ONGOING NEED FOR BEHAVIORAL HIV PREVENTION INTERVENTIONS FOR HIV-POSITIVE MSM OVER 50

Abstract Number:

801

Abstract Type:

General Abstract

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Background:

The vast majority of HIV-positive MSM in this large online survey reported CAS regardless of age group and more than a quarter reported a detectable viral load. These findings, taken together with the finding that nearly one third of MSM >50 and <50 reported CAS with 5 or more partners in the last 6 months, reinforces the need for ongoing behavioral risk reduction and antiretroviral adherence education for older HIV-positive MSM, a group that has received considerably less risk reduction attention.

Methods:

HIV-positive MSM were recruited from social and sexual networking websites and apps. Of 16,299 men completing the study screening survey, 13,036 U.S. MSM who reported being HIV-positive were eligible for this analysis. Self-reported condomless anal sex (CAS), sex partners' HIV status, participant viral load (all past 6 months), and STD diagnoses (past 3 months) were compared for MSM <50 and ≥50 in bivariate and multivariable logistic regression analyses (p = <0.001 in all analyses presented).

Results:

Among 13,036 HIV-positive MSM participants, 73% were <50 and 27% ≥50. Race/ethnicity varied by age group. Compared to MSM ≥50, MSM <50 were significantly more likely to be Black (34% vs 16%) or Hispanic (17% vs 8%) and less likely to be White (44% vs 74%). Overall, 27% reported a detectable viral load, a substantial proportion of both MSM <50 and ≥50 (30% vs. 18%, OR=2.0); CAS (90% vs. 78%, OR=2.4); and CAS with an HIV-negative man (48% vs. 38%, OR=1.5). In addition, MSM <50 and MSM ≥50 were equally likely (29% vs 30%, OR=.95) to report CAS with 5 or more men in the past 6 months. In separate multivariable analyses, MSM <50 and ≥50 reporting CAS with 5 or more

men were significantly more likely to report an STD diagnosis (AOR=2.2 and 2.9) and having any HIV-negative partners (AOR=3.0 and 2.4).

Conclusion:

The vast majority of HIV-positive MSM in this large online survey reported CAS regardless of age group and more than a quarter reported a detectable viral load. These findings, taken together with the finding that nearly one third of MSM >50 and <50 reported CAS with 5 or more partners in the last 6 months, reinforces the need for ongoing behavioral risk reduction and antiretroviral adherence education for older HIV-positive MSM, a group that has received considerably less risk reduction attention.

Epidemiology/Public Health:

(R) Epidemiology

Keywords:

Aging
Sexual risk behavior

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