CANCER IN PEOPLE WITH HIV: VACS DATA

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From Research to the Real World: Sharing Science Symposium
January 31, 2017
Why We Did this Study

- In VA system, more than half of HIV infected people are older than 50 years.
- Cancer is a disease that affects older people at a higher rate.
- HIV can also increase risk for non-AIDS cancers.
- ART improves most of the conditions associated with HIV.
- What happens with cancer in people with HIV on ART and/or with controlled viremia?
What We Did

• We used VACS and VA Cancer Registry data to examine the following questions:
  • Changes over time in incidence of cancer in persons living with HIV/AIDS in the antiretroviral therapy (ART) era: 1997-2012
  • Effect of long-term viral suppression in cancer incidence among HIV-infected Veterans compared to uninfected

• VACS: Veterans Aging Cohort Study
  • Built on VA Electronic Health Record (EHR)
  • Largest single provider of HIV care in US
  • Prospective, living cohort updated annually
  • HIV+ and 1:2 age/sex/race/site matched uninfected
  • HIV+ N=44,782
  • Uninfected N=95,039

• VA Central Cancer Registry (VACCR)
  • VA database for patients with cancer diagnosis
What We Found

Cancer risk over time

HIV infected people: 44,787 persons
3,519 had a new cancer
Crude incidence rate (IR): Increased
Standardized IR (adjusted for age, race and sex): Declined

Uninfected people: 96,852 persons
5,434 had a new cancer.
IR: Increased. Standardized IR: Remain stable
What Our Results Mean and Why this Matters

• Cancer risk has decreased with time:
  • Overall, 25% decline.
    • AIDS cancers, 55% decline
    • Non-AIDS cancers, 15% decline

• Compared to uninfected patients, cancer risk:
  • HIV+ unsuppressed > early suppressed > long-term suppressed

• ART reduces cancer risk in HIV infected persons
Acknowledgments

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