Chlamydia trachomatis and *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* Prevalences among Clients of Female Sex Workers

Campos PE1, Cárcamo C1, Garcia P1, Quinte G1, Diestra L2, Jarama P2, Garnet G3, Richmond K4, Holmes KK4. 1Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia, Lima, Peru, 2Peruvian Ministry of Health, 3Imperial College of London, UK, England, and 4University of Washington, Seattle, WA, USA.

Background: Clients of female sex workers constitute a neglected population that bridge STI from core groups to general population. Knowledge of STI prevalence among them will improve the design of more effective strategies for STI prevention.

Objectives: To assess the prevalence of *C. trachomatis* (CT) and *N. gonorrhoeae* (NG) among clients of female sex workers, which will serve as one of the baseline measures for the Urban Community Randomization Trial of STI Prevention in Peru.

Methods: Up to 200 clients per city were enrolled in each of 24 cities with at least 50,000 inhabitants. Enrollment was performed when clients exited the sex work site, which was chosen using an updated map of the sex work places. At each sex work venue, the number of clients enrolled was equal to the number of female sex workers present at the site. Consenting participants responded to a face to face interview and provided samples for STI diagnosis. First voided urine was collected for CT and NG PCR testing, and in three cities, it was also collected for *T. vaginalis* (TV) culture. Blood samples were collected as part of the Peruvian Ministry of Health HIV and syphilis surveillance.

Results: An average of 189 participants were enrolled in each city. The observed CT prevalence among 3822 available results was 4.1% and ranged from 0% to 9.3%; and the NG prevalence was 0.1% and ranged from 0% to 0.6%. The TV prevalence among 487 evaluated clients was 1%. There was not a pattern of higher CT prevalence related to size or geographical location of the cities.

Conclusions: There is a wide variation of STI prevalences among cities in Peru not related to their size or geographical