

Prevalence of syphilis and anti-HIV seropositive among prostitutes in two urban areas of Thailand

Nikom Chaisiri¹, Varapan Danutra², Bhassorn Limanonda³ and Vichai Poshyachinda¹

¹ Institute of Health Research, Chulalongkorn University.

² Faculty of Veterinary Science, Chulalongkorn University.

³ Institute of Population Studies, Chulalongkorn University

ABSTRACT

Since syphilis as well as other STD and HIV infection are common among prostitutes, the incidence of these diseases is often monitored and correlated. Theoretically unprotected sexual practices will result in widespread of syphilis and HIV infection among customers and the prostitutes themselves. In this respect it is thought then that STD could be a marker of HIV infection or even use to indicate the successful of AIDS prevention. However the data from this study and reports from others (4,5) demonstrated no indication of relationship of syphilis and anti-HIV-1 seropositives. The possibility to obtained either sides of relationship in field survey may depend upon various factors. Migration of commercial sex workers, previous prevalence of STD or syphilis and how soon the HIV is introduced into the area might affect the relationship since in some cases, the treponemal antibody can be persisted for as long as 10 years after the infection.

Key words: Syphilis, Anti-HIV seropositive, Prostitutes, Prevalence, Thailand.

Poster Presentation : IXth International Conference on AIDS/IVth STD World Congress, Berlin : June 6-11, 1993.