

P776

HIV EPIDEMIOLOGY AMONG MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN AND TRANSGENDER WOMEN IN MYANMAR: DATA FROM COMMUNITY-BASED SURVEILLANCE

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Background Men who have sex with men (MSM) and transgender women (TW) experience a disproportionate HIV burden in Myanmar. Relatively little data characterising HIV among MSM and TW in Myanmar exists, and there are no published estimates of HIV incidence.

Methods We implemented an electronic data management system (eDMS) at two community-based HIV testing clinics targeting MSM and TW. Unique identifiers were used to longitudinally track HIV testing and sexual risk behaviours, and socio-demographic data was captured at first visit. Baseline HIV prevalence, examined correlates of HIV positivity using logistic regression, HIV incidence among clients receiving more than one HIV test over the observation period was calculated

Results 2867 MSM and TW clients were tested over 15 months. At first test, 37% reported a lifetime history of HIV testing, 74% reported sex with casual male partners in the p3months, and 28% reported consistent condoms use with casual partners. 291 clients tested HIV positive at their first test (prevalence=10.4%; 95%CI: 9.3–11.6). Positivity was significantly associated with self-identifying as *Apone* (local label describing non-disclosing MSM; aOR 9.1; 95%CI: 3.8–22.2) or *Apwint* (local label used describing TW; aOR: 12.0; 95%CI: 4.0–36.0), age 26–39 years (aOR 2.9; 95%CI: 1.6–5.3) and reporting no lifetime history of HIV testing (aOR: 4.6; 95%CI: 2.3–9.4). Twelve incident cases were detected among clients receiving more than one test (n=279) and incidence was 10.1 per 100 person years (95%CI: 5.73–17.8).

Conclusion To our knowledge, this is the first HIV incidence estimate for MSM and TW in Myanmar, higher than other regional estimates for MSM and TW. A HIV diagnosis at the first test was associated with sexual identification, younger age and testing history, suggest a high level of HIV transmission and protracted periods of undiagnosed HIV. Imperatives for Myanmar's national response include promotion of timely and regular testing behaviours, outreach strategies tailored to age and sexual identity and the ongoing monitoring of HIV trends.

Disclosure No significant relationships.

P777

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TRANSVESTITES AND TRANSWOMEN FOR HIV PREVALENCE AND RISK BEHAVIORS

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Background In general, transgender women represent a vulnerable population at high risk for HIV infection. However, within this population, there are several identities which may have different risk behaviors. Transvestites and transgender women are the major of them. The aim of this study is to evaluate the difference between individuals who self-declared being a transvestite or transgender woman, considering HIV infection, sociodemographic characteristics, and risk behaviors.

Methods From May to December 2018, 180 participants were recruited in the metropolitan region of the City of Goiânia, Brazil: transvestites (n=74) and transgender women (n=106). All of them were interviewed on sociodemographics and risk behaviors for sexually transmitted infections, and tested for anti-HIV 1 and 2 by rapid test.

Results Transvestites were younger than transgender women, had less education, and were predominantly sex workers. They also reported more sexual partners in the previous week and were younger at sexual initiation. They had more frequent sex with men and women, sex with gay men, and sex with transvestites than transgender women. In addition, they reported more frequent sex with multiple partners, history of STI, illicit drug use and history of incarceration (p < 0.05). On the other hand, more transgender women reported no condom use at their last sexual encounter than transvestites (p < 0.05). The prevalence of anti-HIV1 was 29.7% vs. 17.9% between transvestites and transgender women. The CHAID decision tree analysis identified two variables that differentiated being transvestite and transgender: being a sex worker and a history of STI.

Conclusion These findings highlight differences between subpopulations of transwomen which should be considered for planning and implementation of health strategies to prevent and control STIs in this complex population.

Disclosure No significant relationships.

P778

HIV INFECTION IN TRANSGENDER WOMEN FROM A REGION FAR FROM THE EPICENTER OF THE HIV EPIDEMIC IN BRAZIL – PRELIMINARY RESULTS

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Background High rates of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection in transgender women have been identified worldwide. In Brazil, some studies with this population have been performed, however, the real magnitude of this infection is still unknown in regions far from the epicenter of HIV in the country. Therefore, the objective of this study was to estimate the HIV prevalence and risk factors in transgender and transvestite women in Goiânia, Centre-West Brazil.

Methods Cross-sectional and analytical study. All eligible transgender women were interviewed face-to-face with a questionnaire containing sociodemographic characteristics and risk factors for this infection, and tested for anti-HIV 1 and 2 by rapid test.

Results Of the 180 women investigated, the median age was 24 years (Minimum:17, Maximum:58), education was 11 years of study (Minimum:1, Maximum: 18) and income was