

African-American (AA) women may help to explain the disproportionate incidence of HIV/STDs seen in this population. Single women with children by multiple fathers may engage in unprotected sex with the fathers of their children; these men are called Baby Daddies. Baby Daddy sex as a risk factor is complicated and based in a sexual reality grounded in poverty and power. This analysis focused on women who have continued sexual relationships with the father of their children in addition to other sexual relationships. We explored the psychosocial factors surrounding women who engage in unprotected Baby Daddy sex.

**Methods** We conducted in-depth interviews with AA women living in low-income housing projects in Houston, TX. Study participants were at least 18 years old and involved in multiple sexual relationships. Interviews were conducted in participants' homes and lasted 1½ h. Each interview was digitally-recorded and transcribed verbatim. Participants were paid \$20 US for their time. Qualitative analysis was conducted using MAXQDA10 software. We identified and organised codes, categories, and themes to form a comprehensive picture of the behaviours of our sample.

**Results** Our sample included 26 AA women aged 21 to 40 years. Themes that emerged illustrated the contextual environment of women's sexual decisions and included: financial insecurity, parenting, relationship ideals, loneliness, and baby daddy sex. Participants characterised their choice to have unprotected baby daddy sex through the following categories: trust/bond based on shared child, love, compensation for financial support of children, pleasure, and longing for past relationship. These findings identified the importance and implied intimacy of the baby daddy relationships and suggested reasons for unprotected sex.

**Conclusions** These findings indicate risk implications because they add concurrent sexual relationships with unprotected sex, thus increasing the potential for exposure and transmission of HIV/STDs. More importantly, this study reflects the lasting importance of a relationship resulting in children and how that relationship influences sexual health. Interventions that focus on poor urban AA women in Houston should acknowledge the cultural constructions of both sexuality and relationships in this population, both related to socioeconomic and power inequalities.

**P2-S9.09** **HELP ME UNDERSTAND YOUR LAB RESULTS: "AN EXPLORATORY, QUALITATIVE STUDY OF DISCORDANCE BETWEEN BIOLOGIC AND SELF-REPORTED MEASURES OF SEMEN EXPOSURE IN JAMAICA"**

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**Background** Self-reported survey data on sexual behaviours have limitations which biological measures can complement. We assessed the feasibility of using qualitative interviews to understand discordance between a biological marker of semen exposure and self-reported sexual behaviours among women enrolled in a trial of STI counselling messages. We also investigated reasons women did not follow counselling messages.

**Methods** Data are from the ACME (Assessing Counselling Message Effectiveness) study. Women age >18 years treated for infection at a Jamaica STI clinic were randomly assigned to receive counselling messages to: (1) abstain from sex or (2) abstain but use a condom if they did have sex, during a 6-day treatment period. At follow-up, women reported sexual behaviours in the last 3 days in a quantitative survey and consented to testing for recent semen exposure using a rapid, on-site test for prostate-specific antigen (PSA). Indi-

vidual, qualitative interviews were subsequently conducted with a purposive sample of 17 PSA positive women, ten who did not report unprotected sex in the survey (discordant) and seven who did (concordant). Interviewers asked about recent sexual behaviour, sexual partners, counselling messages, and how they may have been exposed to semen. We analysed interview transcripts to assess whether discordance could be explained and to identify reasons counselling messages were not followed.

**Results** From 8/10 to date, 262 participants completed the ACME trial. Of the 10 qualitative interview participants whose PSA and survey results were discordant, five had reported condom use and five reported abstinence. Interviewers asked these women directly about the inconsistency. This approach variably elicited little concern, discomfort, plausible and implausible explanations from participants. Three condom users and one abstinent participant gave likely reasons for semen exposure, while positive PSA results for two condom users and four abstinent participants remained unexplained. Main reasons given by participants with concordant results for having unprotected sex despite counselling messages were: wanting to please partner, delaying the start of treatment, and not being regular condom users with their partner.

**Conclusions** Interviewing women about inconsistencies between their self-reported and biologic data are feasible in this context and yielded information for improving future self-reported surveys and understanding the primary study outcomes.

**P2-S9.10** **HIV TESTING BEHAVIOURS AMONG UNDOCUMENTED CENTRAL AMERICAN IMMIGRANT WOMEN IN HOUSTON, TEXAS, 2010**

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**Introduction** Undocumented Central American immigrants in the US are at increased vulnerability to HIV. Almost half of infections are attributed to high-risk heterosexual contact and HIV detection is often delayed. Although HIV testing is a cornerstone of HIV prevention and treatment, we are unaware of any studies that describe HIV testing in this population. The purpose of this paper is to describe HIV testing behaviours among undocumented Central American immigrant women in Houston, Texas.

**Methods** We recruited 230 Guatemalan, Honduran, and El Salvadoran women, ages 18–50 years, living in Houston without a US visa or residency papers for an HIV behavioural survey using respondent driven sampling. Present analyses are limited to sexually active participants who provided information on HIV testing (N=182). Ever testing for HIV was defined as receiving an HIV test at least once during one's lifetime. Prevalence estimates are RDS-adjusted.

**Results** Sixty seven per cent of women reported ever testing for HIV infection. Among testers, 49% tested at a public health clinic and 30% tested at other healthcare facilities; 50% tested within the past 2 years. The most common reason for getting tested was pregnancy (50%) and to get rid of doubt regarding their partner's infidelity (29%). Testers were significantly more likely than non-testers to be from Honduras and to have resided in the US for over 5 years. Testers were also older, more educated, and wealthier than non-testers. Testers were more likely than non-testers to have a regular healthcare provider, to have visited a healthcare provider in the past 12 months, and to have healthcare coverage or insurance. Healthcare coverage was predominantly through the indigent healthcare program see Abstract P2-S9.10 Table 1.

**Discussion** The prevalence of ever testing for HIV among undocumented Central American immigrant women in Houston was high.

**Abstract P2-S9.10 Table 1** Difference in socio-demographic and healthcare access and utilisation characteristics, comparing those who self-report ever testing for HIV infection to those not testing\* among undocumented Central American immigrant women in Houston, Texas, 2010

Variables	Testers (%)	Non-testers (%)	OR (95% CI)
<b>Socio-demographics</b>			
<b>Country of origin</b>			
Guatemala	20.9	40.6	1.00
Honduras	40.8	22.4	3.4 (1.42 to 8.38)
El Salvador	38.3	37.0	1.96 (0.88 to 4.41)
<b>Number of years in USA</b>			
Five or less	39.9	68.5	1.00
Over five	60.1	31.5	3.21 (1.62 to 6.42)
<b>Age (years)</b>			
18–30	38.2	60.8	1.00
31–50	61.8	39.2	2.59 (1.32 to 5.11)
<b>Education</b>			
Sixth grade or less	42.5	73.1	1.00
Over sixth grade	57.5	26.9	3.55 (1.75 to 7.33)
<b>Employment status</b>			
Unemployed	46.7	54.0	1.00
Homemaker	29.1	22.5	1.47 (0.65 to 3.41)
Employed	24.2	23.5	1.14 (0.50 to 2.64)
<b>Monthly household income</b>			
\$800 or less	28.1	54.6	1.00
Over \$800	71.9	45.4	3.14 (1.58 to 6.25)
<b>Healthcare access and utilisation</b>			
<b>Has a healthcare provider</b>			
No	38.6	70.7	1.00
Yes	61.4	29.3	2.62 (1.33 to 5.22)
<b>Saw healthcare provider, past 12 months</b>			
No	39.0	67.0	1.00
Yes	61.0	33.0	3.29 (1.67 to 6.55)
<b>Has health insurance or coverage</b>			
No	51.4	83.8	1.00
Yes	48.6	16.2	4.86 (2.17 to 11.67)

\*Prevalence estimates are RDS-adjusted to account for difference in participants' social network size and recruitment patterns.

This seems to be due to their access to public health services through the county hospital district, which provides healthcare to all indigent residents regardless of immigration status. The association between HIV testing and regular healthcare indicates that access to public health services in this population increases the prevalence of HIV testing. Given that HIV detection among Central American immigrants is often delayed (leading to negative consequences for morbidity, mortality, and transmission), access to HIV screening is integral to HIV prevention in this population.

# **P2-S9.11 HIV INFECTION AND VIOLENCE AGAINST MARRIED/COHABITING WOMEN: FINDINGS FROM A NATIONAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY IN RWANDA**

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**Objectives** We used the third Rwanda demographic and health survey (DHS) data to examine relationship between violence, gender attitudes and HIV prevalence among women and men in union.

**Methods** The third Rwanda DHS is a nationally representative household-based survey conducted in 10 272 households in 2005.

Analyses were restricted to 2715 women and 2461 men who were legally married or cohabiting. HIV prevalence was the dependent variable whereas sexual risk factors, gender attitudes, emotional and domestic violence were independent variables. A face-to-face interview covered socio-demographic characteristics, sexual risk behaviour, domestic violence and gender attitude. Domestic violence was measured by questions from the Conflict Tactics Scale Questionnaire. HIV antibodies testing was performed using ELISA tests. Logistic regression was used for statistical analysis.

**Results** HIV prevalence was significantly higher among women who reported ever having experienced any form of emotional violence (4.7% vs 2.1%;  $p=0.019$ ), who reported ever been threatened by their husband or cohabiting partner (6.1% vs 2.3%;  $p=0.026$ ) and among those who reported that their fathers beat their mothers (3.4% vs 1.9%  $p=0.029$ ). HIV prevalence was higher among men who reported that they are justified to hurt or beat their wives if they argue with them (10.1% vs 2.9  $p=0.03$ ). After adjustment for age, geographic area, number of lifetime partners, history of genital ulcers in the previous year, women who experienced at least one form of violence (either, emotional, inter parental, or intimate partner violence) demonstrated a much higher HIV prevalence [adjusted OR (AOR): 2.75; 95% CI 1.08 to 7.02]. Compared to those who confirmed that it is not justified for a husband to hurt or beat his wife if she argues with him, men who agreed with this statement had a fourfold higher HIV-prevalence (AOR: 4.15; 95% CI 1.69 to 10.17).

**Conclusion** Violence experienced by women and the acceptance of wife beating by men are independent risk factors for HIV infection among married/cohabiting population in Rwanda. Interventions to prevent any form of violence towards women and hostile gender attitudes should be integrated into HIV programs.

# **P2-S9.12 DESCRIPTIONS OF BEHAVIOURS BY PARTNER TYPE FOR ETHNIC MINORITY FEMALE ADOLESCENTS WITH HISTORIES OF ABUSE**

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**Background** Identifying the sexual risk behaviour associated with relationship status informs researchers and clinicians concerning female adolescent conceptualisation of partnerships in the context of risk recognition, sexual boundaries, and social expectations of relationships. This study describes risk behaviour of high-risk ethnic minority female adolescents with STI and abuse histories reporting either dating one person exclusively, not currently being in relationship, or dating more than one person.

**Methods** African and Mexican-American adolescent women aged 13–18 years ( $n=559$ ) were enrolled in a randomised trial of a behavioural intervention. At study entry, participants completed semi-structured interviews including questions addressing primary outcomes including STI infection, abuse recurrence, unintended pregnancy, sexual behaviour, substance use, and contraceptive use. Descriptive,  $\chi^2$  analyses, and t-tests for bivariate analysis of differences between groups by relationship status at study entry were conducted.

**Results** Participants (59%) reported dating one person exclusively, not currently involved with a partner (29.2%), and dating more than one person (4.3%). Participants not currently in a relationship vs those who were with one partner exclusively described more often a most recent partner who would physically harm them if she had sex with another man  $\chi^2$  (1,  $N=527$ ) = 4.51,  $p=0.034$ ; having more guy friends they just have sex with  $\chi^2$  (1,  $N=531$ ) = 7.74,  $p<0.005$ ; and not having a steady relationship with their most recent partner  $\chi^2$  (1,  $N=529$ ) = 174.86,  $p<0.0001$ . Of participants not currently in