

The Importance of Safe Sex, HIV Screening And Treatment Adherence: Study of Four Cases in Central Taiwan, 2017

Yen-Chi Yu¹, Kung-Ching Wang¹, Yu-Hsin Liao², Shu-Yu Ko³, Hsiao-Chi Wang³,
Pei-Fang Lai¹, Jyh-Yuan Yang², Pi-Long Lio¹, Ching-Fen Ko^{1,4*}

Abstract

When investigating a newly diagnosed human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) case, we found that three other cases were linked to this case. The genotyping analysis showed that the virus strains were homologous. The four cases did not use condoms and did not receive routine HIV screening. This HIV heterosexual transmission event highlighted the importance of safe sex and HIV screening. We recommend that people who ever had unprotected sex should receive HIV screening. The HIV-infected people should receive treatment as soon as possible and take medicine regularly to suppress viral loads and prevent further HIV transmission.

Keywords: Human immunodeficiency virus, heterosexual transmission, safe sex, HIV screening, treatment adherence

¹Central Regional Center, Centers for Disease Control, Ministry of Health and Welfare, Taiwan

²Center for Diagnostics and Vaccine Development, Centers for Disease Control, Ministry of Health and Welfare, Taiwan

³Changhua County Public Health Bureau, Taiwan

⁴Department of Public Health, Tzu Chi University, Taiwan

Corresponding author: Ching-Fen Ko^{1,4*}

E-mail: koko@cdc.gov.tw

Received: May. 11, 2018

Accepted: Jan. 25, 2019

DOI: 10.6525/TEB.202001_36(2).0001