

Review of: "Serological detection strategy and prevalence of HIV and Viral Hepatitis B and C in blood donors in Yaoundé Cameroon"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Abstract:

Well written. Suggest rewriting the discussion: "This study showed a high prevalence of Hepatitis A, C and HIV among Cameroonian blood donors at the YUTH.

Background:

Paragraph 2: I will suggest you limit the chronic infection to SSA. Or mention the prevalence of SSA.

Paragraph 4: In the second paragraph, you mention the prevalence of HIV TTI in SSA is 1% and 10% for Hepatitis B. I find it challenging to generalize that SSA has a high prevalence of TTIs without a reference. Kindly provide a reference or modify this statement.

Materials and Methods:

Study setting and population: The study obtained an authorization for research from (instead of for) the General Directorate.....

The content of the questionnaire is not elaborated in the methodology. The study type should be mentioned in the method.

Explain what INNO-LIA is used for. Is it also an antibody testing method or RNA typing? If it is the latter, mentioning the HCV subtype identified may be better.

Results

What does it mean with known status? That they know they are positive or negative? For each of the viruses under consideration.

Any reasons why some of the samples were not confirmed? It should be noted in the discussion.

The HBsAg Negative should be renamed in your flowchart: Negative for Viral Testing. The way it is now, it is as if only HbsAg was tested on all the samples, which I presume is not the case. Also, if HBcAb was tested in this sample, it should

be added to the flowchart

The sample sizes are too small to apply a statistical test. In this case, I do not think a statistical test is needed. A descriptive statistic may be enough.

Discussion

Paragraph 2: This is a prevalence survey and not a trend of viral infection testing. Kindly reword.

Paragraph 3: Mention the WHO Regional Committee for Africa's strategy and how Yaounde is falling short. On the one hand, you say it is a problem; on the other hand, the prevalence is decreasing. Kindly crosscheck your wording.

Is the serological detection strategy routinely performed at blood donor screening in Yaounde? Or some of the tests were employed because of the research? This did not come out well in the paper. And what recommendations are being made to change the testing strategy?

Conclusion

It should be succinct and not repeat what has been captured in the discussion.