

**CASE CONTROL STUDY OF HIV INFECTION  
AND RISK BEHAVIOURS AMONG WOMEN  
ATTENDING ANTE- NATAL CLINIC AND  
HIV CARE AND SUPPORT SERVICE AT  
NORTH OKKALAPA GENERAL HOSPITAL**

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## **ABSTRACT**

A hospital based case control study was carried out at North Okkalapa General Hospital in 2008. The objective of this study was to find out the significant predictors and strength of association between risk behaviours and HIV infection among women, attending antenatal clinic and HIV care and support service, who had taken voluntary confidential counselling and testing at North Okkalapa General Hospital. Data were collected by using pre-tested structured interview questionnaire after taking informed consent. Data analysis was done by univariate unadjusted analysis and then stratified for education. After that, stratified analyses for potential confounders and multivariable logistic regression analysis were performed for controlling age and education; and finally, compared the strength of association of significant risk factors. The ratio of case to control was 1:2 and 41 women with HIV infection and 88 women without HIV infection were participated. The mean age for women was 29.8 years for cases and 28.1 years for controls. In both groups, largest proportions were among 25-29 years age group. About one-fifth of HIV positive and nearly one-tenth of HIV negative women had premarital sexual exposure. History of presence of STI was given by about half of HIV positive and over 10% of HIV negative women. Over half of HIV positive women knew their partner's HIV status. Statistically significant difference between case and control groups were seen among the variables, namely, presence of STI symptoms and male sexual partner's characteristics such as HIV status, exposure to CSW and history of STI in partners. Experience of premarital sex, history of travelling and tattooing were effect modifiers in the presence of STI. The results of various analyses were about the same and multivariable logistic regression analysis showed that presence of STI symptoms is a risk factor for HIV infection with OR of 4.17 (95% CI : 1.49-11.60). Because presence of female STI symptoms is a significant risk factor for development of HIV infection, early diagnosis, prompt and effective treatment of STI using national standard guideline has to be strengthened and expand to prevent and control sexually transmitted infection including HIV.