

State Minority AIDS Project

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Project Description: In June 2002 we began collaborating with the State of California Department of Health Services, Office of AIDS (DHS/OA), in conjunction with the University-Wide AIDS Research Program (UARP), in their Community Collaborative Projects. Broadly, the project aims to develop and maintain a database of the best evidence of behavioral HIV prevention interventions conducted with people of color. To date we have:

- Updated our search of interventions targeting African Americans and conducted a meta-analysis of the interventions that targeted African-American heterosexuals. Working with staff from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), we are preparing a manuscript of these findings to be submitted for publication in early spring of 2006.
- Prepared a Module for UARP in their Community Collaborative Projects using the research regarding effective interventions targeting African-American heterosexuals. The module describes in detail interventions conducted with this population and provides recommendations for either community-based organizations and/or local health jurisdictions for the design and/or implementation of future interventions.
- Prepared another module for UARP's Community Collaborative focusing on effective interventions for men of color who have sex with men (MSM) which is available on the UARP website.
- Updated our systematic reviews of HIV prevention interventions for Latino and Asian-American and Pacific Islander populations.
- Consulted with the HIV Intervention Enhancement Project (HIEP), based in the HIV Prevention Research and Evaluation Branch of the Office of AIDS in their goals to describe and promote the concept of intervention enhancement. The goal of the project is to facilitate the translation of successful, evidence-based interventions from the research realm into formats that are more easily utilized by community-based organizations and/or local health jurisdictions.

Interesting Findings: For African-American heterosexuals, we found that the most successful interventions were grounded in theory, provided the participants with skills training (e.g., condom negotiation), and were culturally sensitive to the unique needs of African Americans. Positive outcomes from these interventions included increased condom use, decreased numbers of sexual partners, and improved communication with partners regarding safer sexual practices. For MSM of color, culturally sensitive interventions facilitate risk reduction, and future interventions should take the unique needs of the target community into account. This includes taking into consideration the unique barriers to safe sex (e.g., internalized homophobia, racism, poverty, substance use, sexual identity) that may be present within these communities.

Project Web Site: Systematic review of behavioral HIV prevention interventions for African Americans: hivinsite.ucsf.edu/InSite.jsp?doc=kb-07-04-09, Module for African-American heterosexuals: uarp.ucop.edu/ca_collaborations/modules/research_summary1.html

Project End Date: June 30, 2009