The Impact of HAART in the Gastrointestinal Tract

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Abstract

Discovery of HAART announced the transformation of HIV infection from a deadly illness to a chronic manageable disease. The objective of this study is to show the impact of HAART in the GI tract. This study was conducted through online research using the database of NCBI. Multiple studies have shown that HAART has changed the clinical presentation of gastrointestinal disorders; oral lesions have decreased more than 30%; opportunistic disorders decreased from 69% to 13%. HIV patients with diarrhea receiving PI had a higher rate of response; 62% versus 33.5%. This population is at increased risk for developing malignancies of the GI tract; both proximal and distal. Even though with the introduction of HAART, patients with HIV have improved life expectancy rates and survival, public health strategies to improve cancer screening are needed.

Keywords: HIV; HAART; Gastrointestinal system; Opportunistic disorders; Colorectal cancer

AIDS: Acquired Immunodefciency Syndrome; CMV: Cytomegalovirus; CRC: Colorectal Carcinoma; HAART: Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy; HIV: Human Immunodefciency Virus; HPV: Human Papilloma Virus; NHL: Non Hodgkin Lymphoma; NCBI: National Center for Biotechnology Information; OD: Opportunistic

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