

## SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION

### 1. SUMMARY

1. Most of the patients in this study are in 20-24 age group, the mean age of patients is 25.38 with standard deviation = 6.26, low socioeconomic and low income (median income = 1605.60 baht/month). Most of the married patients lived with their husbands and were young at first sexual experience.

2. The cervix was the single site most often infected. When the results for any two sites were combined, the urethra and the cervix cultures gave the greatest frequency of detection. Of the patients with gonococcal infection, 39.17% had positive rectal cultures, and 3.92% had positive rectal cultures only. *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* was found in the pharynx, as well as in the urethra and the cervix in only one patient (0.23%). In the present study there was no patient whose oropharynx was the only site of gonococcal infection.

3. As regards the reasons for attendance of female patients in this study, it was found that both urogenital and extraurogenital groups came of their own accord more than came at the request of male consorts under treatment. The patients who came because of contact slips in both groups were symptomatic as well as asymptomatic. It was observed that 352 patients (25.85%) were asymptomatic. The symptomatic cases largely had vaginal symptoms. The most frequent symptom was purulent discharge per vagina. The rectal symptoms in the female

patients who were diagnosed as rectal gonorrhoea were also studied. Most cases were asymptomatic. The frequent symptoms included constipation and tenesmus or both symptoms associated with bloody discharge of itching on some cases. Most of the patients with rectal gonorrhoea had abnormal secretion in the rectal mucosa and most of them were mucopurulent discharge. However, it was noted that 31.97% of female patients with rectal gonorrhoea had normal appearance of the rectal discharge. Finally, it was found that the characteristics of the rectal discharge were associated with the rectal symptoms.

4. Out of 352 patients diagnosed with gonorrhoea, oral intercourse had been indulged in by 73 patients (20.74%) while 28 patients (7.95%) had had rectal intercourse. The women practising oral intercourse were more likely to have rectal coitus than those who did not, and vice versa. Within the limits of the figures concerned, both practiced had no relations to the variety of experience.

5. There was no statistical difference between the prevalence rate of rectal gonorrhoea among the two groups of the patients namely those who practiced sexual intercourse through the back passage and those who did not have such practice ( $P$  value  $> 0.10$ ). The patients who used to have rectal coitus will be at risk to rectal infection by 1.62 of the patients who have not had rectal coitus. (Relative odd = 1.62)

6. There were no association between the sites of gonococcal infection and the behavior after sexual intercourse, habit of cleaning after sexual intercourse, type of solution in cleaning the genitalia after sexual intercourse, habit of cleaning after urination and habit of cleaning after defecation.

7. There were 118 female patients in the study to compare the results obtained by using the proctoscope and the blind ano-rectal swab when Thayer-Martin medium was used, 114 gave positive results when the blind ano-rectal swabs used and 112 when the specimens were taken via the proctoscope. The collection of specimens by using the blind ano-rectal swabs proved to be a reliable method in the diagnosis of rectal gonorrhoea. There is no statistically difference between the results obtained by the two methods. When Thayer-Martin medium was used the sensitivity of the method of collection of the specimen by using the blind ano-rectal swab is 98.21% while its specificity is 33.33%.

In this study we also compared the results obtained when the specimen was collected through the proctoscope before being inoculated directly onto Thayer - Martin medium and those obtained the specimen was collected by using blind ano-rectal swab before being inoculated in Stuart's transport medium. The difference between the results obtained by the two procedures are not statistically significant and the sensitivity of the latter method is 91.67% while its specificity is 25%.

8. Stuart's transport medium was evaluated for their efficacy as transport medium under the local environmental conditions. The results obtained when the specimens were held in the Stuart's transport medium at various intervals of time before culturing as compared with those obtained when the specimens were inoculated onto Thayer-Martin medium and immediately incubated were analysed. It was found that the growing percentage was lost in the rate of 3.64%, 7.27%, 9.09%, 16.98%, 22.22%, 32.08% and 45.45% at 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24 hours respectively when compared with the control. There was no difference between the control and the tested specimens inoculated at 6 hours. We cannot point out whether the control and the tested specimens inoculated at 9 hours intervals are different or not because of statistical result. The difference was statistically significant between the results of the positive tests when the specimens were kept in the Stuart's transport medium at the other intervals of time (12, 15, 18, 21, and 24 hours respectively).

## BIOGRAPHY

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