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

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HIV epidemic are still a global public health concern. In the HIV history is well documented through scientific literature, the affectivity of the antiretroviral therapies (ART). ART has dramatically improved the life expectancy of HIV. Even though, it's necessary to monitor the causes of death of people with HIV/AIDS. The objective of this study was to estimate mortality risk in people diagnosed with HIV/AIDS in Puerto Rico (PR) from 2006 through 2011. We used a population-based study from the PR AIDS Surveillance System, a total of N=2,290 deaths were reported for the study period. The Cox Proportional Hazards Regression Method was used to identify determinants of mortality. The 71% were males. The 23.5% of deaths were related to HIV/AIDS. Age and Sex adjust death rates was 4.9 deaths per 1,000 populations and a fatality rate was 22.2%. The Hazard Ratio [HR] for a HIV/AIDS cause of death in intravenous drug user [IDU] was HR=1.53; 95% confidence interval [IC], 1.37, 1.70 ($p<0.001$); in AIDS stage HR=7.53; 95% IC, 2.42, 23.4 ($p<0.001$); and with CD4 cell count ≥ 500 copies HR= 0.20; 95% IC, 0.16, 0.26 (<0.001). Deaths of people with HIV/AIDS in Puerto Rico were not related to the traditional HIV/AIDS causes of death. IDU population, males, AIDS stage of the disease and with low CD4 cell count has higher risk to die to HIV/AIDS cause of death. We recommended designing specific tertiary prevention strategies for IDU population.

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.

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