Transmission of primary resistance mutation K103N in a cluster of Belgian young patients from different risk groups.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS: F. Oppelaere (UCLouvain, du Erve Kroon), F. Frisquet (CHU LIÉGE, CHI Namur), S. Niewtheine (CHI Namur), C. Doyen (CHU Munt-Godinne), B. Vandeweghe (Universite Saint-Luc), J-C. Griffoin (Hôpital Erasme), J-C. Herant (C. St-Pierre-Ostende), X. Hollevoet (UL Hôpital Charleroi), M. Briel (CHR Namur), C. Doyen (CHU Munt-Godinne), B. Vandeweghe (Universite Saint-Luc), J-C. Griffoin (Hôpital Erasme), J-C. Herant (C. St-Pierre-Ostende). The K103N mutation found in those variants had no apparent impact on transmission fitness as its spread raised during the last years. Those observations may impact on local prevention, ARV prophylaxis strategies, and on first-line drug regimen options.

CONCLUSIONS AND PERSPECTIVES

• We observed a transmission cluster of HIV-1 variants resistant to nevirapine and efavirenz, drugs recommended as part of first-line therapies.
• New cases are continuing to be diagnosed, the incidence of the strain studied here compared to the local HIV incidence is under investigation.
• The K103N mutation can persist several years without drug pressure and doesn’t affect the transmission fitness.
• Prevention efforts are needed among young adults living in Belgium, whatever the risk category.
• The study of transmission clusters may impact on local prevention strategies, and provide tools to investigate the virological determinants of transmission fitness.