

STREPTOCOCCUS PYOGENES AS THE CAUSE OF VULVOVAGINITIS IN ADULT WOMEN

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According to the literature data, *Streptococcus pyogenes* is the most common cause of infectious vulvovaginitis in prepubertal girls, but it is rarely described in adult women.

In this paper we report the prevalence of *S. pyogenes* vulvovaginitis in adult women in the municipality of Niš, Serbia, in a five-year period. The total of 42.259 women with symptoms of vulvovaginal infection were enrolled in the study and their swabs from the vagina and cervix were examined using the standard microbiological procedures: direct microscopy of Gram stained preparations and sample culture. Women with positive *S. pyogenes* findings were later contacted to give anamnestic data and for post-treatment control examinations.

S. pyogenes was isolated from the samples of 2 patients: in July 2012 in a 20-year-old woman with the anamnesis of a previously diagnosed tonsillopharyngitis, and in May 2015 in a 32-year-old breast-feeding woman. These patients had the signs and symptoms of acute inflammation: vaginal and vulvar pain, dyspareunia, burning sensation, pruritus, and a profuse, watery, yellow vaginal discharge. Gram staining revealed abundant segmented WBCs and gram-positive cocci in pairs and chains. After the administered penicillin therapy, the control microbiological examinations of the vaginal and cervical swabs were done, as well as the throat swab culture for the presence of *S. pyogenes*, and all the results were negative.

Streptococcal vulvovaginitis in adult women was diagnosed in only two examinees in our study and was associated with a predisposing factors: personal history of a respiratory infection and lactational vaginal atrophy. *Acta Medica Medianae* 2016;55(4):82-85.

Key words: *Streptococcus pyogenes; vulvovaginitis; women*