ORAL PRESENTATION PANEL 1: PREP WITH GAY AND BISEXUAL MEN

**DISCUSSANT: DR. BROOKS**

1. **Presenter(s):**
   – Juan C. Jauregui, MSW, MPH *Doctoral Student, Gay Sexuality and Social Policy Initiative, UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs, Los Angeles, United States*

**Presentation Title:** Correlates of Sexual Contact, COVID Testing, and Comfort Attending Sexual Venues During the COVID-19 Pandemic in a Global Sample of Gay, Bisexual, and Other Men Who Have Sex with Men

**Summary:** This presentation discusses results from a large global study administered through a gay geosocial networking app. We assessed the degree to which gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men (GBMSM) felt comfortable attending social/sexual venues, as well as GBMSM sexual practices during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

2. **Presenter(s):**
   – Martin Santillan Jr, *Research Assistant, Bienestar Human Services*

**Presentation Title:** Using PrEP is being part of a larger movement*: Additional Individual and Community Level Benefits of PrEP Use Among Latino Gay and Bisexual Men

**Summary:** This presentation speaks to the additional benefits PrEP provides to Latino gay and bisexual men (GBM) beyond HIV prevention. They encompass a range of social, emotional, and psychological advantages that Latino GBM experience while using PrEP. Further, these findings can inform the development of culturally relevant PrEP messaging to help improve motivation for PrEP uptake and persistence in this population.

ORAL PRESENTATION PANEL 2: HIV AND SUBSTANCE USE

**DISCUSSANT: DR. GORBACH**

1. **Presenter(s):**
   – Cherie Blair, MD, PhD, *Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, Department of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA*

**Presentation Title:** Impact of methamphetamine use, HIV, and rectal gonorrhea/chlamydia on systemic and mucosal inflammation

**Summary:** This project seeks to identify the independent and combined effects of methamphetamine use, HIV, and rectal gonorrhea/chlamydia on systemic and rectal mucosal inflammation. Preliminary findings from this CHIPTS Mentored Pilot Grant project will be discussed.
2. Presenter(s):
   – Amanda P. Miller, PhD, MSc Postdoctoral Scholar, Department of Epidemiology, UCLA

Presentation Title: Sexual risk among pregnant women at risk of HIV infection in Cape Town, South Africa: What does alcohol have to do with it?

Summary: This presentation describes the prevalence of alcohol use and explores associations between alcohol use and HIV sexual risk among 1200 pregnant women at risk for HIV infection attending an antenatal clinic in Gugulethu, Cape Town. We provide recommendations for targeted intervention development to reduce HIV risk in this population.

ORAL PRESENTATION SET 2 -11:30AM-12:20PM

ORAL PRESENTATION PANEL 3: PREP WITH WOMEN

Discussant: Dr. Davey

1. Presenter(s):
   – Gloria Aidoo-Frimpong, MA, MPH, PhD Candidate, Department of Community Health and Health Behavior, University at Buffalo -The State University of New York, Buffalo, NY
   – David Adzrago, PhD(C), MSW, MPhil, PhD Candidate, Center for Health Promotion and Prevention Research, School of Public Health, University of Texas, Houston, Texas

Presentation Title: Examining interest in HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis delivery modalities among Ghanaian immigrant women in the US

Summary: This study examines the preferences of Ghanaian immigrant women in the US towards different HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) delivery methods (i.e., daily oral pill, injectable, microbicide gel, vaginal ring, subdermal implant, vaginal film).

2. Presenter(s):
   – Drew Mack, BSc, Medical Student, Charles Drew University, Urban Health Institute

Presentation Title: I want to see what that’s about”: Black Women’s Insights on Accessing PrEP via a Telehealth App

Summary: Black women are disproportionately affected by HIV – our demographic makes up 60% of new infections in American women. With the advent of preventative methods like PrEP, and heightened accessibility to these medications through telemedicine, why aren’t these statistics changing? Through cohort analysis, we analyze Black women’s perceptions to accessing PrEP via telehealth.

Summary: The overall goal of the project is to assess the acceptability and appropriateness of our pilot implementation strategy to raise awareness and optimize PrEP uptake among LCW through use of a telemedicine service (i.e., PlushCare). For this presentation, we report findings from our qualitative interviews with Latina Cisgender women (LCW) who participated in an information session with agency staff at East Los Angeles Women’s Center to learn about PrEP and PlushCare as an option for accessing PrEP.

ORAL PRESENTATION PANEL 4: PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV

DISCUSSANT: DR. GOODMAN-MEZA

1. Presenter(s):
   – Karah Greene, MSW, Research Assistant, ACCESS Lab, University of South Florida, School of Social Work

   Presentation Title: Developing an online platform to improve social connections for older adults aging with HIV: Lessons learned from multi-site discussion groups

   Summary: Our research team is developing an online platform to promote social connectedness among older people living with HIV. During the facilitation of virtual, multi-site discussion groups, we encountered several technological barriers. This presentation highlights the lessons we learned and how to more efficiently and effectively facilitate virtual focus groups among older individuals in the future.

2. Presenter(s):
   Chenglin Hong, MSW/MPH, PhD Candidate, Department of Social Welfare, UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs

   Presentation Title: The Associations Between HIV Stigma and Health-related Quality of Life and Patient-Reported Outcomes Among Black Sexual Minority Men Living With HIV

   Summary: I analyzed the baseline data from a randomized control trial of a community-developed, web-based mobile app intervention (the LINX study) that aimed to address the social work and legal needs of Black sexual minority men living with HIV (BSMM+). Results revealed that BSMM+ experience high levels of HIV stigma, and higher levels of HIV stigma were associated with higher mental health distress and lower levels of life satisfaction and
quality of life. Reducing HIV stigma and improving good health-related quality of life is imperative to achieve the 4th 90 target among BSMM living with HIV.

3. Presenter(s):
   - Andrea. N. Polonijo, PhD, MPH, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology and Health Sciences Research Institute, University of California, Merced

Presentation Title: How does payment shape research participation decisions? Results from a national survey of people living with HIV

Summary: Payment for participation in HIV research is a common practice, yet little is known about how payment affects individuals' research participation decisions. Using data from a U.S. national survey of people living with HIV (N=292), we examined sociodemographic differences in (a) attitudes toward payment for research participation, (b) perceptions of study risk based on payment amount, and (c) preferred forms of payment. We find payment may influence prospective HIV research participants’ risk–benefit calculus and participation, and that a one-size-fits-all approach to payment could differentially influence participation among distinct sociodemographic groups.

ORAL PRESENTATION PANEL 5: YOUTH AND HIV

DISCUSSANT: DR. SMILEY

1. Presenter(s):
   - Roxana Rezai, MPH, Doctoral Student, Department of Epidemiology, Fielding School of Public Health, UCLA and Center for Community Health, Department of Psychiatry, UCLA

Presentation Title: Alcohol Misuse During the COVID-19 Stay-at-Home Orders Among Youth at Risk or Living with HIV: A Study in Los Angeles and New Orleans

Summary: There is evidence from prior epidemics that quarantine and stay-at-home orders issued by governments to mitigate the spread of the virus could have negative mental health consequences such as increases in anxiety, depression, alcohol, and other substance use. Given the higher risk for alcohol misuse among vulnerable youth, understanding binge drinking and hazardous alcohol use during COVID-19 stay-at-home orders and identifying potential risk factors are public health imperatives. The present study examines important factors linked to alcohol misuse during COVID-19 stay-at-home orders in a sample of vulnerable youth at-risk or living with HIV in Los Angeles, CA and New Orleans, LA.

2. Presenter(s):
   - Joshua A. Rusow, PhD, MSW, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Children’s Hospital, Los Angeles

Presentation Title: Violence experiences are associated with HIV transmission risk over one year among a prospective sample of sexual minority adolescents in the United States
Summary: This study examines HIV-risk sexual activities (sex without condoms, sex while feeling the effects of substances, or sex without discussing the partner(s)’ HIV status) among sexual minority adolescents (ages 14 to 17 at baseline) in the United States. In this longitudinal study, we use baseline levels of self-reported demographics (age, sex, sexual identity, and race), mental health symptomology (depression, anxiety, and posttraumatic stress), minority stress, and interpersonal violence experiences to look at reports of each of three HIV-risk sexual activities over the following year. Several demographic differences were identified, and each additional interpersonal violence experience reported at baseline (maximum of 4) increased the odds of reporting HIV transmission risk over the next year by 40 to 59%.

3. Presenter(s):
   - Erik Storholm, PhD, Assistant Professor, School of Public Health, San Diego State University
   - Wilson Vincent, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, Temple University

Presentation Title Impact of Resilience, Social Support, and Healthcare Empowerment on HIV Care Engagement and Viral Suppression among Young Black Sexual Minority Men with HIV in the US South: Overcoming Social and Structural Barriers

Summary: Informed by Minority Stress Theory and Syndemic Theory, this exploratory analysis of data from a community cohort of (N=224) YBSMM+ in the US south sought to shed light on the impact of socioeconomic distress, intimate partner violence, depressive symptoms, HIV-related social support, resilience, and healthcare empowerment HIV care continuum engagement. Findings suggest that interventions that focus on improving HIV care continuum engagement are likely to have success if they focus on increasing levels of healthcare empowerment, sources of resilience and HIV-related social support.