

SHOULD FEMALE PARTNERS OF MEN WITH PATHOGEN NEGATIVE NON-GONOCOCCAL URETHRITIS (NGU) BE INFORMED AND TREATED? CLINICAL OUTCOMES FROM A PARTNER STUDY OF HETEROSEXUAL MEN WITH NGU

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Background: About half of men with non-gonococcal urethritis(NGU) have no identifiable pathogen. We aimed to determine if female sexual partners of men with NGU require management.

Methods: Data were analysed from 1,710 men and their partners attending Melbourne Sexual Health Centre on the same day from January 2006 to April 2015. Proportions of female partners with symptoms suggesting genital infection or pelvic inflammatory disease were determined for 1) men with NGU and no *Chlamydia trachomatis* or *Mycoplasma genitalium* (referred to as pathogen-negative NGU) (n=91); 2) men with urethral *C. trachomatis*(n=176); 3) men with urethral *M. genitalium* (n=26); and 4) asymptomatic men(n=652).

Results: Female partners of men with pathogen negative NGU experienced deep pelvic pain (AOR 2.2, 95% CI 1.1–4.4), post coital bleeding (AOR 2.4, 95% CI 1.2–4.9), and dysuria (AOR 3.7, 95% CI 1.6–8.6) more commonly than the female partners of asymptomatic men. The odds of being diagnosed with pelvic inflammatory disease was also higher (AOR 4.8, 95% CI 2.1–11.3) compared to women whose male partner had no symptoms.

Conclusion: Conference attendees will be presented with evidence that female sexual partners of men with NGU are at increased risk of genital infection, even if a pathogen is not identified in the man. This knowledge would impact how they manage female partners of men with NGU.

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