

OPPORTUNISTIC INFECTIONS IN HIV

These infections can be classified according to causative organisms; Bacterial, Fungal, Protozoal and Viral.

Bacterial

- Bacterial diarrhoea-salmonella, campylobacter and shigellosis
- Bacterial pneumonia-Strept pneumonia (commonest), H influenza, Pseudomonas A, Staph aureus, legionella pneumophila, mycoplasma and clamidia
- Mycobacterium Avium Complex (MAC) – Risk highest when T cell count falls below 50. preventable with clarithromycin and azithromycin
- Mycobacterium Kansasii – Respiratory infections
- Syphilis and neurosyphilis – Treponema pallidum. 2 to 5 fold risk of HIV if syphilis present
- Mycobacterium TB – Commonest respiratory infection in HIV positive people

Fungal

- Aspergillosis – Rare in HIV, common in neutropenic patients such as those on chemotherapy
- Candidiasis (thrush, yeast infections). Candida albicans. Causes oral and vaginal infections. Oesophageal and lung infections in severe cases.
- Coccidioidomycosis-Coccidiosis immitus-respiratory infections
- Cryptococcal meningitis-Cryptococcus neoformans-meningitis, encephalitis
- Histoplasmosis-histoplasma capsulatum- mainly respiratory infections

Protozoal

- Cryptosporidiosis – cryptosporidium-diarrhoea and malabsorption
- Isosporiasis – Isospora belli – diarrhoea
- Microsporidiosis- enterocytozoon bienewisi – diarrhoea
- Peumocystis pneumonia (PCP) – peumocystis jiroveci (not carinii)
- Toxoplasmosis – toxoplasma gondii – mainly cerebral infection

Viral

- Cytomegalovirus (CMV). A herpes virus – retinitis, encephalitis, radiculopathy, colitis, gastritis oesophagitis
- Hepatitis C – cirrhosis, PLCC, liver failure
- Herpes simplex virus (oral and genital) – HSV1-oral; HSV2 and HSV1-genital
- Herpes zoster- shingles
- Human papilloma virus – genital warts, anal, cervical cancer/dysplasia
- Molluscum contagiosum –pox virus family
- Oral hairy leucoplakia (OHL) – caused by Epstein Barr Virus (EBV)
- Progressive multifocal leucoencephlopathy (PML) –caused by the ‘JC’ virus; a polyoma group of viruses