

The prevalence of *Trichomonas vaginalis* in the population of the Province of Warmia and Mazury

Joanna Korycińska¹, Ewa Dzika¹, Tomasz Waśniewski²

¹Department of Medical Biology, University of Warmia and Mazury, ul. Żołnierska 14c, 10-561 Olsztyn, Poland

²Department of Gynecology, Gynecological Endocrinology and Obstetrics, University of Warmia and Mazury, ul. Żołnierska 18, 10-651 Olsztyn, Poland

Corresponding Author: Joanna Korycińska; e-mail: joanna.korycinska@uwm.edu.pl

Trichomonas vaginalis is a cosmopolitan protozoan causing lower genitourinary tract infections in humans. According to WHO data, as many as 276 million cases are reported each year worldwide. The aim of this study was to determine the prevalence of *T. vaginalis* in the female population of Olsztyn, and to perform an epidemiological analysis of the incidence of trichomoniasis in the Province of Warmia and Mazury in the years of 2009–2015 on the basis of the data derived National Health Fund records.

From October 2014 to April 2015, 300 women aged 19–50 presenting to a gynecological outpatient clinic were examined. Two vaginal swabs were taken from each patient. The first swab was used to prepare microscope slides, and stained with Giemsa stain. The second swab was used for a diagnostic immunochromatographic rapid test for the detection of the *Trichomonas* antigen (OSOM *Trichomonas* test). Each woman was also asked to complete a questionnaire. Additionally, on the basis of the data from the Olsztyn Regional Branch of the National Health Fund, an analysis was conducted of the prevalence of *T. vaginalis* in the Province of Warmia and Mazury over the years 2009–2015.

T. vaginalis infection was confirmed in two women. In total, 160 cases of trichomoniasis were reported in Warmia and Mazury Province in the period 2009–2015, of which women accounted for 135 (84%), and men for 26 (16%). The largest group of trichomoniasis cases, 82 cases (54%), was reported in women from urban areas. In addition, 59 cases were in the 50–59 age group, and 37 cases in the over-60 age group. Our results show that the prevalence of *T. vaginalis* infection remains low, the infections occur mainly in older woman, and its morbidity is 0.68–2.41.