Reproductive and Perinatal Epidemiology
Discussion questions for Lecture 9, 2007
HIV and STDs during pregnancy


1. What were the criteria for trial enrollment?

2. The investigators considered 40,857 women for screening screened 31,157, found 2377 with trichomonas and enrolled 615. Discuss issues of selection and external validity in this trial

3. Do you think that the excess of preterm births is consistent across subgroups (table 3). How does this affect your interpretation of the results?


4. This was a secondary analysis of women with trichomonas who did or did not receive metronidazole in a completed trial. Discuss the limitations of such secondary analyses of effects of treatments. How does this differ from primary trial analyses?

5. Discuss whether selection of trial subjects might affect interpretation of these.

6. Given the findings of these trials, what should be the policy on use of metronidazole for vaginal infections in pregnancy?