

National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day



March 10, 2011



University of California
San Francisco



Center for AIDS
Prevention Studies (CAPS)
Technology and Information
Exchange (TIE) Core

Center for AIDS Prevention Studies (CAPS)

Research Resources

for HIV/AIDS Prevention
with Women and Girls

www.caps.ucsf.edu

Center for AIDS Prevention Studies (CAPS)

This brochure lists CAPS research with Women and Girls and helpful resources produced by CAPS. You might use it to:

- Stay up-to-date on research and learn what we found out from research
- Use the materials in trainings/presentations
- Advocate for services/funding
- Write grants
- Develop new or modify existing HIV prevention programs
- Evaluate current programs
- Connect with CAPS to develop new projects. Lead researchers (PIs) are listed for each study. Contact us below to connect.

Questions? Comments?



Contact Marliese Warren, 415/597-4995 or Marliese.Warren@ucsf.edu.



This brochure was prepared by CAPS/s TIE Core "Tying research and community together."

Research with Drug Users

Acute UFO Study

Project Staff: Kimberly Page PhD MPH(PI); Paula Lum MD MPH, Judith Hahn PhD MPH, Stewart Cooper MD FRCP, Eric Delwart PhD, Mike Busch MD PhD(Co-Is); Peter Davidson PhD, Jennifer Evans, Leslie Tobler, Paulo Telles PhD (Research Associates); Martha Montgomery, Gina Limon, Pam Axelson, Alya Briceno, Alice Asher RN MSN CNS, Clara Brandt, Noah Gaiser, Erin Antunez, Robert Thawley, Noah Glaser, Michelle Yu (Staff)

Young injection drug users (IDU) constitute a distinctive high risk and understudied group with high rates of hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection. The Acute UFO study has identified 135 incident HCV infections, 95 of which are being followed prospectively.

Bit of Research: An estimated 20% of acutely-infected individuals resolved infection; 86% cleared within six months of infection. Women were significantly more likely to clear HCV infection than men. Female clearers also showed a significantly steeper decline in HCV viral load during early infection compared to male clearers.

Research with HIV+ Persons

IMPACT (Investigating Motivations for Participation in Anal Cancer Prevention Trials)

Project Staff: Joel Palefsky MD, Nicolas Sheon PhD (PIs); Michael Scarce, Aung Chein

This project will provide critical information for planning a large definitive trial of screening and treatment of anal intraepithelial neoplasia (AIN) to prevent anal cancer in HIV+ men and women across the US.

Research with Persons in Prison and Jail

Navigator-Enhanced Case Management for Jail Inmates

Project Staff: Janet Myers PhD (PI); Jaqueline Tulsy MD (Co-PI); Mark Morewitz, MSW (Project Director); Becky Packard (Research Analyst); Charles Pearson, MA (Qualitative Specialist); John Weeks (Ethnographer); Richard Garcia, MA (Project Coordinator)

This project will pilot and test an enhanced case management intervention for HIV+ individuals with substance abuse and mental health issues as they are released from jail and move back to the community. We will recruit 360 HIV+ men and women leaving the San Francisco Jail.

Project Relate: HIV Risk among Male Parolees and their Female Partners

Project Staff: Megan Comfort PhD (PI); Olga Reznick PhD MPH, Tor Neilands PhD, Philippe Bourgois PhD MA (University of Pennsylvania) (Co-PIs); Jackie Ramos (Project Assistant); Claudia Smith and Malcolm Hoover (Recruiters/Interviewers); Samantha Dilworth (Data Manager/Statistician); Timoteo Rodriguez (Project Anthropologist)

This study explores HIV risk among men who were released from prison within the last year and are currently on parole and the women who are in sexual relationships with them. Two hundred couples will be recruited from community sites in Oakland, CA.

Bit of research: Couples experience HIV risk post-incarceration in varied ways. Once reunited, couples avoid talking about HIV risk behavior that occurred while the man was incarcerated due to a desire to leave the prison experience behind. Unprotected sexual intercourse and conceiving children are important ways of communicating love, trust, and fidelity for partners who are reunited after incarceration.

Research with Transgender Women

Culturally Relevant HIV Prevention for Transgender Women

Project Staff: Jae Sevelius PhD (PI)

This study will develop and test a theory-driven, culturally grounded HIV prevention intervention for transgender women, based on addressing HIV-related sexual and injection risk behaviors and protective factors.

Barriers to and Retention in Support Services among HIV+ Transwomen

Project Staff: Erin Wilson DrPH (PI); Jae Sevelius PhD, Shalini Eddens (Co-Is)

The purpose of this study is to examine barriers to and retention in support services among HIV+ transwomen (women who were assigned a male sex

at birth) and to explore the challenges and potential benefits of integrating HIV+ transwomen into services for HIV+ non-transgender women in Alameda County, CA.

International Research - Women

AIDS, Stigma and Gender: Health Consequences in Urban India

Project Staff: Maria L. Ekstrand PhD (PI); Shalini Bharat PhD, Gregory Herek PhD, Jayashree Ramakrishna PhD, V Ravi MD, Prabha Chandra MD (Co-Is); Thomas Osmand MPH, Jason Barry, Sonal Shukla, Neha Kachroo, Hamsa Krishna, Kathryn Steuerman, Anitha S, Nageshappa VS, Kirutheka, Chidanand Swamy, Gloria, Nathali D'Silva, Asmita Naik, Shashikant Sakat, Pooja Sanghvi, Vanita Bagde, Prerana Bagde (Staff)

This collaborative study examines the nature, extent, and context of AIDS stigma and discrimination by gender, at multiple levels, among people coming into contact with urban health care systems, including: people living with HIV/AIDS, healthcare staff and the general population of patients seeking healthcare in outpatient settings. We will develop and disseminate programs and policy recommendations to reduce AIDS-related stigma and discrimination in urban Indian healthcare settings.



Bit of Research: Depression is not an inevitable outcome of disclosure avoidance: amidst ongoing perceptions and experiences of stigma, HIV+ individuals can achieve significant improvements in their acceptance of HIV and in mental well-being.

Assessing the Feasibility of Conducting a Randomized Community Trial of the Encontros Intervention Model among Sex Workers in Brazil

Project Staff: Sheri A. Lippman PhD MPH (PI); Deanna Kerrigan PhD MPH (Co-I)

This study will determine the feasibility of conducting a randomized trial of a promising multi-component intervention among sex workers in Brazil.

The Cambodian Young Women's Health Study (YWHS)

Project Staff: Kimberly Page PhD MPH (PI); Ellen Stein, Joel Palefsky MD, Marie-Claude Couture PhD, Fran Aweeka PharmD (UCSF Staff); Tooru Nemoto PhD (Public Health Institute); Saphonn Vonthanak, Mean Chhi Vun, Neth San Sothy (National Center for HIV, AIDS, Dermatology & STDs [NCHADS]); Serey Phal (Cambodian Women's Development Association [CWDA]); John Kaldor PhD, Lisa Maher PhD (National Centre in HIV Epidemiology & Clinical Research, University of New South Wales)



This collaborative study conducts research on prevalence and incidence of HIV, chlamydia, gonorrhea, and human papillomavirus, as well as rates of drug use including amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS) among young women in Phnom Penh, Cambodia working in the sex and entertainment service sectors and who have multiple sexual partners.

Bit of Research: HIV prevalence was 23%. Almost half (42.5%) reported any ATS use, including Yama (41%) or Crystal/Ice (23%).

Context and Correlates of Health Behaviors in South India

Project Staff: Maria L. Ekstrand PhD (PI); N. Kumarasamy MD, Davidson Solomon MD, Gopalkrishnan MD, Wayne Steward PhD (Co-Is); AK Srikrishnan, AK Ganesh, Thomas Osmand MPH, Sethu Lakshmi, CK Vasudevan, Daniela Rodriguez, Elsa Heylen, Jason Barry, Raja Solomon, Kathryn Steuerman, Sibi Sreekumar, KR Hariandran, Indirani Gopi, Ansamma George, Rashmi Raman, K Asish, Srinivasa Rao, K Mallikamba (Staff); Ron Stall PhD, B.M. Tripathi MD, Sakuntala Suresh MD (Consultants)

This collaborative study looks at HIV risk-taking in the context of alcohol consumption among male migrant workers and female sex workers in South India. We will develop and pilot-test a risk reduction intervention for them.

Sex Differences in Patterns of Migration and HIV Risk in Western Kenya

Project Staff: Carol Camlin PhD MPH, Craig Cohen MD MPH (Co-PIs); Zachary Kwena MA, Shari Dworkin PhD (Co-Is)

This study will assess the contribution of female migration to the HIV/AIDS epidemic in western Kenya. We will identify the features of women's migration experience which render it particularly hazardous vis-à-vis their HIV infection risk.

Bit of Research: Our preliminary research in South Africa found that female migrants were at higher risk of HIV infection than were male migrants, or non-migrants of either sex. Moreover, sexual risk behavior was more likely to lead to HIV infection for female migrants than for female non-migrants, and males of either category.

International Research - Couples

Couples-Based Voluntary Counseling and Testing and HIV Prevention in South Africa

Project Staff: Lynae Darbes PhD (PI); Sibongile Dladla (Project Director), Xoliswa Behane, Mthokozisi Nhlapho, Hanifa Mtshizana, Dudu Mokhele, Mxolisi Dlamini (South Africa Project Staff)

This study has two primary aims. The first is to identify barriers and facilitators for heterosexual couples pertaining to utilizing couples-based voluntary counseling and testing in Soweto, South Africa. The second is to identify relationship-based predictors of HIV risk behavior in couples (e.g., communication, intimacy, commitment, etc).

Bit of Research: For a majority of participants (both male and female) relationship factors were the primary motivation for participating in couples-based voluntary counseling and testing for HIV. The program served to: develop and deepen relationships; facilitate trust in relationships; and provide a necessary precursor to getting married or having children.

Developing a Comprehensive Couples-Based Intervention in South Africa

Project Staff: Lynae Darbes PhD, Mallory Johnson PhD (PIs); Sibongile Dladla, Xoliswa Behane, Mthokozisi Nhlapho, Hanifa Mtshizana, Dudu Mokhele, Mxolisi Dlamini (South Africa Project Staff)

The primary aims of the project are to: 1) determine the ideal components of an integrated package delivering comprehensive HIV and reproductive health services to heterosexual couples in Soweto, South Africa and 2) explore the feasibility and acceptability of such a program via in-depth interviews with potential target audience members and key informants.



Bit of Research: Both men and women indicated a strong interest in a program focused specifically on couples. They wanted it to include other couples so that they could learn from one another; and teach communication skills, so they could better address difficult issues in their relationships.

International Research - Families and Children

Effects of HIV/AIDS Stigma on Use of Services by Pregnant Women in Kenya (the MAMAS Study)

Project Staff: Janet Molzan Turan PhD MPH (PI); William L. Holzemer RN PhD FAAN, Craig R. Cohen MD MPH, Elizabeth A. Bukusi MD MPH PhD, Suellen Miller RN CNM PhD (Co-PIs); Katie Doolan, Maricianah Onono, Noah Carraher, Charles Awuonda (Project Staff)

The MAMAS Study aims to understand the effects of HIV/AIDS stigma on service use by pregnant women in rural Kenya, and to use the knowledge gained to develop stigma-reduction interventions for this vulnerable group. **Bit of Research:** Anticipated stigma, especially from the male partner and family members, may be an important factor in pregnant women's decision-making regarding HIV testing in rural Kenya.

Family-Based HIV Voluntary Counseling and Testing in Patients at Risk for Tuberculosis



Project Staff: Edwin Charlebois PhD MPH (PI)

This study tests an intervention based at home and based at TB clinics that integrates HIV rapid testing and voluntary counseling and testing into tuberculosis evaluation.

Bit of Research: Fear of stigma is often reported as a reason for not seeking HIV testing or evaluation for TB.

Project REAC: Prevalence and Duration of False-Positive HIV Test Results in Acute Malaria

Project Staff: Edwin Charlebois PhD MPH (PI)

This project will investigate the interaction between acute malaria and false positive HIV test results among children in sub-Saharan Africa. We will follow 450 HIV- children aged 2-17 years being studied for malaria in Kampala, Uganda.

Technical Assistance and Capacity Building

Capacity Building Assistance (CBA) Project

Project Staff: Greg Rebchook PhD (PI); Susan Kegeles PhD, Michael Reyes MD MPH, Jae Sevelius PhD, Marguerita Lightfoot PhD (Co-PIs); JoAnne Keatley MSW, Jamison Green, Yavanté Thomas-Guess, Danielle Castro, Andre Maiorana MA MPH, Kevin Khamarko MA, John Hamiga, Luis Gutierrez-Mock MA, Angel Ventura (CAPS); Katie Kramer MSW MPH, Barry Zack MPH (The Bridging Group, LLC)

Using a culturally and linguistically competent approach to services, CAPS is partnering with transgender communities and communities of young gay and bisexual men to build their capacity to mobilize and increase access to and utilization of HIV prevention services.



Center of Excellence for Transgender Health

Project Staff: Edward Michael Reyes MD MPH (PI); Jae Sevelius PhD (Co-PI); JoAnne Keatley MSW (Director); Thomas D. Foster (Unit Manager); Lourdes Ocbena (Fiscal Coordinator)

The mission of the Center of Excellence for Transgender Health (CoE) is to provide leadership, capacity building, professional training, policy advocacy, research development, and resources to increase access to culturally competent health care for transgender people in the US.

Rapid HIV Testing in Labor and Delivery (RTLTD) in California

Project Staff: Carol Dawson Rose RN PhD, Mona Bernstein MPH (Pacific AIDS Education and Training Center)

This three-year capacity building project targets labor and delivery departments in 120 California hospitals to implement HIV rapid testing with women presenting in labor with no previous documented HIV test and/or prenatal care.

Bit of Research: The status of rapid testing (RT) in 122 facilities in California: RT available, offered to all women 27%; RT available, offered to some 21%; RT available, not to Labor & Delivery 20%; RT not available 19%; Unknown 13%.

Past Research

CHATS: Developing a Network Intervention to Promote Women's Health

This study developed a network intervention aimed at increasing female condom use among ethnically diverse women.

Bit of Research: Female condoms supplemented (not replaced) male condom use, so that higher levels of protected sex were obtained.

Female Condom Intervention Trials (FEMIT)

The FEMIT study developed and evaluated a skills training intervention to increase use of the female condom among ethnically-diverse women ages 18 to 39 and who engage in multiple sexual partnerships.

Bit of Research: The FEMIT project was successful in increasing female condom use and protected sexual acts without reducing male condom use among women.

GEM – A Gender Economic Model of HIV Risk in African-American and Latina Women

GEM examined the extent to which the intersection of socio-culturally prescribed sexual gender norms and socioeconomic context are associated with sexual risk behaviors among African-American and Latina women in the San Francisco Bay area and surrounding communities.

Bit of Research: Younger women are more likely to view themselves as having more options and power in heterosexual relationships. Socioeconomic context, including social capital is perceived as an important precursor to women's ability to decrease their vulnerability to HIV and other STDs.

HIV Prevention Interventions Targeting Asian Masseuses

The Health Project for Asian Women addressed Asian female sex workers at massage parlors in San Francisco with two interventions: Massage Parlor Owner Education Program and Health Educator Masseuse Counseling Program.

Bit of Research: Massage parlor owners/managers do not establish a clear policy for condom use. Consequently, male customers often manipulate their intention not to use a condom while negotiating with masseuses.

HOME Project (Health Options Mean Empowerment)

The HOME project designed and tested an intervention to reduce HIV risk among women whose male partner is being released from San Quentin State Prison. Weekly activities addressing HIV and STD prevention, women's health, and population-specific topics such as parole information were held at a center for visitors directly outside of the gates of San Quentin.

Bit of Research: The HOME Project helped reduce women's HIV risk and risk behavior in three main areas: 1) decreased unprotected sexual intercourse, 2) increased HIV testing, and 3) increased communication with their partners about HIV-related topics.

Project ÒRÉ

ÒRÉ is a Yoruba [an African language] word meaning friends

Project ÒRÉ is a randomized, controlled trial of a friendship-based HIV intervention for young African American women aged 14-18.

Bit of Research: Results for Project ÒRÉ vary by age: there were decreases in risky sex in the oldest group, decreases in multiple partners in the middle age group, and increases in HIV testing in the youngest group.

Safe in the City

Safe in the City (SITC) was a brief, inexpensive and easy-to-implement waiting room intervention to reduce new STD infections and risk behavior among clients of STD clinics. We professionally-produced a 23-minute video and accompanying posters to use in STD clinic waiting rooms.

Bit of Research: Showing a brief video in STD clinic waiting rooms reduced new infections nearly 10% overall in three clinics. SITC is now a DEBI.

CAPS Resources

Fact Sheets

www.caps.ucsf.edu/resources/fact-sheets-new/

- **What are US women's HIV prevention needs?**
- **What are young women's HIV prevention needs?**
- **What are Black women's HIV prevention needs?**
- **What are male-to-female transgender persons' (MtF) HIV prevention needs?**
- **What is the role of the family in HIV prevention?**
- **How do parents and children talk about HIV?**

Survey Instruments

www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/survey-instruments/

- **Topics include risk behavior, adherence, coping, substance use and knowledge/attitudes.**

Evaluation Manuals

www.caps.ucsf.edu/resources/how-to-manuals/

- **Good Questions Better Answers: A Formative Research Handbook for California HIV Prevention Programs**
- **Working Together: A Guide to Collaborative Research in HIV Prevention**

Intervention Curricula

www.caps.ucsf.edu/resources/intervention-curricula/

- **Programs for HIV+ and HIV- persons.**

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