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February 2007:

**Journal Articles
CAS No. 46**

R/N 6161 - 6193



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GUIDE TO USE

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February 2007 HIV/AIDS Journal Articles Index

ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE/THERAPIES

6193

"Dietary Supplement Selenium Reduces HIV Viral Load, Increases CD4+ T Cell Count, Study Says"

Location:

AA VERTICAL FILE - ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE/THERAPIES - ALT 13

Publication Type:

ARTICLE (ONLINE)

KAISER DAILY HIV/AIDS REPORT

Volume: Issue: Day: 23rd Month: January Year: 2007 Page numbers:

Subjects:

1. ALTERNATIVE MEDICINES 2. CD4 COUNT 3. VIRAL LOAD

Abstract:

The dietary supplement selenium can reduce HIV viral loads and increase CD4+ T cell counts in HIV-positive people, according to a study published in the Jan. 22 issue of the Archives of Internal Medicine, the Los Angeles Times reports (Chong, Los Angeles Times, 1/23). Selenium is a mineral found in many foods and sold as a supplement for less than \$10 per one-month supply. It helps regulate the thyroid and the immune system and creates antioxidants that protect the body from molecules that can damage cells, the Miami Herald reports. Previous studies have found that HIV-positive people with low selenium levels are at an increased risk of a wide range of health conditions (Goldstein, Miami Herald, 1/23). For the study, Barry Hurwitz, a professor of psychology and medicine at the University of Miami, and colleagues randomly assigned 262 HIV-positive adults with normal selenium levels to take either a placebo pill or a 200 microgram capsule of high-selenium yeast for nine months, Reuters Health reports (Gale, Reuters Health, 1/22). Only 174 of the participants completed the nine-month follow-up period (Hurwitz et al., Archives of Internal Medicine, 1/22). According to the Times, about two-thirds of the participants were taking antiretroviral drugs and about one-third of the participants were not. The study, which was funded by NIH, found that for the 50 participants who regularly took the selenium pills, HIV viral loads decreased an average of 10,000 viral particles per milliliter of blood, or by 12%, after nine months. The researchers also found an average CD4 increase of 30 cells per microliter of blood among the participants who regularly took selenium. According to Hurwitz, selenium had a positive effect among participants on antiretrovirals regardless of which drugs the participants were taking. Among the 83 participants in the placebo group, viral loads increased by 10,000 to 20,000 viral particles per milliliter of blood and CD4 cells decreased by about 30 cells per microliter in the same time period, the study found. Forty-one participants were classified as "nonresponders" because they did not adhere to their selenium schedule or because of gastrointestinal problems that prevented them from absorbing the mineral, the Times reports. This group had the same results as the placebo group, the study found.

6167

"Relationship quality among HIV patients and their caregivers"

Location:

AA VERTICAL FILE - CAREGIVERS - CAR 4

Publication Type:

JOURNAL ARTICLE

by Miller, I W et al

AIDS CARE

Volume: 19 Issue: 2 Day: Month: February Year: 2007 Page numbers: pp 203 - 211

Subjects:

1. HIV POSITIVE PEOPLE-RELATIONSHIPS 2. CAREGIVERS 3. INTERPERSONAL RELATIONS 4. MENTAL HEALTH 5. DEPRESSION

Abstract:

Despite the increasing attention to caregivers of HIV patients, no previous study has systematically investigated the effects of the relationship quality between an HIV patient and their caregiver. The present study assessed 176 dyads consisting of an HIV-infected patient and their self-identified 'caregiver'. Relationship quality was measured by the Family Assessment Device (FAD). Dependent measures included the Beck Depression Inventory, SF-36 Physical Functioning Scale, Caregiver Strain Index and 4-day HIV treatment adherence. A substantial proportion of HIV patient-caregiver dyads reported difficulties in their relationships (17–66% depending upon FAD scale). The level of relationship difficulties was not strongly related to the type of patient-caregiver relationship. However, the quality of the HIV patient-caregiver relationship was significantly associated ($p < 0.05$) with caregiver depression and burden as well as HIV patient depression, physical functioning and HIV medication adherence, even when the potential effects of length of HIV infection and social support were controlled. These results suggest that relationship quality is impaired in many patient-caregiver dyads and is uniquely associated with levels of depression, caregiver burden and treatment adherence.

6169

"Recognizing HIV/AIDS volunteers' stressors and desire for support"

Location:

AA VERTICAL FILE - CAREGIVERS - CAR 5

Publication Type:

JOURNAL ARTICLE

by Held, M B ; Brann, M

AIDS CARE

Volume: 19 Issue: 2 Day: Month: February Year: 2007 Page numbers: pp 212-214

Subjects:

1. CAREGIVERS 2. MENTAL HEALTH 3. VOLUNTEER SERVICES

Abstract:

Little research has focused on experiences of volunteers for people living with HIV/AIDS but other research on caregivers for this population illustrates the stress often experienced. This study identifies stressors experienced by volunteers for people with HIV/AIDS, and determines the types of social support needed to help volunteers cope with the stressors identified. Six volunteers were

interviewed at a small non-profit organization in Appalachia providing such services. Participants indicated that providing services for people with HIV/AIDS is a rewarding experience; however, stress and frustration played a large role in their experiences with the organization. Further, the results of this study indicate that emotional and informational social support may help volunteers cope with stressors associated with providing services for people with HIV/AIDS.

CHILDREN

6185

"Two-Year Morbidity–Mortality and Alternatives to Prolonged Breast-Feeding among Children Born to HIV-Infected Mothers in Côte d'Ivoire"

Location:

AA VERTICAL FILE - CHILDREN - CHI 25

Publication Type:
JOURNAL ARTICLE (ONLINE)

by Becquet, R et al
PLOS MEDICINE

Volume: 4 Issue: 1 Day: Month: January Year: 2007 Page numbers: pp 0139-0151

Subjects:

1. CHILDREN 2. BREASTFEEDING 3. WOMEN WITH HIV 4. HIV TRANSMISSION
5. AFRICA

Abstract:

Little is known about the long-term safety of infant feeding interventions aimed at reducing breast milk HIV transmission in Africa. This study shows that if HIV-positive mothers are well supported, either of the two feeding options currently recommended (formula-only feed, or short-term breast-feeding) are likely to be equivalent in terms of the baby's chances for survival and health. However, women in this study were offered a great deal of support and the findings may not necessarily apply to real-life situations in other settings in Africa, or outside the context of a research project. In addition to routine care after birth, access to better drugs to prevent mother-to-child transmission in developing countries remains an important goal.

6186

"When Is Replacement Feeding Safe for Infants of HIV-Infected Women?"

Location:

AA VERTICAL FILE - CHILDREN - CHI 26

Publication Type:
ARTICLE (ONLINE)

by John-Stewart, Grace C.
PLOS MEDICINE

Volume: 4 Issue: 1 Day: Month: January Year: 2007 Page numbers: pp 0011-0012

Subjects:

1. CHILDREN 2. BREASTFEEDING 3. WOMEN WITH HIV 4. HIV TRANSMISSION

Abstract:

In the January 2007 issue of PLoS Medicine, Renaud Becquet and colleagues report their findings from a new study looking at the long-term safety of infant feeding interventions aimed at reducing mother-to-child HIV transmission in Africa [1] (article included in this CAS). Over two years, the researchers studied the safety of infant feeding interventions (either formula feeding or shortened breast-feeding) among infants of HIV-infected mothers in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire. Current research in prevention of breast-milk HIV transmission includes evaluation of a variety of approaches, including optimizing exclusive breast-feeding, providing antiretrovirals during shortened breast-feeding to mother or infant, and, ultimately, vaccination. Preserving breast-feeding is attractive because of nutritional, growth, safety, and confidentiality issues, and in the future these approaches may enable prolonged breast-feeding. However, some of the interventions currently under study may not be as promising as initially envisioned. For example, highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART) during shortened breast-feeding is not the panacea hoped for—it may be associated with loss of confidentiality, toxicity, resistance, and infant morbidity and growth compromise when breast-feeding is stopped at six months. It is plausible that strategizing for not breast-feeding from birth would be less problematic than first starting to breast-feed on HAART, and then stopping after six months. Thus, replacement feeding should still be considered in the mix of strategies to prevent breast-milk transmission of HIV, particularly when water safety is assured and provision of breast-milk substitutes is an option. Becquet et al's data are reassuring that when appropriate support is provided and clean water is available, replacement feeding can be safe in an urban African setting.

CONDOMS

6165

"Snag bags": adapting condoms to community values in Native American communities."

Location:

AA VERTICAL FILE - CONDOMS - CON 25

Publication Type:

JOURNAL ARTICLE

by Gilley, Brian Joseph

CULTURE, HEALTH & SEXUALITY

Volume: 8 Issue: 6 Day: Month: November - December Year: 2006 Page numbers: pp 559-570

Subjects:

1. CONDOMS 2. SAFER SEX EDUCATION 3. CULTURAL ASPECTS

Abstract:

HIV/AIDS researchers working among Native Americans have consistently noted resistance to discussions of sexuality and the distribution of condoms. This resistance is inspired by long held values about shame and public discussions of sexuality. Also, American Indians have been reluctant to welcome public discussions of HIV/AIDS and sexuality from external entities, such as governmental agencies. As a result, Native peoples have some of the lowest documented condom use rates. However, innovations in culturally integrating condoms and safe sex messages into Native cultural ideals are proving beneficial. One such innovation is the snag bag, which incorporates popular Native sexual ideology while working within local ideals of shame to distribute condoms and safe sex materials to sexually active young people and adults. Using snag bags as an example, this research proposes that an effective approach to HIV prevention

among Native peoples is not cultural sensitivity but cultural integration. That is, HIV prevention strategies must move beyond the empty promise of merely culturally-sensitizing ideas about disease cause. Instead of simply 'translating' HIV/AIDS programming into Native culture, prevention strategies must be integrated by Native peoples into their own disease theories and contemporary culture.

DRUGS (RECREATIONAL)

6189

"The next big thing? Methamphetamine in the United States"

Location:

AA VERTICAL FILE - DRUGS (RECREATIONAL) - DR 54

Publication Type:

REPORT

by King, Ryan S

The Sentencing Project

Volume: Issue: Day: Month: June Year: 2006 Page numbers: pp 1-41

Subjects:

1. DRUG USE 2. DRUG USERS 3. INJECTING DRUG USE 4. RECREATIONAL DRUGS

Abstract:

This report criticises the United States drug prevention strategy that utilises a combination of attempted prevention through overdramatising the effects of recreational drugs with heavy sentencing, and particularly the way that this has occurred with methamphetamine. Major findings include : methamphetamine is one of the least commonly used drugs in the US; rates of methamphetamine use have remained stable since 1999 ; drug treatment has been demonstrated to be effective in combating methamphetamine addiction; misleading media reports of a methamphetamine 'epidemic' have hindered the development of a rational policy response to the problem.

GAY MEN

6164

"Remaking the masculine self and coping in the liminal world of the gay 'scene'"

Location:

AA VERTICAL FILE - GAY MEN - GM 33

Publication Type:

JOURNAL ARTICLE

by Ridge, Damien ; Plummer, David ; Peasley, David

CULTURE, HEALTH & SEXUALITY

Volume: 8 Issue: 6 Day: Month: November-December Year: 2006 Page numbers: pp 501-514

Subjects:

1. GAY MEN(AUST) 2. GAY MEN-PSYCHOSOCIAL ASPECTS

Abstract:

This paper investigates social transitions, constructions of masculinity and coping among men in commercialized gay spaces, such as nightclubs and dance parties ('the gay scene'). The findings are derived from two qualitative studies involving

individual samples of 24 and 12 younger (aged 19 to 36) same-sex attracted men living in Melbourne, Australia. The analysis recasts 'coming out' into the gay scene as a passage into a 'new world' and a 'new self'. On the scene, notions of selfhood are challenged and men enter various states of liminality as they (re)construct themselves. New ways of performing the self can be tried on through ritualized behaviours, including performing various masculinities. While successful performances of masculinity can promote social acceptance, those who express less valued forms of masculinity can struggle harder. Internalized homophobia influences rituals on the scene, and men reported feeling like perpetual outsiders, regardless of the success of their performances. The emotional dangers to selfhood lurking in performance and ritual are explored, as well as the ways that men find to prevail. Invariably, liminality ends, and the men who do well approach themselves, the rituals and the performances with insight.

HEALTH & FINANCIAL ISSUES

6168

"Late entry into HIV/AIDS medical care: The importance of past relationships with medical providers"

Location:

AA VERTICAL FILE - HEALTH & FINANCIAL ISSUES - HF 33

Publication Type:

JOURNAL ARTICLE

by Lain, M A ; Valverde, M ; Frehill, L M

AIDS CARE

Volume: 19 Issue: 2 Day: Month: February Year: 2007 Page numbers: pp 190-194

Subjects:

1. HIV PROGRESSION 2. MEDICAL MANAGEMENT

Abstract:

Data are presented from a qualitative study that explored the impact of relationships with medical providers on late entry into HIV/AIDS medical care. In-depth interviews were conducted with ten males living on the US-Mexico border who entered medical care late in the progression of HIV. The findings focus on past relationships with medical providers and the perception of risk on both the part of the medical provider and the study participant. Current policy and programmatic trends and recommendations are discussed.

HEALTH PROMOTION

6192

"Govt considers campaign to combat HIV infection rate"

Location:

AA VERTICAL FILE - HEALTH PROMOTION - HP 6

Publication Type:

NEWSPAPER ARTICLE (ONLINE)

ABC ONLINE

Volume: Issue: Day: Tuesday, 30th Month: January Year: 2007 Page numbers:

Subjects:

1. HEALTH PROMOTION 2. PUBLIC EDUCATION(AUST)

Abstract:

The Australian Federal Government is considering a \$10M media campaign which would target the general community but be specifically designed to include gay men.

HEPATITIS

6187

"Impaired Hepatitis C Virus-Specific T Cell Responses and Recurrent Hepatitis C Virus in HIV Coinfection"

Location:

AA VERTICAL FILE - HEPATITIS - HEP 13

Publication Type:

ARTICLE (ONLINE)

by Kim, Arthur Y et al

PLOS MEDICINE

Volume: 3 Issue: 12 Day: Month: December Year: 2006 Page numbers: pp 0001-0011

Subjects:

1. HIV 2. HEPATITIS C

Abstract:

Background

Hepatitis C virus (HCV)-specific T cell responses are critical for spontaneous resolution of HCV viremia. Here we examined the effect of a lymphotropic virus, HIV-1, on the ability of coinfecting patients to maintain spontaneous control of HCV infection.

Methods and Findings

We measured T cell responsiveness by lymphoproliferation and interferon-ELISPOT in a large cohort of HCV-infected individuals with and without HIV infection. Among 47 HCV/HIV-1-coinfecting individuals, spontaneous control of HCV was associated with more frequent HCV-specific lymphoproliferative (LP) responses (35%) compared to coinfecting persons who exhibited chronic HCV viremia (7%, $p = 0.016$), but less frequent compared to HCV controllers who were not HIV infected (86%, $p = 0.003$). Preservation of HCV-specific LP responses in coinfecting individuals was associated with a higher nadir CD4 count ($r^2 = 0.45$, $p < 0.001$) and the presence and magnitude of the HCV-specific CD8+ T cell interferon- response ($p = 0.0014$). During long-term follow-up, recurrence of HCV viremia occurred in six of 25 coinfecting individuals with prior control of HCV, but in 0 of 16 HIV-1-negative HCV controllers ($p = 0.03$, log rank test). In these six individuals with recurrent HCV viremia, the magnitude of HCV viremia following recurrence inversely correlated with the CD4 count at time of breakthrough ($r = -0.94$, $p = 0.017$).

Conclusions

These results indicate that HIV infection impairs the immune response to HCV—including in persons who have cleared HCV infection—and that HIV-1-infected individuals with spontaneous control of HCV remain at significant risk for a second episode of HCV viremia. These findings highlight the need for repeat viral RNA testing of apparent controllers of HCV infection in the setting of HIV-1 coinfection

and provide a possible explanation for the higher rate of HCV persistence observed in this population.

6179

"Risk factors for false-negative HCV antibody tests in HIV-positive individuals identified"

Location:

AA VERTICAL FILE - HEPATITIS - HEP 14

Publication Type:

ARTICLE (ONLINE)

by Thaczuk, Derek

AIDSMAP.COM NAM

Volume: Issue: Day: Month: January Year: 2007 Page numbers:

Subjects:

1. HEPATITIS C 2. HIV 3. TESTING

Abstract:

In the largest study of the subject to date, researchers have found that HIV-positive individuals with a history of injection drug use, CD4 cell counts below 200 cells/mm³, or elevated ALT liver enzyme levels are at greater risk of falsely negative antibody tests for HCV infection.

6177

"Heavy drinking affects the prognosis of women with hepatitis C"

Location:

AA VERTICAL FILE - HEPATITIS - HEP 15

Publication Type:

ARTICLE (ONLINE)

by Legge, Adam

AIDSMAP.COM NAM

Volume: Issue: Day: Month: January Year: 2007 Page numbers:

Subjects:

1. HEPATITIS C 2. WOMEN 3. ALCOHOLISM

Abstract:

Women with hepatitis C virus (HCV) who drink heavily completely lose the survival advantage they have over HCV infected men according to US research published in February edition of Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research.

HIV RELATED CONDITIONS

6180

"New cause of chronic liver disease identified in HIV-positive patients"

Location:

AA VERTICAL FILE - HIV RELATED CONDITIONS - HRC 40

Publication Type:

ARTICLE (ONLINE)

by Carter, Michael

AIDSMAP.COM NAM

Volume: Issue: Day: Month: January Year: 2007 Page numbers:

Subjects:

1. HIV-RELATED CONDITIONS 2. LIVER 3. TREATMENTS-SIDE EFFECTS

Abstract:

A new cause of liver disease has been identified in HIV-positive patients. Investigators in Paris found that 8% of HIV-infected individuals receiving treatment at a specialist liver centre had nodular regenerative hyperplasia, a rare, but potentially fatal, liver disease. The syndrome involves the build-up of pressure in the portal vein, which connects the intestines with the liver and can cause bleeding into the stomach. Writing in the January 11th edition of the journal AIDS, the French investigators suggest that nodular regenerative hyperplasia is probably under-diagnosed in HIV-positive patients with liver disease, and that antiretroviral therapy should be carefully examined as a possible cause.

MEDICAL MARIJUANA

6166

"Marijuana as therapy for people living with HIV/AIDS: Social and health aspects"**Location:**

AA VERTICAL FILE - MEDICAL MARIJUANA - MM 16

Publication Type:

JOURNAL ARTICLE

by Fogarty, A et al

AIDS CARE

Volume: 19 Issue: 2 Day: Month: February Year: 2007 Page numbers: pp 295-301

Subjects:

1. CANNABIS 2. HIV POSITIVE PEOPLE-SELF CARE 3. ALTERNATIVE THERAPIES

Abstract:

Therapeutic use of marijuana has emerged as an important issue for people living with cancer, HIV/AIDS and multiple sclerosis. This paper examines therapeutic use of marijuana in the Positive Health cohort study, a longitudinal cohort study of men and women living with HIV/AIDS in NSW and Victoria, Australia. Factors that distinguish therapeutic use of marijuana from recreational use were assessed by comparisons on a range of social and health-related variables. The results show that among 408 participants, 59.8% reported some use of marijuana in the past six months. Of those participants (n=244), 55.7% reported recreational use only of marijuana and 44.3% report mixed use of marijuana for therapeutic and recreational purposes. Multivariate logistic regression analysis showed that participants who used marijuana for therapeutic purposes were significantly more likely than recreational-only users to have used other complementary or alternative therapies, experienced HIV/AIDS-related illness or other illnesses in the past 12 months, had higher CD4/T-cell counts, had lower incomes, be younger in age and less likely to have had a casual partner in the six months prior to interview. These results show that a substantial proportion of people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) use marijuana for therapeutic purposes, despite considerable legal barriers, suggesting marijuana represents another option in their health management. Rather than solely using marijuana in response to illness, the experience of illness may influence a person's understanding of their marijuana use, so that they come to understand it as therapeutic. Further research might consider possible interactions between cannabinoids and

antiretroviral treatments, potential use of oral THC and the difficulties faced by clinicians and PLWHA in discussing marijuana in the current legal context.

MENTAL HEALTH

6172

"Perceived stress is associated with CD4 cell decline in men and women living with HIV/AIDS in Spain"

Location:

AA VERTICAL FILE - MENTAL HEALTH - MH 26

Publication Type:

JOURNAL ARTICLE

by Remor, E et al

AIDS CARE

Volume: 19 Issue: 2 Day: Month: February Year: 2007 Page numbers: pp 215-219

Subjects:

1. CD4 COUNT 2. HIV POSITIVE PEOPLE-PSYCHOLOGICAL ASPECTS 3. MENTAL HEALTH

Abstract:

This study assessed whether perceived stress as measured by the Perceived Stress Scale (PSS) was associated with a decline in CD4+ cell counts over a six-month period in 59 men and 41 women living with HIV-1. Participants underwent psychological and medical assessment at the study entry (baseline) and again at six months post-baseline. In a hierarchical regression model controlling for sociodemographic (e.g. age, gender, education, income) and disease-related variables (e.g. duration of antiretroviral treatment, antiretroviral treatment and adherence, CD4+ cell count and viral load), perceived stress was associated with the decline in CD4+ cell count over the six-month period. These findings suggest perceived psychosocial stress is associated with CD4+ cell count decline independent of sociodemographic factors and disease status among men and women on antiretroviral medication for HIV/AIDS. [ABSTRACT FROM AUTHOR]

MULTICULTURAL GROUPS

6170

"Late HIV diagnosis of people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds in Sydney: The role of culture and community."

Location:

AA VERTICAL FILE - MULTICULTURAL GROUPS - MG 25

Publication Type:

JOURNAL ARTICLE

by Korner, H

AIDS CARE

Volume: 19 Issue: 2 Day: Month: February Year: 2007 Page numbers: pp 168-178

Subjects:

1. HIV POSITIVE PEOPLE(AUST) 2. ETHNIC GROUPS(AUST) 3. HETEROSEXUAL TRANSMISSION 4. CULTURAL ASPECTS

Abstract:

In Australia more than 85% of newly diagnosed HIV infections in 1999–2003 were homosexually acquired. In contrast, among people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, there is a much higher proportion of heterosexual exposure and many of the heterosexually acquired infections are diagnosed 'late', with people sometimes presenting with symptoms of AIDS. This paper reports on circumstances of late HIV diagnosis, meaning of an HIV-positive diagnosis and perceptions of risk among HIV-positive people from a variety of cultural and ethnic backgrounds in Sydney. The focus was on commonalities across cultures and ethnicities. Data were collected through semi-structured in-depth interviews with clients of the Multicultural HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis C Service and a sexual health clinic. Regular HIV tests were the exception in this group. Testing was usually motivated by a serious health crisis. Participants interpreted their diagnosis in the context of their knowledge and experiences with HIV/AIDS in their country of birth and the perceptions of HIV/AIDS in their ethnic communities in Australia. Many were not aware of the relationship between HIV and AIDS. Risk was perceived in terms of 'risk group' membership not in terms of practices and behaviours. Late diagnosis cannot be explained solely by association with country of birth, race or ethnicity. Rather, it is located within complex sets of social and cultural relations: the values attributed to HIV/AIDS and those infected and the social and cultural relations of ethnic communities in Australia and the dominant culture. These are enacted in healthcare seeking behaviour, perceptions of people with HIV and perceptions of being 'at risk'. [ABSTRACT FROM AUTHOR]

PREVENTION

6183

"Two studies of cellulose sulfate microbicide halted; fails to protect women against HIV in one study"**Location:****AA VERTICAL FILE - PREVENTION - PV 33**

Publication Type:

ARTICLE (ONLINE)

by Alcorn, Keith

AIDSMAP.COM NAM

Volume: Issue: Day: Month: January Year: 2007 Page numbers:**Subjects:**

1. MICROBICIDES 2. WOMEN 3. TRANSMISSION 4. CLINICAL TRIALS

Abstract:

An international phase III study of Ushercell, a cellulose sulfate microbicide, has been halted after the trial organiser found a higher rate of HIV infections in women randomised to receive the microbicide. A second study, in Nigeria, has been halted by sponsor Family Health International as a precautionary measure.

6182

"Condoms in Australian prisons don't lead to 'rape and mayhem'"

Location:

AA VERTICAL FILE - PRISONS - PRI 17

Publication Type:

ARTICLE (ONLINE)

by Carter, Michael

AIDSMAP.COM NAM

Volume: Issue: Day: Month: Year: 2007 Page numbers:

Subjects:

1. PRISONS(AUST) 2. CONDOMS 3. SAFER SEX

Abstract:

Providing condoms and dental dams to prisoners does not cause "rape and mayhem", investigators in Australia have found.

In a study published in the online edition of Sexually Transmitted Infections, researchers from New South Wales established that there was in fact a fall in the reported incidence of both consensual and non-consensual sex between male prisoners after condoms were made available to inmates, and that condom and dental dam misuse was generally benign.

6162

"Outcomes of Project Wall Talk: an HIV/AIDS peer education program implemented within the Texas State Prison system."

Location:

AA VERTICAL FILE - PRISONS - PRI 18

Publication Type:

JOURNAL ARTICLE

by Ross, Michael W et al

AIDS EDUCATION AND PREVENTION

Volume: 18 Issue: 6 Day: Month: Year: 2006 Page numbers: pp 504-517

Subjects:

1. PRISONS 2. PEER EDUCATION 3. RISK BEHAVIOUR

Abstract:

We report select outcomes from an evaluation of Project Wall Talk, a community-based, peer-led HIV prevention education program implemented in 36 Texas State prison units. Peer educators completed questionnaires prior to receipt of a 40-hour intensive training (N = 590) and at 9-month follow-up (N = 257). Students (N = 2506) completed questionnaires pre- and post-receipt of peer educator-led HIV education sessions. Peer educators and their students showed significant increases in HIV-related knowledge. Peer educators showed significant increases in assessment of their skills as educators. For both peer educators and students, significant differences in HIV-related knowledge were indicated across categories of prior educational level attained and race/ethnicity; no such differences were indicated at follow-up. Compared with baseline, a significantly greater proportion of peer educators reported ever having had an HIV test. After receiving peer-led education, a significantly smaller proportion of students reported they knew their HIV status and more indicated plans to take an HIV test. Additionally, in months 12 and 18 following program implementation, the numbers of HIV tests at the five units that implemented the peer education program were roughly twice that of five, matched comparison units without the peer education program. Based on peer educator reports, we projected that peer

educators (N = 257) may have as many as 84,000 or more annual opportunities to share HIV-related knowledge with other prisoners outside the classroom.

SAFER SEX & RISK BEHAVIOUR

6176

"Homosexuality, seropositivity, and family obligations: perspectives of HIV-infected men who have sex with men in China"

Location:

AA VERTICAL FILE - SAFER SEX & RISK BEHAVIOUR - SS 41

Publication Type:

JOURNAL ARTICLE

by Zhou, Yanqiu Rachel

CULTURE, HEALTH & SEXUALITY

Volume: 8 Issue: 6 Day: Month: November-December Year: 2006 Page numbers: pp 487-500

Subjects:

1. MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN 2. GAY MEN 3. GAY MEN WITH HIV 4. GAY MEN-RISK BEHAVIOUR 5. CULTURAL ASPECTS 6. CHINA

Abstract:

The HIV epidemic has had major impact on men who have sex with men in China. Most current studies view male-to-male sex as a behavioural dimension or variable affecting HIV infection, paying little attention to the socio-cultural meanings of homosexuality and their impacts on men's experiences with HIV/AIDS. This oversight has impeded understanding of the health practices of this population. Based on a qualitative study of experiences of Chinese people living with HIV/AIDS, this paper explores the complex processes in which men who have sex with men struggle and negotiate with their sexuality, family obligations, and this disease. To facilitate Chinese men who have sex with men in responding effectively to HIV and AIDS, researchers and practitioners should take into account a wide range of contextual factors including desired gender roles, family obligations, homophobia, and HIV-related stigma that contribute to current constructions of 'homosexuality' in China.

6175

"Bug chasing and gift giving: the potential for HIV transmission among barebackers on the internet."

Location:

AA VERTICAL FILE - SAFER SEX & RISK BEHAVIOUR - SS 42

Publication Type:

JOURNAL ARTICLE

by Grov, Christian ; Parsons, Jeffrey T

AIDS EDUCATION AND PREVENTION

Volume: 18 Issue: 6 Day: Month: Year: 2006 Page numbers: pp 490-503

Subjects:

1. MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN 2. GAY MEN WITH HIV-RISK BEHAVIOUR 3. RISK BEHAVIOUR 4. HIV TRANSMISSION 5. INTERNET

Abstract:

"Bug chasing" and "gift giving" are colloquial terms used by some men who have sex with men (MSM) to describe intentional unprotected anal sex ("barebacking")

with the goal of spreading HIV. There is little large-scale descriptive research that has investigated the prevalence of this phenomenon. This study analyzed the Internet profiles of MSM who self-identified as bug chasers or gift givers (n = 1,228) on a single U.S.-based barebacking-centered Web site in the fall of 2004. Most men (79%) were White, and most (70%) lived in the U.S. Six categories of bug chasing and gift giving were identified based on the HIV serostatus of men and the desired serostatus of partners they wanted to meet. Only a small portion of men were genuinely seeking partners of discordant serostatus: 1.1% of HIV-positive men and 21.3% of HIV-negative men. A larger portion were ambivalent about their partners HIV serostatus: 72% of HIV-positive men and 35% of HIV-negative men. Having identified online as a bug chaser or gift giver did not consistently correspond to behavioral intentions, as 24% of HIV-positive men and 36% of HIV-negative men were specifically seeking partners of the same serostatus. These data suggest bug chasing and gift giving do exist; however a sizable portion of both bug chasers and gift givers were not intent on spreading HIV.

6181

"New way of thinking about gay men and unprotected sex needed, says study"

Location:

AA VERTICAL FILE - SAFER SEX & RISK BEHAVIOUR - SS 43

Publication Type:

ARTICLE (ONLINE)

by Carter, Michael

AIDSMAP.COM NAM

Volume: Issue: Day: Month: January Year: 2007 Page numbers:

Subjects:

1. GAY MEN(AUST) 2. GAY MEN-RISK BEHAVIOUR(AUST) 3. ANAL SEX

Abstract:

An Australian study published in the December edition of Sexually Transmitted Infections has found that the characteristics of a sexual encounter between gay men rather than gay men's individual characteristics predict whether or not unprotected anal sex will occur. The investigators suggest that this is a major finding and that health promotion workers need to stop thinking about certain individuals having a propensity to engage in unprotected sex, but rather recognise that "the occurrence of unprotected anal intercourse...is significantly shaped by characteristics and context of the specific sexual encounter."

SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS

6178

"Over a third of gay men with anal infections reported no unprotected anal sex"

Location:

AA VERTICAL FILE - SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES - STD 25

Publication Type:

ARTICLE (ONLINE)

by Carter, Michael

AIDSMAP.COM NAM

Volume: Issue: Day: Month: January Year: 2007 Page numbers:

Subjects:

1. SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS 2. GAY MEN(AUST) 3. GAY MEN-RISK BEHAVIOUR(AUST) 4. ANAL SEX

Abstract:

Sexual practices other than unprotected anal sex appear to be risk factors for anal infection with gonorrhoea and chlamydia, according to an Australian study published in the online edition of Sexually Transmitted Infections. Investigators from the HIM study in Sydney found that over a third of gay men with anal gonorrhoea or chlamydia infections reported no unprotected anal sex, but had engaged in other sexual practices involving the anus, such as rimming, fingering, fisting, or the use of sex toys.

The investigators suggest that their findings have important implications for sexual health screens for gay men, and that all gay men should have swabs for anal infections regardless of whether they report unprotected anal sex.

TREATMENTS

6173

"Stigma and social barriers to medication adherence with urban youth living with HIV"

Location:

AA VERTICAL FILE - TREATMENTS - TRE 33

Publication Type:

JOURNAL ARTICLE

by Rao, D et al

AIDS CARE

Volume: 19 Issue: 1 Day: Month: January Year: 2007 Page numbers: pp 28-33

Subjects:

1. YOUTH WITH HIV 2. YOUTH WITH HIV-PSYCHOSOCIAL ASPECTS 3. PUBLIC ATTITUDES 4. HAART 5. COMPLIANCE

Abstract:

Youth adherence to highly active anti-retroviral therapy (HAART) is poor, and little research exists that identifies the reasons youth have difficulty adhering to medications. Given that complete adherence is necessary for favourable health outcomes, it is essential to examine the obstacles youth face in adhering to HAART. The present investigation sought to identify these barriers and to systematically examine the experiences and attitudes youth have towards medications. Twenty-five adolescents and young adults presenting to a public primary care facility for treatment of HIV infection were asked to participate in focus groups which explored their attitudes and experiences around medication adherence. Participants provided richly detailed descriptions of the challenges of managing HIV stigma and their efforts to hide their status from friends, family, doctors, and even themselves. Fifty percent of respondents indicated that they skipped doses because they feared family or friends would discover their status. These results suggest that HIV stigma impacts treatment for youth on several levels, from the accuracy of communication with medical providers to medication adherence, subsequent health outcomes, and the emergence of treatment resistant strains. [ABSTRACT FROM AUTHOR]

6174

"Establishing a workplace antiretroviral therapy programme in South Africa"

Location:

AA VERTICAL FILE - TREATMENTS - TRE 94

Publication Type:

JOURNAL ARTICLE

by Charalambous, S et al

AIDS CARE

Volume: 19 Issue: 1 Day: Month: January Year: 2007 Page numbers: pp 34-41

Subjects:

1. ANTIRETROVIRAL TREATMENTS 2. DEVELOPING COUNTRIES 3. AFRICA

Abstract:

Ways to expand access to antiretroviral treatment (ART) in low income settings are being sought. We describe an HIV care programme including ART in an industrial setting in South Africa. The programme uses guidelines derived from local and international best practice. The training component aims to build capacity among health care staff. Nurses and doctors are supported by experienced HIV clinicians through telephone consultation and site visits. Patients undergo a three-stage counselling procedure prior to starting ART. Drug regimens and monitoring are standardised and prophylaxis against opportunistic infections (isoniazid and cotrimoxazole) is offered routinely. Laboratory and pharmacy services, using named-patient dispensing, are centralized. The programme is designed to ensure that data on clinical and economic outcomes will be available for programme evaluation. Between November 2002–December 2004, ART delivery has been established at 70 ART workplace ART sites. The sites range from 200 to 12000 employees, and from small occupational health clinics and general practitioner rooms to larger hospital clinics. During this period, 2456 patients began ART. Of those on treatment for at least three months, 1728 (78%) have been retained on the programme and only 38 (1.7%) patients have failed the first-line ART regimen. This model for delivery of ART is feasible and successful in an industrial setting. The model may be generalizable to other employment health services in settings of high HIV prevalence, and as a model for implementing ART in other types of health-care settings. [ABSTRACT FROM AUTHOR]

6171

"Adverse quality of life consequences of antiretroviral medications"

Location:

AA VERTICAL FILE - TREATMENTS - TRE 95

Publication Type:

JOURNAL ARTICLE

by Park-Wyllie, L Y et al

AIDS CARE

Volume: 19 Issue: 2 Day: Month: February Year: 2007 Page numbers: pp 252-257

Subjects:

1. HAART 2. TREATMENTS-SIDE EFFECTS 3. HIV POSITIVE PEOPLE-HEALTH CARE NEEDS 4. HIV POSITIVE PEOPLE-PSYCHOLOGICAL ASPECTS 5. HIV POSITIVE PEOPLE-PSYCHOSOCIAL ASPECTS

Abstract:

To identify the effects of antiretroviral therapy on quality of life, we performed a qualitative content analysis of the Medical Outcomes Study-Human Immunodeficiency Virus (MOS-HIV) Health Survey. We used focus groups to elicit

views about antiretroviral effects on quality of life from a purposive sample of treatment-experienced participants. Data were analysed using a grounded theory approach. We appraised the content of the MOS-HIV against the themes identified from our analysis. Participants also completed the MOS-HIV survey and were asked whether the survey captured all important medication-related aspects of quality of life. Participants (n=38) viewed the use of antiretrovirals as a trade-off between poorer quality of life and being alive. The net effect was increased longevity but without hope and future. Features of quality of life included the downstream consequences of side effects and toxicities, tensions with health care providers and loss of independent decision-making, dilemmas regarding drugs and career, burdens of medication-taking responsibilities, and the stress of living life under a pretense and hiding an HIV diagnosis. The MOS-HIV missed or under-emphasised these features. Quality of life concerns of people living with HIV, particularly those related to medication use, are not well captured by the MOS-HIV. A broad concept of quality of life is needed to encompass all dimensions important to people living with HIV. [ABSTRACT FROM AUTHOR]

6188

"State of access to Kaletra"

Location:

AA VERTICAL FILE - TREATMENTS - TRE 97

Publication Type:

JOURNAL ARTICLE

by Huff, Bob

GMHC TREATMENT ISSUES

Volume: 20 Issue: 4/5/6/7 Day: Month: April - July Year: 2006 Page numbers: pp 4-5

Subjects:

1. GLOBAL EPIDEMIC 2. ANTIRETROVIRAL TREATMENTS 3. DEVELOPING COUNTRIES 4. ECONOMIC ISSUES

Abstract:

Article reviews access to Kaletra in developing countries including : Moldova, El Salvador, Ukraine, Paraguay, Croatia, Suriname, Zambia, India, Uganda, China, Bulgaria, Russia, Estonia, Peru, Morocco and Cameroon.

6190

"Optimizing antiretroviral therapy for HCV coinfecting people"

Location:

AA VERTICAL FILE - TREATMENTS - TRE 98

Publication Type:

JOURNAL ARTICLE

by Swan, Tracey

GMHC TREATMENT ISSUES

Volume: 20 Issue: 4/5/6/7 Day: Month: April - July Year: 2006 Page numbers: pp 9-11

Subjects:

1. HIV 2. HEPATITIS C 3. ANTIRETROVIRAL TREATMENTS 4. TREATMENTS-SIDE EFFECTS

VACCINES

6163

"How should HIV vaccine efficacy trials be conducted? Diverse U.S. communities speak out."

Location:

AA VERTICAL FILE - VACCINES - VAC 16

Publication Type:

JOURNAL ARTICLE

by Kegeles, Susan M. et al

AIDS EDUCATION AND PREVENTION

Volume: 18 Issue: 6 Day: Month: Year: 2006 Page numbers: pp 560-572

Subjects:

1. VACCINES 2. CLINICAL TRIALS 3. SOCIAL ASPECTS(USA)

Abstract:

Developing an effective vaccine remains a critical long-term approach to HIV prevention. Every efficacy trial should be responsive to the concerns of participating communities because the successful development of an HIV preventive vaccine will require long-term involvement of people who have been marginalized and who distrust the government and biomedical research. Using qualitative interviews and purposive sampling, we elicited recommendations regarding how vaccine efficacy trials should be conducted from 90 members of communities that have been disproportionately affected by HIV/AIDS: injection drug users, gay men, and African Americans. The most common recommendation was for complete disclosure of all aspects of the trial. Other themes included participant and community education, who to include in trials, preventing harm, trust, community involvement, researcher attributes, and respect for participants. Developing positive, respectful and collaborative experiences with community members will facilitate vaccine research because negative experiences and unfavorable community reactions can greatly impede success in future trials.

WOMEN

6184

"HIV-positive women often receive poor gynaecological care"

Location:

AA VERTICAL FILE - WOMEN - WOM 59

Publication Type:

ARTICLE (ONLINE)

by Carter, Michael

AIDSMAP.COM NAM

Volume: Issue: Day: Month: December Year: 2006 Page numbers:

Subjects:

1. WOMEN WITH HIV 2. HIV POSITIVE PEOPLE-HEALTH CARE NEEDS

Abstract:

HIV-positive women in one of the world's richest countries are receiving suboptimal gynaecological care, according to a study published in the December 15th edition of the Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes. Investigators from the Swiss HIV Cohort Study found that a significant proportion of women were not having regular gynaecological examinations and PAP smears to check for cervical abnormalities. Non-white ethnicity, poor education, injecting drug use and being under or over weight were factors associated with a lack of gynaecological care.

