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HIV/AIDS PREVALENCE IN SURABAYA, INDONESIA

Abstract

The infectious disease of HIV/AIDS is a serious health problem today. In Indonesia, the disease has been a threat, which becomes the emerging infectious disease in the last ten years. HIV virus is transmitted to other individuals particularly through sexual contact with infected individuals, narcotic abuse using shared infected needle, maternal-fetal transmission in perinatal period, either during pregnancy, labor, and breastfeeding, or through infected blood donor (CDC 2003). The diagnosis of HIV/AIDS infection is established using laboratory examination with the indication of clinical symptoms or high risk behavior. The most-commonly used methods for HIV diagnosis are ELISA, Western Blot, and PCR. HIV patient is regarded as having AIDS if further development of HIV indicates infection and life-threatening opportunistic cancer with CD 4 count of less than 200/mm3 (Setyono J, 2004). The number of HIV/AIDS patients is the highest among 37 districts/majoralties in East Java, comprising 50% of all HIV/AIDS patients in this province (Sembiring, Murphy J 2004). However, the prevalence of the disease and behaviors that lead to the occurrence of the disease in Surabaya had never been studied. This study was conducted to address those issues. This descriptive study was intended to identify the prevalence rate of HIV/AIDS in Surabaya and to describe human behaviors that cause the occurrence of HIV/AIDS in Surabaya. The prevalence rate was obtained using the following formula (Graves WW 1993): Total case in population at a certain time is divided with total population at that time and multiplied with 1000. To find the description of the disease, the percentage of total HIV/AIDS patients according to behavioral risk factors was estimated. Total patients in 9 hospitals at each risk factor were divided with total patients in those hospitals, multiplied with 100. This study found the prevalence rate of HIV/AIDS in Surabaya in 2005 was 0.14 per 1000 population. The description of the disease according to behavioral risk factors in Surabaya is as follows: total patients between January and December 2005 was 382 individuals; 204 due to sexual contact (53.40%), 161 due to injected drug use (IDU) (42.15%), 6 perinatal cases (1.57%) and 11 with unknown causes (2.88 %). Further analytical studies are needed to analyze correlation between human behavior and the occurrence of HIV/AIDS in Surabaya. Identification of HIV virus types infecting the patients in Surabaya, as the basis for prevention and treatment, is also worth to study.

Keyword : HIV/AIDS, prevalence, Surabaya, sexual, contact, injected, drug.

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