

**Program Update and
Qualitative Sub-Study
Bronx AIDS Services/Montefiore
AIDS Adolescent Program**

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SPNS Meeting
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Boogie Down Bronx Project

Bronx AIDS Services

and

Adolescent AIDS Program at
Montefiore Medical Center

Mobile Unit & Drop-In Group Testing

Adolescent AIDS Program

3MV/CTR CODE RED

Social/Sexual Network Testing

4 transferred to adult clinic;
2 moved out-of-state;
1 withdrew

Identification of HIV + YMCSM
n=49 Baseline

Linkage to Care
n=42 Active

Retention
n=188/195

Intensive Case Management
Taxi Cab pick-up & drop-off
Texting & Reminder cards
Home Visits
\$50 Gift Card & Metrocards
Food Vouchers
Weekly social programs

7 Missed Appointments
(2 per year)

Study Context

- 5 Seroconverters between August 2006 and September 2007
- 90% of MSM under age 20 diagnosed with HIV in 2006 were Black or Latino – NYCDHMH Report (September 2007)
- New diagnoses have doubled among MSMs aged 13 to 19 years in NYC
- MSMs in the under-30 age group now accounts for 44% of all new diagnoses

Study Context

- Given the fact that 5 adolescents seroconverted raised a number of concerns:
 - ❖ The role of shared physical space (drop-in center)
 - ❖ Potential formation of a sexual network
 - ❖ Possible association between network factors and HIV risks

Study Collaboration

- BAS & AAP Montefiore teams
- Brainstorming of ideas
- Draft of study protocol
- Refinement of study protocol
- Feasibility of conducting the study
- Draft of Qualitative tool
- Refinement of the tool
- IRB Process – 2 Independent IRBs

Study Design

- Mixed-Methods Approach
 - ❖ Qualitative Component
 - ❖ Quantitative Component
- Target enrollment – N=30-40

Study Research Goals

- To explore study participants' opinions and perceptions of services being provided at BAS and Montefiore AAP YMSM programs
- To explore how have these programs may potentially contribute to the sexual mixing of its participants
- To explore whether the programs facilitated or contributed to the YMSM “coming out” experiences or solidified their sexual orientation and/or behavior

Study Research Goals

- To explore the nature of HIV+ YMSM's sexual behaviors and partnering over time
- The ways in which the partner selection process of YMSM may potentially be influenced by family or socialization at YMSM programs

Eligibility Criteria

- HIV+ YMSM currently enrolled in the SPNS program for at least 6 months
- Interested in and agree to participate in the study

Qualitative Component

- Some of the domains include:
 - ❖ Program Involvement – types of services utilized incl. Drop-in center, the least/most appealing services, type(s) of services lacking, etc.
 - ❖ “Coming out” experience – sexual orientation/sexuality/attraction, hopes for the future
 - ❖ Family’s attitude toward partner selection – how has “coming out” helped to weaken or strengthen family bonds, types of partners since coming out, etc.

Qualitative Component

- ❖ Sexual Partners/Networks – types of partners prior to and after testing HIV +, description of typical socialization network, peers feelings about the inevitability of testing HIV+

Quantitative Component

- Number and demographics of current and past partners including gender
- Identifying where partner(s) was/were met
- Number of sex occasions in the past 3 months
- Condom use for sex acts and with what type of partners
- Discussion of sex past with partner(s)
- HIV disclosure to partner(s)
- Knowledge of partners' HIV status

Data Analysis

- The qualitative data will be transcribed and coded using Nudist NVIVO 7
- SPSS16 to analyze the quantitative data

Study Limitations

- Small sample size
- Time for study implementation

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- Brad Cauthen, Director
- Anthony Morgan, PC
- AAP Montefiore
- Donna Futterman, MD – PI
- Elizabeth Bruce, MD – PM

Contributors

- Mario De La Cruz
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Contributors

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