

Isolation of *Mycoplasma hominis* from genital ulcerations of patients in Eastern and Southern Africa

Piot, P; Van, Dyck E; Mårdh, PA; Ursi, JP; Meheus, A; Ballard, RC; Møller, BR; Fast, M; Nsanze, H; Ronald, A

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Abstract:

In three separate surveys involving 413 patients in Mbabane (Swaziland), Nairobi (Kenya), and Carletonville (South Africa), *Mycoplasma hominis* was isolated from the base of ulcers in 41 (16%) of 251 men with genital ulcer disease. Antibodies to *M. hominis* were detected by indirect hemagglutination in 89 (51%) of 176 such patients. Of these male patients, 15% and 6% had indirect hemagglutinating antibodies at titers of greater than or equal to 160 and greater than or equal to 640, respectively. The rate of isolation of *M. hominis* and the results of serologic tests for antibodies to this organism were the same whether or not a cause of genital ulcer disease was identified.