

# Journal Article Summary

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## **A silent epidemic: the prevalence, incidence and persistence of *Mycoplasma genitalium* among young, asymptomatic high-risk women in the United States**

Sena A., C. et al – Clinical Infectious Diseases 2018

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### **Key Points**

- ⌘ Recent studies have demonstrated significant association between MG with cervicitis, pelvic inflammatory disease (PID), spontaneous abortion, preterm birth and an increased likelihood of HIV acquisition in women. This dictates the need for clinical trials and appropriate diagnosis of MG infections in high risk populations.
- ⌘ Prospective study of asymptomatic bacterial vaginosis (BV) conducted to determine the prevalence, incidence and natural history of MG in high risk women.
- ⌘ Samples collected from women aged 15-25 years, who had  $\geq 2$  risk factors and asymptomatic BV. NAAT testing for MG was performed on the samples and prevalence, incidence and persistence were estimated. AORs (Adjusted odds ratio) were calculated to evaluate the association of patients' characteristics with MG infection.
- ⌘ MG prevalence was 20.5% and incidence rate of 36.6/100 person-years, which represented some of the highest rates reported for any STI in the US. The prevalence of MG co-infection among women was 29.9% with chlamydial infections and 23.6% with gonococcal infections.
- ⌘ African- American ethnicity (AOR 1.92), age  $\leq 21$  years (AOR 1.40) and history of prior pregnancy (AOR 1.36) were significantly associated with prevalent MG.
- ⌘ The data collected support the consideration of targeted screening programs in similar high-risk populations for effective public health intervention.