

HIV/AIDS and Youth



Jamal H. N. Hailey, MA
Joyell Arscott, BSN, RN, ACRN

STAR TRACK Adolescent HIV Program
Department of Pediatrics
University of Maryland School of Medicine

Youth Behavioral Risk Survey (2012)



- 47.4% had sexual intercourse <13 yrs
- 15.3% had four or more lifetime sexual partners
- 8.0% have been forced to have sex (11.8% female, 4.5% male)
- 39.9% had smoked marijuana, 6.8% used a form of cocaine, 20.7% abused prescription drugs
- 22.1% used drugs or alcohol before their last sexual intercourse

What are the numbers?



According to the CDC (2011) in 2009:

- ▣ 8,294 youth (13-24 years) were diagnosed with HIV in 40 states with long-term HIV reporting
- ▣ Youth aged 20-24 years comprised 75% (n=6,237) of these new infections
- ▣ African-American youth (13-24 years) accounted for 65% (5,404) of these new HIV infections
- ▣ YMSM (13-29 years) made up 69% of new HIV infections in 2009

Contributing Factors



Women:

Age difference of first sexual partner correlated to future sexual behaviors

- Poor condom negotiation
- Increased STIs

Closeness of family and friends to adolescent sexual partners

- ▣ Lowered condom use
- ▣ Greater partner intimacy

* Need for appropriate education during adolescence which includes social networks and families

Contributing Factors (conti-)



Males:

- ❑ Fatalistic view of life – desire to have a child for “legacy”
- ❑ Determine how safe a partner is by partner’s social network
- ❑ Lack of gender appropriate health and sex education
- ❑ Lack of supportive adults and role models to obtain accurate information

Young Men Who Have Sex With Men

What puts YMSM More at risk for acquiring HIV?

- Closed social networks
- Closed sexual networks
- Lack of HIV knowledge and prevention
 - A study conducted CDC (2011) of 15 cities showed that 80% of YMSM of color have not received HIV intervention or prevention education
- heterosexism, homophobia (particularly those of school age) and “learning to manage a stigmatized identity” (Ryan & Hunter, 2003).

Young Men Who Have Sex With Men



- Intergenerational dating and power imbalance
- Developmental Challenges
- Poor Role Models

Transgender Youth



What puts transgender youth more at risk for acquiring HIV?

- Disproportionately affected by poverty
- More likely to engage in sex work due to discrimination faced in main stream employment
- More likely to be harassed in public spaces making transgender persons less likely to access services.

Transgender Youth



- More likely to drop out of school due to harassment

What's Up with STAR TRACK



- An medical center exclusively serving adolescents and young adults (12-24)
- Newly opened transgender health clinic
- Large scale social media targeting youth with HIV prevention messages
 - Facebook
 - Twitter
 - Adam4Adam
 - HIV STOPS WITH ME

What's Up with STAR TRACK



- Using technology to improve adherence to HIV related medical care
 - ST-AMP
 - Text Messaging
 - Skype
- Targeted HIV outreach to high at-risk communities
- Community Based HIV Counseling and Testing Activities.

How to reach us

- STAR TRACK HIV Prevention Services
 - 410-706-6000
 - www.startrackbalitmore.weebly.com
- Jamal H.N. Hailey, MA
 - 410-706-4162
 - jhailey@peds.umaryland.edu
- Joyell Arscott, BSN, RN, ACRN
 - 410-706-6000
 - jarscott@peds.umaryland.edu