Third Joint Conference of the British HIV Association (BHIVA) with the British Association for Sexual Health and HIV (BASHH)

1–4 April 2014

Arena and Convention Centre · Liverpool
Dr Juan Tiraboschi
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Acute Hepatitis C in the PROUD pilot study

Juan Tiraboschi, Liz Brodnicki, Brady Michael, John Saunders, Schembri Gabriel, Mark Roche, Julie Fox on behalf of the PROUD study
PROUD Pilot Study

Pre-exposure Option for reducing HIV in the UK: an open-label randomisation to immediate or Deferred daily Truvada for HIV negative gay men

http://www.proud.mrc.ac.uk/
Background

- Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) has proven biological efficacy to reduce the sexual acquisition of HIV\(^1\), but public health benefit is uncertain.
- Concerns about the effect of PrEP usage on risk behavior and acquisition of other STIs
- Excluding intravenous transmission, Hepatitis C (HCV) is almost exclusively found in HIV positive MSM. HCV testing is not routine in HIV negative MSM, so it is not included in the PROUD study

Methods

- **Past history of STIs** is collected at enrolment.
- **STI screens** are conducted at six monthly intervals, but results from additional routine screens are collected at each visit (three monthly).
- HCV antibody and raised ALT were **not** exclusion criteria in PROUD.
- Acute HCV **defined as**:
  - HCV RNA positive and anti HCV negative (with follow up)
  - HCV Ab/RNA positive with previous negative in 6 months
Results

- 393 participants enrolled by 31/12/2013
- 160 (41%) individuals had been tested on one or more occasion for HCV.
- HCV incidence in our cohort was 5/393:1.3%, and amongst those tested 5/160:3.1%.
## Case characteristics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site</th>
<th>Randomization</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Time from enrolment to HCV diagnosis (Days)</th>
<th>HCV RNA Baseline</th>
<th>Indication for HCV Testing</th>
<th>Symptoms/ALT</th>
<th>STI since enrolment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brighton</td>
<td>Immediate</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>25897630</td>
<td>Risk Behaviour</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barts</td>
<td>Immediate</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>11902147</td>
<td>Partner HCV (+)</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manchester</td>
<td>Deferred</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>16840207</td>
<td>Symptoms</td>
<td>Jaundice/</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Raised ALT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STH</td>
<td>Immediate</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>9003</td>
<td>Partner HCV (+)</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KLC</td>
<td>Deferred</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>-28</td>
<td>1,641,554</td>
<td>IDU</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Time since last HCV negative to HCV diagnosis
Conclusions

- There was an unexpected number of aHCV cases.
- HIV prevention studies should consider including HCV testing at baseline and follow-up as part of testing for other STIs.
- Undiagnosed acute HCV infection in MSM reporting high risk sex is a public health concern.
- Routine testing of HCV and ALT in the list of routine STIs should be considered for this group.
Acknowledgements (1)

Study participants

MRC CTU at UCL
David Dolling, David Dunn, Mitzy Gafos, Gemma Wood, Liz Brodnicki, Yolanda Collaco-Moraes, Sarah Banbury, Brendan Mauger, Yinka Sowunmi, Christina Chung, Monica Desai, Sheena McCormack

HIV & STI Dept, PHE
Anthony Nardone, Noel Gill, Sarika Desai, Monica Desai, GUMCAD team, HIV team

Clinics
Vanessa Apea (Barts Health NHS Trust), Nicola Mackie (St Mary’s Hospital), Alan McOwan (56 Dean Street), Amanda Clarke (Claude Nichol Centre), Christine Bowman (Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust), Charles Lacey (York Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust), Gabriel Schembri (Manchester Centre for Sexual Health), Richard Gilson (The Mortimer Market Centre), Ann Sullivan (John Hunter Clinic for Sexual Health), Iain Reeves (Homerton University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust), Michael Brady (Kings College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust), Julie Fox (Guy’s and St Thomas’s NHS Foundation Trust), Steve Taylor (Heart of England NHS Foundation Trust), Saye Khoo (University of Liverpool)
Acknowledgements (2)

**Trial Steering Committee**

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**PHE:** Francesa McNeil

**Gilead**

Jim Rooney, Rich Clarke, Matt Bosse, Murad Ruf
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