## Organizator:



Udruženje ginekologa i perinatologa Tuzlanskog kantona











## PRVI REGIONALNI SIMPOZIJ O PREVENCIJI, Dijagnostici i tretmanu premalignih promjena na grliću maternice

TEMA: Prevencija, dijagnostika i tretman premalignih promjena na grliću maternice

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## THE PREVALENCE OF BACTERIAL VAGINOSIS IN PATIENTS WITH CERVICAL DYPASPASIA

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Introduction: It has been suggested that bacterial vaginosis (BV), the most common vaginal disorder among women of reproductive age, may play a role in cervical carcinogenesis. It has been noted that cervical cytological abnormalities are found significantly more often in women with a disturbed vaginal flora, suggesting a possible link between BV and the development of cervical cancer. BV is characterized by a shift from the protective Lactobacillus-predominant vaginal flora to an overgrowth of anaerobic bacteria, including Gardnerella vaginalis, Atopobium vaginae, Mobiluncus species, and Prevotella species. This disturbance in the vaginal microenvironment leads in about half of the cases to the clinical presentation of a malodorous discharge, an elevated vaginal pH, a positive amine 'whiff' test and the presence of clue cells on a wet smear. Although the cause of BV is unknown, predisposing factors include sexual intercourse, cigarette smoking, vaginal douching, use of uterine devices and black ethnicity.

Objective: To determine the prevalence of cervical dysplasia in women with atypical squamous cells of undetermined significance (ASC-US) on PAP test who have BV, compared to those with ASC-US but without BV.

Methods: The study was prospective and included 40 women with ASC-US on cervical cytology, aged 20 to 50 years, performed from January 2021 to December 2021. A vaginal swab for detection of BV was taken in all women. Also, cervical biopsy and endocervical curettage (for those under 35 years of age) and cervical biopsy and fractionated explorative curettage (for those over 35 years of age) were performed. The materials were sent to microbiological and histopathological analysis. The prevalence of cervical dysplasia in women with BV was compared with the prevalence of cervical dysplasia in women without BV.

Results: In a total of 40 women, BV was diagnosed in 22 (55%). Cervical dysplasia was diagnosed histopathologically in 47.5% (19/40) of patients. In 79% of them (15/19) CIN 1 was diagnosed, and 21% (4/19) had CIN 2. Among women with BV, 16 out of 22 had a pathological cervical biopsy (73%). The relative risk of abnormal cervical histopathological findings after ASC-US on PAP test in women with BV was 2.6 (p <0.05).



Conclusion: Women with BV have a higher risk for abnormal cytological findings and cervical dysplasia than women without BV. BV is one of the most common conditions of child-bearing aged women worldwide, and considering a possible synergy of an imbalanced vaginal environment with cervical pre-neoplasia, it is clear that greater attention should be given to this condition.

Key words: bacterial vaginosis, abnormal cytological findings, cervical dysplasia, CIN

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