

Factors associated with the prevalence of HIV infection in Haiti among women of childbearing age - National survey on morbidity, mortality, and use of services, 2016-2017.

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Introduction - HIV infection in Haitian women of childbearing age is an important public health problem in Haiti, with a high magnitude and impact on their health. **Objective** – Analyze the prevalence of HIV infection and factors associated with HIV infection in Haitian women of reproductive age between 2016 and 2017. **Methods** - This is a cross-sectional observational study, in which data from the sixth survey on mortality, morbidity and use of services (EMMUS VI) in Haiti were analyzed. These are data referring to 9,698 women of childbearing age, interviewed and tested for HIV between 2016 and 2017. To identify the sociodemographic and sexual behavior factors associated with the prevalence of HIV infection, simple and multiple logistic regression were performed to estimate the Odds Ratio (OR) and their respective 95% confidence intervals. Variables with a p-value <0.20 in the simple logistic regression were included in the multiple model, being maintained those with a significance level < 0.05. The *backward* method was used to eliminate the variables with the highest p-value from the initial model. **Results** - During the study period, 218 women were infected with HIV (2.25%). Statistically significant associations were identified between HIV seropositivity and age over 40 years ($p < 0.01$), separation and/or divorce ($p = 0.004$), lower educational level ($p = 0.010$), practice of voodoo religion ($p = 0.005$) and multiple sexual partners ($p < 0.01$). **Conclusions** - These findings indicate the need for effective measures in the control and prevention of HIV infection among Haitian women of childbearing age.

Keywords: HIV, Women's Health, Prevalence, Haiti, Collective Health, Health Policies.

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