Author's response to reviews

Title: Risk factors for prevalence and incidence of syphilis among a HIV-infected cohort in Northeast China

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Version: 2
Date: 23 September 2014

Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear editorial board of BMC Infection Diseases,

Please find enclosed the manuscript: “Risk factors for prevalence and incidence of syphilis among a HIV-infected cohort in Northeast China”, by Qinghai Hu, et al., to be submitted as a Original Research article to BMC Infection Diseases for consideration of publication. All co-authors have seen and agree with the contents of the manuscript and there is no financial interest to report. We certify that the submission is original work and is not under review at any other publication.

In this manuscript, we report the results of the first study about the prevalence and incidence of concurrent syphilis and associated risky behaviors among PLWHA in Northeast China. A total of 1010 PLWHA were enrolled. The baseline syphilis prevalence among PLWHA was 19.8% and the syphilis incidence among PLWHA was 18.7 cases/100 person years. Receiving RAT, older patients, and MSM were independent risk factors for syphilis prevalence and seroconversion. The results from our study indicated that a campaign focusing on detection and treatment of syphilis is urgently needed, and a credible syphilis prevention strategy is essential for PLWHA in China.

We believe that our findings could be of interest to the readers of BMC Infection Diseases because exploring the prevalence and incidence of concurrent syphilis and associated risky behaviors among PLWHA will help provide ideas and information to control the spread of HIV in China.

We hope that the editorial board will agree on the interest of this study.

Sincerely yours,
Hong Shang, on behalf of the authors.

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