

Abstract

This study focused on the investigation of HIV status among the inbound foreign brides in Kaohsiung City. We made avail of both the HIV ELISA blood tests and the OraQuick Rapid HIV-1/2 Antibody test as the first step screening. Meanwhile, we delivered to them the important messages regarding the STDs (sexual transmitted diseases) and safe sex practice.

134 cases were enrolled into this study. We hold 12 activities for HIV antibody screening and AIDS prevention education toward foreign spouses in church, primary school and community during Aug. 2004 to Nov. 2004. The nationality of foreign spouse was mainly Mainland China 47% (63/134) and Vietnam 47% (63/134). The following was Indonesia 2.2% (3/134), Philippines 1.5% (2/134), Cambodia 0.7% (1/134) and Thailand 0.7% (1/134). The main occupation was housekeeper 79.9% (107/134). The average education level was low and 65.7% (88/134) below junior high school. During their daily practice, 53.7% (72/134) didn't use condom and 43% (55/134) raised only one child. According to the questionnaire, the rate of their concurrent STDs was 14.6% (19/134). But no one was detected of HIV from our laboratory tests.

Despite there was no HIV case from this study, we simultaneously found some important defects of current government policy in managing the foreign spouses. We also strongly recommended the great potential of the OraQuick Rapid HIV-1/2 Antibody test to apply to the VCT (voluntary counseling testing) for the convenience, time-saving and comparable sensitivity and specificity with HIV ELISA test.

Keywords: foreign brides ; sexually transmitted disease ; STD, HIV