

Behavioural And Social Science Research

P4.01 ASSESSMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE HIV/AIDS KNOWLEDGE LEVEL AMONG IN-SCHOOL & COMMUNITY LEVEL ADOLESCENTS OF NOAKHALI AND LAKSHMIPUR DISTRICT, BANGLADESH

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10.1136/sextrans-2017-053264.498

Introduction In Noakhali and Lakshmipur, more adolescents are in school and community today than ever before; however, there are no studies that have assessed their comprehensive knowledge of HIV/AIDS. Thus, this study tried to assess the level of this knowledge and the factors associated with it among in-school and community level adolescents in Noakhali and Lakshmipur district.

Methods A cross-sectional school and community-based study was conducted using a facilitator-guided self-administered questionnaire conducted April 2016. The respondents were students attending regular school in 14 high schools and 70 community level adolescents located in 14 different Sub-districts in Noakhali and Lakshmipur district. The proportion of adolescents with comprehensive HIV/AIDS knowledge was computed and compared by sex. The investigating tool used was a prepared, pretested questionnaire. This had both open- and close-ended questions related to various aspects of HIV/AIDS. Different factors related to HIV/AIDS and information was gathered. The subjects were assessed for knowledge of various aspects of HIV/AIDS and associated risk factors. It was subsequently followed by an open discussion on HIV/AIDS with the students. The factors that were associated with the comprehensive HIV/AIDS knowledge were assessed using multivariable logistic regression.

Results Only about one in four, 677 (24.5%), in-school adolescents and community level adolescents have comprehensive HIV/AIDS knowledge. The knowledge was better among in-school adolescents from families with a relatively middle or high wealth index (adjusted OR [95% CI]=1.39 [1.03–1.87] and 1.75 [1.24–2.48], respectively), who got HIV/AIDS information mainly from friends or mass media (adjusted OR [95% CI]=1.63 [1.17–2.27] and 1.55 [1.14–2.11], respectively) and who received education on HIV/AIDS and sexual matters at school (adjusted OR [95% CI]=1.59 [1.22–2.08]). The females were less likely to have comprehensive HIV/AIDS knowledge compared to males (adjusted OR and [95% CI] =0.60 [0.49–0.75]).

Conclusion In general, only about a quarter of in-school adolescents had comprehensive HIV/AIDS knowledge. Although the female adolescents are highly vulnerable to HIV infection and its effects, they were by far less likely to have comprehensive HIV/AIDS knowledge. HIV/AIDS information, education and communication activities need to be intensified in high schools and rural community.

P4.02 EFFECTS OF A RESTRICTIVE STATE LAW ON STD/HIV RATES IN OHIO

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10.1136/sextrans-2017-053264.499

Introduction In recent years, Ohio has enacted multiple laws that impact sexual and reproductive health. In February 2016, a new law came into effect, which prohibits the state from contracting health services with any organisation that performs or promotes abortion. This law blocks funding of organisations such as Planned Parenthood from receiving state funds for activities related to HIV and STD testing and sexual education.

Methods We are conducting a rigorous evaluation of the sexual and reproductive health-related consequences of the new law. In an ecologic analysis of state- and county-level data from Ohio for 2015 and 2016, we will compare trends in prevalence of HIV, chlamydia and gonorrhoea (all nationally notifiable conditions) before and after the implementation of the 2016 law. We will examine trends by several characteristics, including sex, race/ethnicity, age, education level, insurance status (Ohio is a Medicaid-expansion state under the Affordable Care Act), sexual orientation, urban/rural residence, and other variables. To disentangle the effect of the law from secular trends in HIV/STD, we will compare Ohio's outcomes to the same outcomes in nearby Illinois. Illinois has similar population characteristics to Ohio but does not have the same legislative environment impacting allocation of funds for reproductive health services.

Results Results will be available in summer 2017. In Ohio, we anticipate a decline in the number of HIV and STD tests performed in 2016 compared to 2015, and an increase in the prevalence of each disease in 2016 compared to 2015. We anticipate no meaningful changes in trends across years in Illinois.

Conclusion Multiple states across the United States are considering legislation similar to Ohio's, to restrict the use of state and federal funding by clinical and community organisations that provide HIV/STD care alongside other sexual health services. Determining the HIV/STD-related impacts of such laws is critical to avoid putting men and women at higher risk of disease.

P4.03 OPTIMISING DEVELOPMENT, IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION OF STI/HIV PREVENTION INTERVENTIONS IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN SCHOOLS: A QUALITATIVE STUDY WITH RESEARCHERS

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10.1136/sextrans-2017-053264.500

Introduction Existing trials show limited effectiveness of school-based sexual health interventions (SBSHI) in preventing sexually transmitted infections (STI) including HIV in sub-Saharan Africa (sSA). Limitations in content, implementation or evaluation are some reasons for this limited effectiveness. We explored facilitators and challenges to designing, implementing and evaluating SBSHI in sSA.

Methods We conducted 27 semi-structured interviews with purposeful sample of researchers who have developed, implemented or evaluated SBSHI in sSA. Interviews were audio recorded, transcribed verbatim and analysed thematically. Intervention Mapping framework (IM) was used to organise emerging themes.

Results Participants are experts in SBSHI in sSA with experiences ranging between 2–30 years. We identified 33 themes that mapped onto the six steps of IM. During development, social factors such as poverty and school infrastructures including quality of teaching, in addition to sexual health needs, should be addressed. SBSHI should be culturally sensitive, address inter-generational and open communications on sexual issues, and clearly state aims to avoid any misunderstanding. Curriculum should also address contemporary issues in HIV prevention (Treatment as Prevention, Pre-exposure Prophylaxis, Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision and Gender-Based Violence). During implementation, SBSHI should be prepared for oppositions at various levels for which we have also identified effective approaches for overcoming them. Due to limited teachers' training in sSA, provisions of simple but detailed facilitators' manual together with supportive supervisions may be critical in ensuring delivery fidelity. During evaluation, computerised audio devices and qualitative interviews with participant observations may facilitate collection and improve validity of adolescents' sexual behaviours data respectively.

Conclusion Using insights from experiences of researchers, recommendations for developers, implementers or evaluators of SBSHI in sSA that will complement available guidance are provided.

P4.04 EDUCATING HEALTH WORKERS IS KEY IN CONGENITAL SYPHILIS ELIMINATION IN COLOMBIA

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10.1136/sextrans-2017-053264.501

Introduction Colombia promotes the diagnosis and treatment of gestational syphilis in a single visit using rapid diagnostic tests to prevent mother-to-child transmission. Additionally, integrated health programs pursue the coordinated prevention of mother-to-child transmission of syphilis/HIV. Objective: To identify knowledge gaps among health workers in the prevention of mother-to-child transmission of syphilis/HIV and to provide recommendations to support these programs.

Methods We conducted a descriptive study based on 306 surveys of health workers in 39 health institutions in the city of Cali. Surveys inquired about planning-management-implementation of services for pregnant women, clinical knowledge of HIV/syphilis/rapid diagnostic tests, and prior training.

Results Knowledge deficits in the management of gestational syphilis were detected among the surveyed health workers, including physicians. Rapid tests for syphilis are currently used in clinical laboratories in Cali, however, procedural deficiencies were observed in their use, including quality control assurance. During the two years prior to the survey, training of health workers in the prevention of mother-to-child transmission of

syphilis/HIV has been limited. Health workers are interested in identifying and treating gestational syphilis in a single event, in using rapid diagnostic tests and in receiving training.

Conclusion Intensive training that targets health workers, policy/decision makers and academic groups is needed to ensure adequate implementation of new strategies for the prevention of mother-to-child transmission of syphilis/HIV.

P4.05 MIGRATION AND ACCULTURATION: UNDERSTANDING TRANSGENDER NETWORK SOCIALIZATION PATTERNS IN LIMA, PERU

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10.1136/sextrans-2017-053264.502

Introduction Community acceptability and sustainability of new HIV prevention methods remain key barriers to curb high HIV incidence rates for transgender women (TW) in Peru. Improved understanding of how geography, culture, and socialisation influence HIV-associated risks and uptake of new prevention technologies is critical to address the HIV epidemic among TW.

Methods In 2015–2016, 20 interviews and demographic surveys were conducted with TW in Peru to inform a social network-based PrEP adherence intervention. (Interviews probed on: socialisation, social network formations, preferred HIV intervention methods). Audio files were transcribed verbatim and analysed via immersion crystallisation using Dedoose software.

Results TW had a mean age of 30 years, 40% (n=8) reported sex work as their primary occupation, and 60% (n=12) had migrated from another part of Peru to Lima. Principal motivations for migration were: lack of economic opportunity, familial rejection due to gender identity, and seeking larger communities of TW as found in Lima. Co-habitation with other TW was common, underscoring cluster structures of socialisation, acculturation to existing norms (i.e., learning the rules of sex work in Lima), and knowledge-sharing. Among TW migrants, social network clusters were patterned not only on gender identity and occupation, but also province of origin (i.e., Iquitos, Trujillo) through which new arrivals would learn social/cultural norms from established TW community leaders. In addition to shared cultural practices, participants described greater trust and social cohesion with TW from similar geographic areas.

Conclusion Geographic migration highlights the weight of cultural context in informing network structures and defining influences and leadership in TW communities. Efforts to improve TW engagement in HIV prevention will need to better understand how existing social networks influence HIV risk and prevention and how these can be used to address distinct needs of the heterogeneous Peruvian TW population.

P4.06 ECOMAP: AN ALTERNATIVE FOR AN INTERDISCIPLINARY ASSISTANCE

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10.1136/sextrans-2017-053264.503

Introduction In order to obtain a unified care for the health service user, it is necessary that the caring net can have the distance between the theory and the practice reduced. The working process between the teams should be in harmony to the interdisciplinary mode, so that an individualised assistance plan among the several parts can be agreed. Ecomap is an alternative for the identification of the points in the net that are, directly or indirectly, in contact with the user to be analysed. The present study aims at reflecting on the application of the illustrated instrument Ecomap from a complex case lived by the authors in order to discuss the interdisciplinary working process. Case report involving complex situations like the HIV diagnosis in pregnant homeless women that need intersection and interdisciplinary actions to avoid the vertical HIV contamination.

Methods This study aims to describe the experience of using this instrument in collecting data for a research that involved 12 points of society with a gap HIV pregnant homeless, which used symbolic interactionism and grounded theory as a theoretical-methodological reference framework for understanding these linked points. Ecomap presents the lived relations graphically in the moment that the individual, who should be the main map focus, is being studied.

Results The case was awarded by the vertical transmission committee of Porto Alegre for organising the network in an interdisciplinary way, guaranteeing the welfare of the pregnant and her child. The discussion of possible changes in network, the identification of each point members common and singular characteristics.

Conclusion in the context of the organisation of the primary health care, it is important to count on a graphic tool that shows the patient's information in a practical and summarised way, using the no verbal language and also answering to all net points. Because the interpersonal relationships are unstable, the presented data are in continuous changing, and that is why, Ecomap is considered as a photograph of the studied moment.

P4.07 TALKING GROUPS ABOUT STI/HIV PREVENTION WITH LIBERTY DEPRIVED GIRLS FROM THE CASA FOUNDATION OF THE STATE OF SÃO PAULO

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10.1136/sextrans-2017-053264.504

Introduction In 2016, due to the vulnerability to IST/HIV/AIDS of young people deprived of their liberty, a partnership was established between the STD/AIDS Referral and Training Centre (CRT-DST/Aids, of the Health Secretariat of the State

of São Paulo), the Centre for Socio-educational Assistance to Adolescents (CASA) Foundation and UNICEF with the objective to carry out integrated prevention actions with the employees of the Foundation and with the youngsters.

Methods The actions included training, reflections, improvement of STI approaches and treatment with emphasis on syphilis, and access to prevention inputs (male and female condoms and HIV, syphilis, hepatitis B and C testing). A workshop was held with the employees of the Ruth Pistori Women's Unit with the participation of the State Network of Young People Living with HIV/AIDS and representatives of the state in the Health Popular Education Movement. The aim was that the script of the talks were prepared by the staff of the CASA Foundation under the supervision of technicians of the STD/Aids State Program and that they apply to the unit every fortnight so that all the girls could have access to the information and thoughts about combined prevention.

Results In October 2016, were held five Talking Groups with the participation of all 75 girls who were at the Centre at that time. The girls have built murals with prevention ways so they are posted in strategic locations and in classrooms. After the reflections, all the girls wanted to carry out the tests for HIV, hepatitis B and C and Syphilis. The Centre is developing Talking Groups with the girls every fortnight.

Conclusion This experience shows that it is possible to carry out continuous prevention actions at the CASA Foundation's deprivation of liberty units and to work with other forms of prevention besides the use of condoms. So, a Prevention Program for Syphilis with a specific protocol for diagnosis and treatment will be elaborate in 2017 in order to be implemented in all CASA Foundation units.

P4.08 SÃO PAULO STATE STRATEGY FOR THE PREVENTION: DISTRIBUTION OF CONDOMS IN THE SCHOOLS

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10.1136/sextrans-2017-053264.505

AIDS cases among young people aged 15 to 24 years have increased in Brazil 21.5% in recent years. There is a need to strengthen actions to prevent STD/AIDS in schools, especially regarding the distribution of condoms and promotion of reflection related to sexual diversity, homophobia, racism, prejudice, gender equality and sexual and reproductive health. The "Together in Prevention" strategy of the Centre for Reference and Training - STD/AIDS of the Secretary of State for Health of São Paulo in partnership with the Foundation for the Development of Education - FDE and the Secretariat of Education of the State of São Paulo, was based on the Municipality of Itaquaquecetuba/SP, which, through the involvement of primary health care and the activities of community health agents, expanded prevention actions in the community, implementing Prevention Stations at the meeting points of vulnerable populations for HIV and organised a flow of Condom distribution both at school and elsewhere in the community. Through the articulation of actions with the Association of Parents and Teachers - APM and the School Council, and the youth participation through the Student Councils and the involvement of the parents, the condom entered the school environment consistently. The strategy details