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Survival analysis in people diagnosed with HIV/AIDS in Puerto Rico from 2003-2011

Melissa Marzán-Rodríguez

Ponce Health Sciences University, Puerto Rico

More than 30 years of the first HIV/AIDS cases, the epidemic still continue a worldwide health public concern. After the introduction of antiretroviral therapies (AZT) new causes of death not traditionally related to HIV/AIDS has been reported. AZT has dramatically improved the life expectancy of HIV/AIDS. The objective of this study was to estimate survival in people diagnosed with HIV/AIDS in Puerto Rico (PR) from 2003 through 2011. A population-based study using the PR AIDS Surveillance System was implemented. A total of N=9,290 people were diagnosed with HIV/AIDS in PR for 2003-2011 period. Survival was assessed by the Kaplan–Meier method and multivariable analysis using a Cox regression model identified variables associated with mortality. Survival at 6 years in HIV patients was HR=0.87 (CI95%: 0.09, 0.72) $p<0.001$ when compare with AIDS patients HR= 0.57 (CI95%: 0.55, 0.60) $p<0.001$. Intravenous drug users [IDU] have less probability of survival at 5 years HR=0.69 (CI95%: 0.67, 0.71) $p<0.001$ when compare with other transmission modes. Consistently with scientific community people in AIDS stage, male and IDU's has less probability of survival after 9 years after diagnosis. Assertive tertiary prevention strategies must be developed and implemented in PR for IDU's.

Biography

Doctoral candidate at the Public Health Program with a major in Epidemiology from the Ponce Health Sciences University (PHSU). Closely involved with qualitative research area as ethnographer in HIV studies. Faculty adjunct at the Clinical Psychology Program at PHSU. Certified Public Health from the National Board of Public Health Examiners (USA). Have been published in journals such as AIDS Care, Forum: Qualitative Social Research and Journal of International Association of Physicians in AIDS Care. Areas of interest: HIV/AIDS epidemiology, social epidemiology, drug abuse, social stigma and social determinants of health.

mm4498@cumc.columbia.edu

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