized by headache, blurred vision and papilledema with persistently high intracranial pressure (ICP), normal cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) composition and normal neuroimaging results. It has the potential to cause profound,