

History of Inconsistent Condom Use with Known HIV-Positive Partners Among Recently Diagnosed HIV-Positive Men Who Have Sex With Men in New York City, 2013-2014

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Background

- Men who have sex with men (MSM) frequently report condomless anal intercourse (CAI) in known HIV-serodiscordant sexual partnerships
- One in four HIV-positive MSM report CAI with HIV-unknown or negative sexual partners
- Factors associated with inconsistent condom use need to be examined to inform:

- a) Programs for prevention with positives
- b) Risk management among uninfected MSM

- Field Services Unit - Bureau of HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control conducts partner services interviews with newly HIV diagnosed individuals in New York City

Objective

- To describe inconsistent condom use prior to HIV diagnosis among recently diagnosed HIV-positive MSM who report anal sex with known HIV-positive partners

Methods

- June 2013 to Oct 2014: data collected on supplement to standard case investigation form
- Population: Newly HIV diagnosed MSM reporting anal sex with known HIV-positive male partner in lifetime
- Variables: Pre-HIV diagnosis risk behavior and sociodemographic information
- Bivariate analysis (chi-square test of proportions, Fisher's exact test, and Wilcoxon rank-sum test)
- Crude and adjusted odds ratios (OR and aOR) and 95% confidence intervals (CI)

Results

- 95 eligible MSM interviewed
- High level of inconsistent condom use with last known and all HIV-positive sex partner(s)
- Lifetime number of HIV-positive sex partners and feelings of love or emotional attachment for partners were associated with inconsistent condom use with HIV-positive sex partners

Table 1: Study Population Demographics (N=95)

Demographic Characteristics	n	%
Age Group (years)		
≤30	42	44.2
>30	53	55.8
Race		
Non-Hispanic White	36	37.9
Non-Hispanic Black	32	33.7
Hispanic	23	24.2
Other	4	4.2
Country of Birth		
United States and Dependencies	71	74.7
Other	24	25.3
Education		
≤High School/GED or Equivalent	25	26.3
Some College	22	23.1
Bachelor's/Post Graduate	43	45.3
Missing	5	5.3
Ever Used Drugs	51	53.7
Ever Injected Drugs (N=51)	5	9.8

Table 2: Sexual Risk Behavior (N=95)

History of an STD	58	61.1
Sex in Exchange for Money or Drugs	13	13.7
Did something to reduce the chances of getting HIV when engaging in anal sex with HIV-positive man/men	71	74.7
HIV prevention techniques used (N=71)		
Withdrawal Method	28	39.4
Used Condoms Some of the Time	27	38.0
Used Condoms All of the Time	26	36.6
Used lubrication to reduce friction	25	35.2
Did not have a lot of HIV-positive sex partners	18	25.4
Visual inspection for signs of an STD	14	19.7
Always on top	13	18.3
Other	4	5.6
Relationship Type of HIV-Positive Partner/s		
Main Partner/s	30	31.6
Not Main Partner/s	65	68.4
	Media n	Min, Max
Number of HIV-Positive Sex Partners Before HIV Diagnosis	2	1,1000

Last Known HIV-Positive Sex Partner

Table 3: Comparison of Consistent Condom Users with No or Inconsistent Condom Users with Last Known-HIV Positive Sex Partner (N=94)

	No or Inconsistent Condom Use N=62	Consistent Condom Use N=32	p value
	Median (Min, Max)	Median (Min, Max)	
Number of HIV-Positive Male Partners	3 (1, 1000)	2 (1, 24)	0.04
Age Group (years)			.24
≤30	25 (40.3)	17 (53.1)	
>30	37 (59.7)	15 (46.9)	
Sex in Exchange for Money or Drugs	10 (16.1)	3 (9.4)	.53
History of an STD	40 (64.5)	17 (53.1)	.44
Relationship Type of HIV-Positive Partner/s			
Main Partner/s			
Only	22 (35.5)	8 (25.0)	
Not Main Partner/s			
Only	40 (64.5)	24 (75.0)	

Figure 1: Reasons for having sex with last known HIV-positive sex partner



*Statistically significant
■ No or Inconsistent Condom Use with last HIV+ Sex Partner
■ Consistent Condom Use with Last HIV+ Sex Partner

Table 4: No or Inconsistent Condom Use with Last Known HIV+ Partner

Variable	OR	95% CI	aOR*	95% CI
In Love/Didn't want the relationship to end	2.56	1.02, 6.40	2.53	0.85, 7.59
Total Number of HIV Partners	1.07	0.97, 1.19	1.09	0.97, 1.22

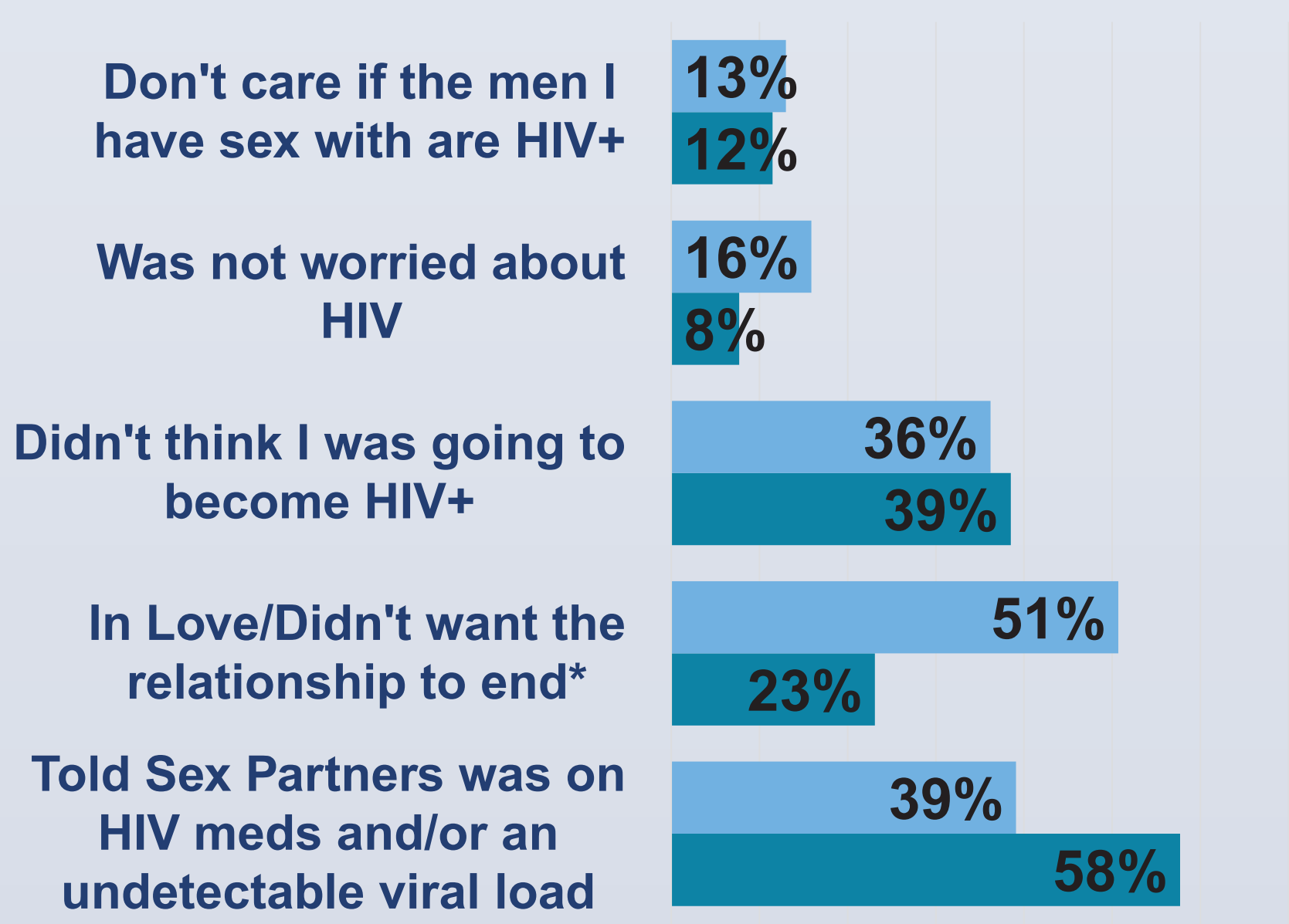
*Adjusting for age and most recent relationship type

All Known HIV-Positive Sex Partners

Table 5: Comparison of Consistent Condom Users with No or Inconsistent Condom Users with All HIV-Positive Sex Partners ((N=95)

	No or Inconsistent Condom Use N=69	Consistent Condom Use N=26	p value
	Median (Min, Max)	Median (Min, Max)	
Number of HIV+ Male Partners	3 (1, 1000)	2 (1, 12)	0.01
Age Group (years)			0.25
≤30	28 (40.6)	14 (53.8)	
>30	41 (59.4)	12 (46.2)	
Sex in Exchange for Money or Drugs	10 (14.5)	3 (11.5)	1.00
History of an STD	46 (66.7)	12 (46.2)	0.14
Relationship Type of HIV-Positive Partners			0.27
Main Partner/s			
Only	24 (34.8)	6 (20.0)	
Not Main Partner/s			
Only	45 (65.2)	20 (76.9)	

Figure 2: Reasons for having sex with all known HIV-positive sex partners



*Statistically significant

■ No or Inconsistent Condom Use With All HIV+ Partners

Table 6: No or Inconsistent Condom Use with All HIV+ Partners

Variable	OR	95% CI	aOR*	95% CI
In Love/Didn't want the relationship to end	3.43	1.23, 9.58	3.99	1.16, 13.66
Total Number of HIV+ Partners	1.20	0.99, 1.47	1.24	0.99, 1.54

*Adjusting for age and most recent relationship type

Conclusions

- Compared to MSM who used condoms consistently, inconsistent condom users were more likely to:
 - Have a greater number of lifetime HIV-positive partners
 - Cite feelings of love or emotional attachment to their partners
- Emotional connection and/or relationship type in serodiscordant partnerships - a key component of HIV risk management
- Findings highly relevant:
 - In the age of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP)
 - For targeting and tailoring HIV-prevention messaging by providers and public health campaigns
 - To enhance literature on the topic of MSM couples in HIV-serodiscordant partnerships
- Comprehensive HIV prevention efforts must focus on combination of:
 - PrEP
 - Importance of consistent and correct condom-use
 - HIV treatment as prevention (TaSP)

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