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## ORAL AND SYSTEMIC MANIFESTATIONS AND ITS RELATION TO CD4 COUNTS IN HIV PATIENTS ON HAART-AN OBSERVATIONAL STUDY

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**Introduction:** Oral and systemic manifestations are common in HIV/AIDS and are considered to be important predictors of the disease. CD4 count serves as an important marker for the progression of HIV to AIDS. Our objective was to correlate the oral and systemic manifestations associated with HIV infection with CD4 count in patients on HAART.

**Materials & Methods:** This was an observational study among one hundred and ten HIV diagnosed patients. The oral and systemic manifestations were noted and compared to their CD4 counts. Chi-square analysis was carried out to see the association of oral manifestations.  $P < 0.05$  was considered statistically significant.

**Results:** Among the 110, fifty had CD4 count  $> 500$  cells/ $\mu$ L, 46 patients had between CD4 count between 200-499 cells/ $\mu$ L and fourteen had  $< 200$  cells/ $\mu$ L. Among patients with CD4  $> 500$ , the oral manifestations observed are as follows, dental caries (n=30, 60%) periodontitis and lipoatrophy (n=25, 50%) and in CD4 count between 200-499, dental caries (n=28, 60.9%) intraoral pigmentation (n=23, 50%), periodontitis (n=20, 43.5%) and with subjects with CD4 count. The most common systemic manifestation observed were

tuberculosis ( $p < 0.001$ ) and pneumonia ( $p < 0.003$ ).

**Clinical Significance:** Prevalence of oral and systemic manifestations among HIV infected patients have declined since the advent of highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART). Oral and general physicians should be able to identify and treat the patients at the earliest, which in turn could reduce the morbidity and mortality rates among those infected with HIV.

### Biography

Ceena Denny has completed her Master's degree in Oral Medicine and Radiology from Bapuji Dental College and Hospital, Davangere in the year 2006 and is currently working in Manipal College of Dental Sciences, affiliated to Manipal Academy of Higher Education as an Associate Professor in the Oral Medicine and Radiology. She has more than 40 publications in various national and international journals and has also presented research papers in national and international conferences. She has authored chapter in text book of Oral Medicine and Radiology published by Elsevier's science. She frequently conduct lecture in CBCT as a part of certificate programme.

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