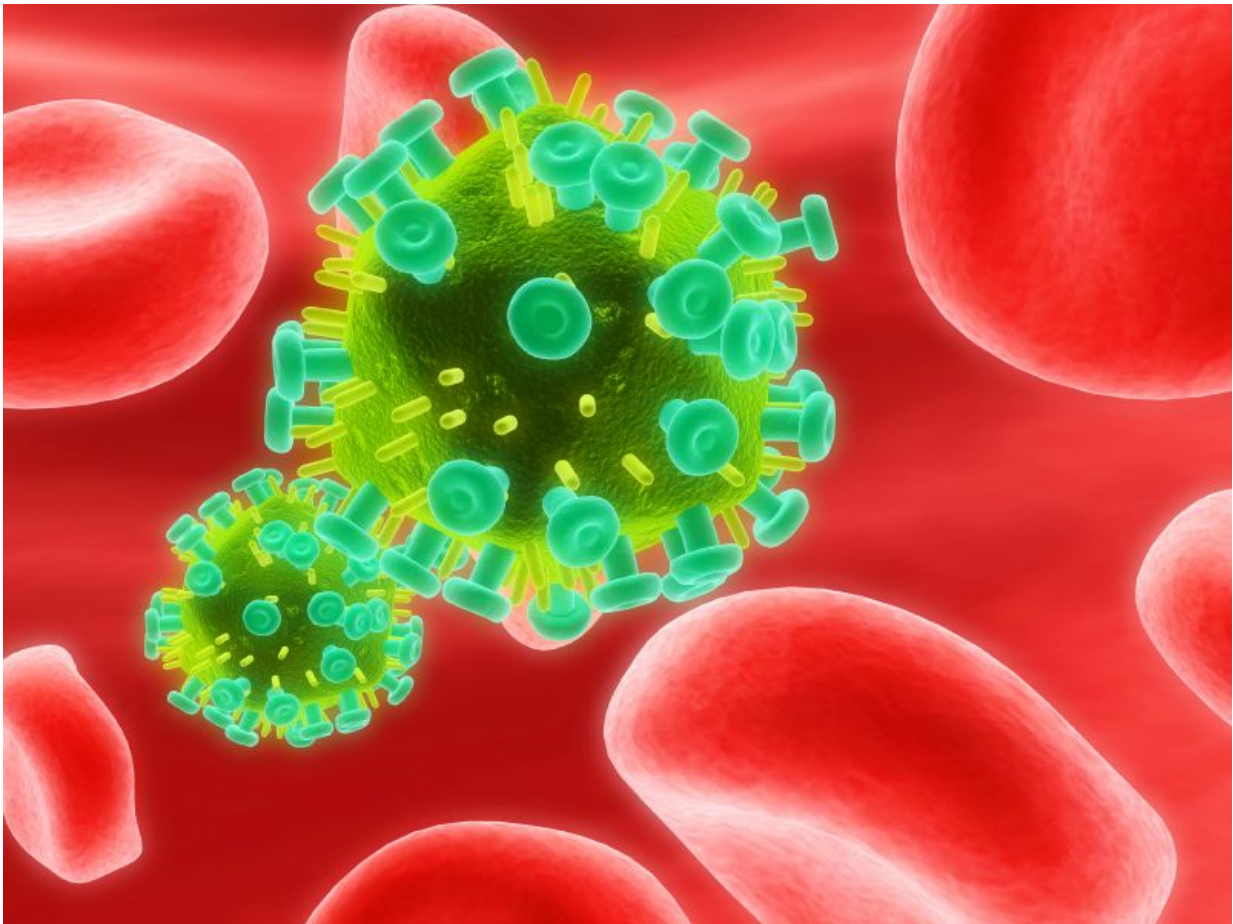


Lymphoplasmacytic infiltrate seen in syphilis, HIV co-infection

June 27 2016



(HealthDay)—Skin biopsies from patients co-infected with HIV and

syphilis have moderate to extensive lymphoplasmacytic infiltrate, according to research published online June 14 in the *Journal of Cutaneous Pathology*.

Gabriela Rosa, M.D., from the Cleveland Clinic, and colleagues examined the histopathologic findings in skin biopsies from [patients](#) co-infected with HIV and syphilis. Skin biopsies were identified for 14 patients (12 men), aged 25 to 51 years, with serologic evidence of syphilis at the time of [biopsy](#). Ten of these patients had serologic and/or virologic evidence of HIV infection.

The researchers found that a moderate to extensive lymphoplasmacytic infiltrate was identified in all cases. The predominant inflammatory cells were lymphocytes and plasma cells. There was a correlation between the treponeme counts, detected by *Treponema pallidum* immunohistochemistry, and patient CD4 counts; biopsies containing >100 treponemes in 10 high-power fields were seen in patients with CD4 counts

Citation: Lymphoplasmacytic infiltrate seen in syphilis, HIV co-infection (2016, June 27) retrieved 3 May 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2016-06-lymphoplasmacytic-infiltrate-syphilis-hiv-co-infection.html>

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