



Topic: Descriptive analysis of HIV infections in blood donations for transfusion in 2022

1Theogene HAKIZIMANA, 2, R.Hinda*
1Blood Transfusion Division, Rwanda
2University of Rwanda, Rwanda
3Centers for Disease Control and Prevention(CDC), Rwanda
ePoster ID :**eP161**



Background

Transfusion of infected blood is one of the foremost causes of morbidity and mortality worldwide, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa, where it is responsible for 5–10% of new HIV infections. Today, there is an increased need to ensure the safety of all donor blood before transfusion. However, the magnitude of transfusion-associated HIV transmission in sub-Saharan African countries remains high due to reduced financial resources and poor HIV antibody screening programs. In 2021 the prevalence of HIV infections in blood donations in high-income countries was 0.002%; Upper middle-income countries 0.10%; Lower middle-income countries 0.19% compared to Low-income countries with 0.70%. In Rwanda, there is a policy to reduce HIV prevalence in blood donations for transfusion from 0.07% in 2021 to 0.03% in 2022.

Methods

- This is a retrospective cross-sectional study conducted in the Rwanda Biomedical Center/Blood Transfusion Division. The secondary data were extracted from the eprogesa (a blood computerized electronic system) dataset and analyzed using MS Excel. The findings were presented using Frequencies, tables, and graphs.

Results

According to data, among 35 HIV positives cases in 78738 blood donations; with an overall prevalence of 0.04%; new blood donors are more affected than regular and irregular blood donors with 20 (57.1%) to 6(17.1%) and 9(25.8%) respectively. The region center of Blood transfusion most affected are Butare and Rwamagana with 9 (25.8%) each.

Conclusions

Despite all efforts to reduce HIV prevalence in blood donations; there is still a slightly more number of HIV infections; a challenge of self-exclusion of persons with risk behaviors and ineffective blood donor recruitment and selection processes could be the cause. By providing pre-donation talk to everyone who comes to donate blood and emphasizing eligible criteria to enhance the self-exclusion of those with risky behaviors. Further research is needed to find out the cause of this slightly high number of HIV infections in blood donations.

Acknowledgements

