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## Risk factors for recurrent vulvovaginal candidiasis in the tropical coastal city

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**Purpose:** Vulvovaginal candidiasis (VVC) is a common gynecological disease worldwide. However, few studies have investigated the risk factors for recurrent VVC (RVVC) in tropical areas. The aim of the study was to explore the risk factors of RVVC in the tropical coastal city of Sanya, China.

**Methods:** In this case-control study, a questionnaire survey was conducted in patients with VVC in the Sanya area from July 2013 to December 2014. The data included demographic characteristics, host factors, and behavioral characteristics. According to the maximum number of symptomatic episodes per year, the participants were classified into a non-recurrent VVC (NRVVC; <4 episodes/year, including the current one) group or a RVVC group ( $\geq 4$  episodes/year, including the current one). Crude odds ratios were calculated for potential risk factors and were adjusted using logistic regression.

**Results:** Of the 728 cases of VVC, 69.0% (502/728) were NRVVC, and 31.0% (226/728) were RVVC. Previous antibiotic treatment (adjusted OR: 4.41,  $P < 0.01$ ), repeat abortion ( $P < 0.05$ ), and vaginal lavage (adjusted OR: 1.62,  $P < 0.05$ ) were significantly associated with RVVC.

**Conclusions:** In the tropical city of Sanya, China, a significant association was found between previous antibiotic treatment and incident RVVC. Most behavioral factors demonstrated little effect on the recurrence of VVC. Host factors may be the most important factors in the occurrence of RVVC.

### Biography

Yang Wen has her expertise in cervical dysplasia, human papillomavirus infections and *Candida* infection. She has much experience in research, therapy and teaching in hospital. In Hainan Province, she conducted an epidemiological survey of vulvovaginal candidiasis. She has done a lot of basic and clinical researches on the effect of PD-1 in cervical dysplasia and human papillomavirus infection.

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