Mycoplasma genitalium in Singapore is Associated with *Chlamydia trachomatis* Infection and Displays High Macrolide and Fluoroquinolone Resistance Rates

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Abstract

Mycoplasma genitalium is considered to be an emerging sexually transmitted infection, with increasing rates of resistance to fluoroquinolones and macrolides, the most recommended treatment. Despite this, *M. genitalium* is not part of routine screening for Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) in many countries. We report the results of a study into *M. genitalium* prevalence at the national sexual health clinic in Singapore. *M. genitalium* was heavily associated with *C. trachomatis* (CT) infection (8.1% of cases), but not independently with *N. gonorrhoea* (NG) infection and present in only of 2.4% in CT negative cases. Furthermore, we found high rates of resistance mutations to both macrolides (25%) and fluoroquinolones (37.5%) with the majority of resistant isolates dual-resistant. Resistance mutations were only found in isolates from patients with CT co-infection. Screening CT positive patients for *M. genitalium* infection, followed by appropriate extended treatment, could be a cost-effective strategy to reduce the incidence of *M. genitalium* and reduce levels of antibiotic resistance.

Full Text

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