High Risk Behavior in Married People Living With HIV: Implications for Prevention

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Abstract#: 861

Introduction

❑Global efforts to end HIV by 2030 focus on reducing and eventually eliminating new infections in priority populations

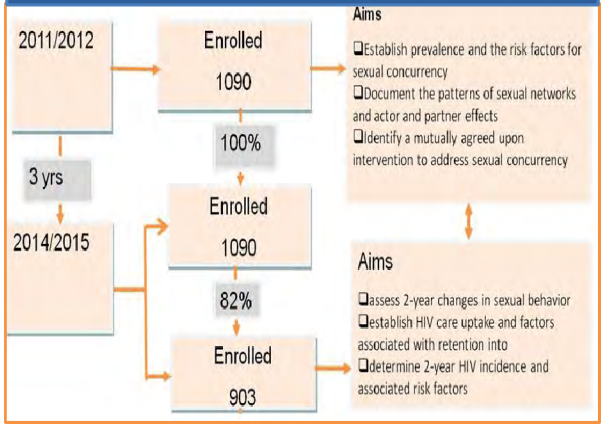
❑Sexual risk behavior of people living with HIV is of great public health concern because of risks of HIV transmission, including the potential for transmitting resistant strains

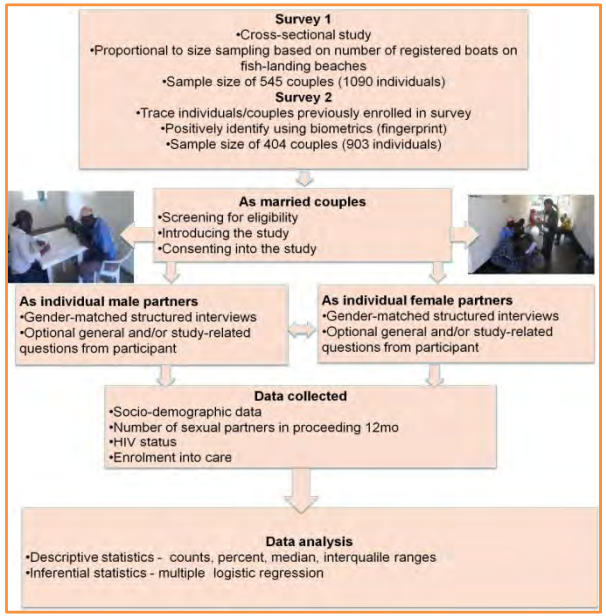
❑ Preventing these sexual risk behaviors is a cornerstone for efforts to end HIV

❑This requires understanding the extent of sexual risk behaviors of people living with HIV to help in designing appropriate population-specific interventions

❑We sought to understand the nature of HIV risk behavior among married people living with HIV in the fishing communities on Lake Victoria, Kenya

Methods





Results

❑Participants had median age of 29 (IQR; 24-34) with 89% having primary level education

❑Median number of children was 4 (IQR; 2-5) and half had monthly income of USD 60

❑Sixty one percent were involved in high risk sexual behavior defined by low condom use and multiple sexual partnerships

❑ Marital condom use was low (54%); even among serodiscordant couples (62%)

❑One third reported extramarital sex in the preceding 12 months; 35% reporting unprotected sex in their most recent extramarital sexual encounter

❑Half (53%) of those reporting unprotected extramarital sex also reported unprotected marital sex

Variable	p-value	aOR	95% CI	
			Lower	Upper
Age	0.23	0.96	0.91	1.02
Education level	0.89	0.93	0.31	2.80
Monthly income	0.06	0.99	0.98	1.00
Partners HIV status	0.08	0.52	0.25	1.09
Enrolment in care	**<0.01**	**0.11**	**0.02**	**0.54**

❑Enrolment in HIV care was associated with reduced odds of engaging in high risk sexual behavior (aOR 0.11; 95%CI: 0.02-0.54) after controlling for age, spouse HIV status, education level and income

Conclusion

❑Married people living with HIV in fishing communities engage in high risk sexual behavior that can result in new infections within their sexual networks

❑ Rigorous process of ensuring linkage to, and retention in care could prevent their involvement in high risk behavior

Acknowledgement

❑We acknowledge funding from Consortium for National Health Research (CNHR), The Director - KEMRI, The Director – CMR, the Beach Management Units (BMUs), our study staff led by Lilian Achiro and most importantly, 'the couples'