

Independent Study Title Opportunistic Infections and Changing of CD4 T Lymphocyte
in HIV / AIDS Patients Taking Antiretroviral Therapy in
Phrae Province

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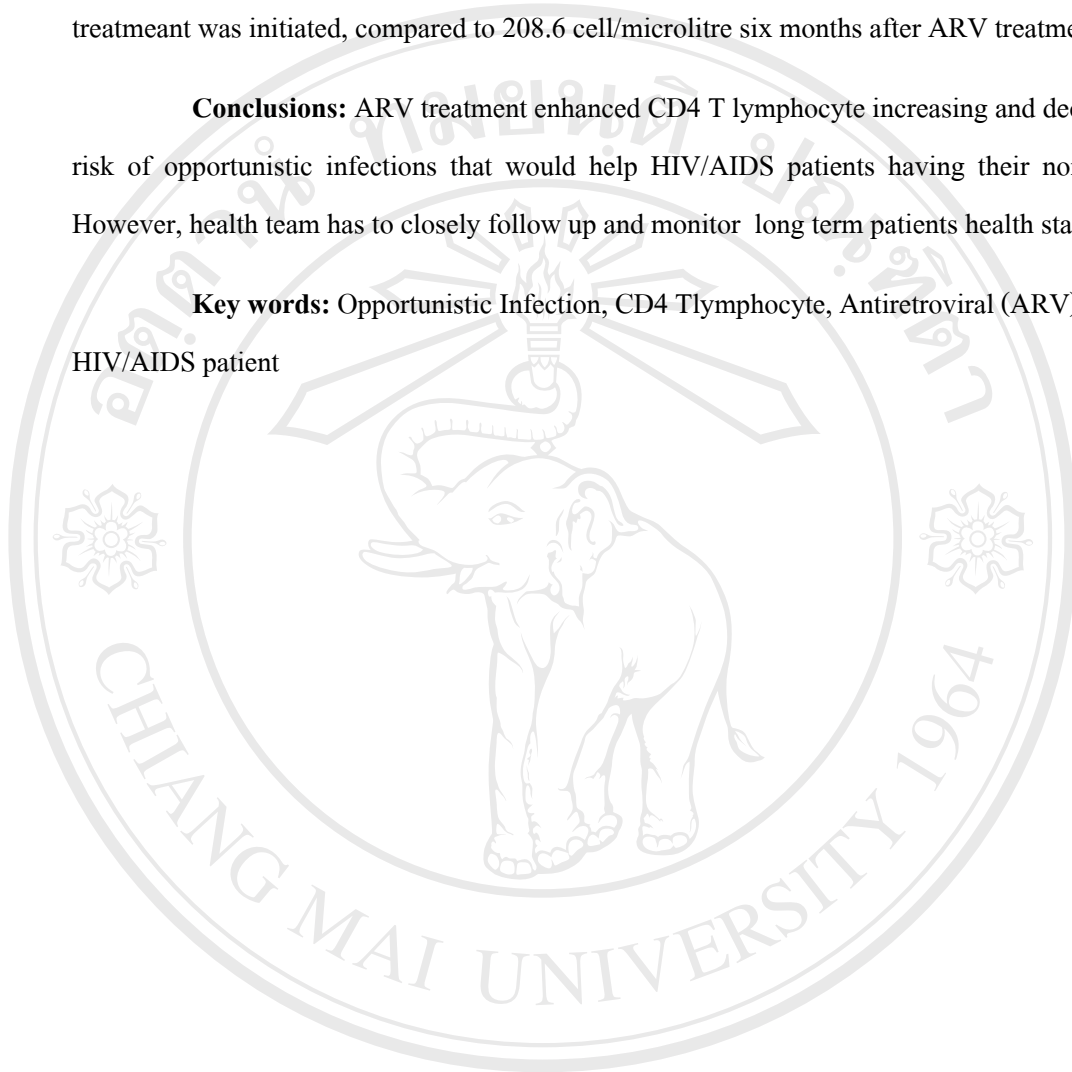
ABSTRACT

Background: Presently, triple regimen Antiretroviral (ARV) therapy is the standard treatment for HIV/AIDS patients. GPO-VIR is manufactured by the Thai FDA and less cost than those imported from abroad. The Ministry of Public Health has widely provided ARV treatment to the patients, and it is necessary to monitor the incidence of opportunistic infections and changing of CD4 T lymphocyte during treatment. **Objectives:** 1.To study the occurrence of opportunistic infections during ARV treatment; 2.To study CD4 T lymphocyte changing during ARV treatment. **Study Design:** Descriptive study. **Setting:** Eight hospitals in Phrae province. **Method:** Study subjects were 186 HIV-infected patients who have enrolled to NAPHA project in the fiscal year 2004. Data were collected by direct interview and reviewing OPD card records transcribed during February to March 2005. Data were analyzed by descriptive statistics.

Results: During ARV treatment the incidence of opportunistic infections was 4.3 percent. Mean CD4 T lymphocyte cell count was 72.2 cells/microlitre, at the time ARV treatment was initiated, compared to 208.6 cell/microlitre six months after ARV treatment.

Conclusions: ARV treatment enhanced CD4 T lymphocyte increasing and declined the risk of opportunistic infections that would help HIV/AIDS patients having their normal life. However, health team has to closely follow up and monitor long term patients health status.

Key words: Opportunistic Infection, CD4 Tlymphocyte, Antiretroviral (ARV) therapy, HIV/AIDS patient



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