

Use after perinatal exposure to *Chlamydia trachomatis* in Nairobi, Kenya

Datta, P; Laga, M; Plummer, FA; Ndinya-Achola, JO; Piot, P; Maitha, G; Ronald, AR; Brunham, RC

Abstract:

A cohort of 49 infants exposed to maternal chlamydial infection and 40 nonexposed infants was studied after birth for a mean of 3.3 +/- 1.5 and 3 +/- 1.7 mo, respectively. Eighteen (37%) exposed infants had at least one positive culture for *Chlamydia trachomatis*, whereas *C. trachomatis* was not isolated from any of the nonexposed infants. Eighteen (37%) exposed infants developed ophthalmia neonatorum (n = 12) or infant conjunctivitis (n = 7), compared with six (15%) of the nonexposed infants (P = .04). Six (12%) exposed infants developed pneumonia, compared with none of the 40 nonexposed infants (P = .05). One infant in the exposed group died during follow-up. These results suggest that appreciable infant morbidity in Kenya may be associated with the high prevalence of maternal chlamydial infection