Epidemiology and prevention of HIV/AIDS: An update on recent advances in HIV prevention strategies

Statement of the Problem: Since the beginning of the epidemic more than 70 million people have been infected with HIV/AIDS. Nearly 35 million people have died of HIV/AIDS. The global adult prevalence of HIV is 0.8%(0.7-0.9). Sub Saharan Africa remains most severely affected, with one in every 25 adults (4.4%) living with HIV. The adult prevalence of HIV in India is 0.3%.

Discussion: Globally and in India the AIDS Control Programs have identified many preventive strategies and have also successfully implemented it in the past. The current challenges are preventing HIV in sero discordant couples, intravenous venous drug abusers, adolescent vulnerable populations and migrant truck drivers. Currently, pre exposure prophylaxis is available in the USA, South Africa, Kenya, Canada, France, Israel and in Peru. The current concept of combination prevention includes biomedical interventions, behavioural interventions and structural interventions. Some of the prevention projects in India are project pechan, avahan, sonaguchi, kavach, link workers scheme and red ribbon express. Additional evidence based research is needed in India and globally to even more upgrade the HIV prevention strategies in areas like pre exposure prophylaxis, cash transfer programs to vulnerable adolescent young girls and voluntary male circumcision.

Biography
Ganesh S.A has been working in the field of HIV/AIDS since 2006 in India. Has worked as Tamilnadu State AIDS Control (TANSACS) STI medical officer, ART medical officer and HIV Community care centre medical officer. After undergraduation, completed his fellowship in HIV Medicine from Government Hospital of Thoracic Medicine (GHTM), Tambaram, which is a centre of excellence for HIV treatment, care and support in India. Has been selected as best outgoing fellow and worked as chief fellow in International Training and Education Centre for Health, India. Subsequently completed his MD in Community Medicine from Sree Balaji Medical College and Hospital (SBMCH), Bharath University, Chennai. He was the first person as principal investigator to study about discordant response to ART in patients enrolled in a Government programme in India. Has done International Presentations of his research work in Africa, UK, India, France, and in USA with many publications. Has been nominated by GHTM and SBMCH for the SAARC Prize on HIV/AIDS 2016 pertaining to his contributions in HIV research. His area of research interest are discordant response to ART, virology, Quality of life, clinical immunology and public health. Currently involved in HIV research, undergraduate & postgraduate teaching, incharge of free medical camp activities, guiding PhD candidates, conducting conferences, CME, and public health awareness programs in SBMCH as an assistant professor in community medicine department.