expanding sexual health outreach provision

FOR SEX WORKERS IN THE COMMUNITY

Christine Vivian*, Jonathan Roberts, Kirth Yoganathan, Jean Beard, Abertawe Bro Morgannwg, Swansea, USA

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Background/introduction Isolation of six consecutive cases of gonorrhoea amongst sex workers (SW) in 2012 led to a multi-agency review of sexual health provision for this hard to reach group. It identified reluctance to access traditional integrated sexual health services in the area, so a more extensive community based outreach approach was implemented.

Aims/objectives To observe the uptake of sexual health screening and contraception in the community amongst SW.

Methods Case note review of all SW seen in the community by the sexual health outreach nurse from July 2013 to January 2015.

Results 99 SWs were seen during the study period. Median age 26(range 17 to 50), 95 were female with the majority identifying as white UK (65). 73 worked exclusively in sex parlours. 12 STIs were diagnosed amongst 98 SW screened. Of the 22 current IVDUs 11 tested positive to Hepatitis C whilst 3 were already known to have the infection. 96 SWs had used one or more forms of contraception prior to consultation including 24 already vaccinated or known to be Hep B immune.

Discussion/conclusion The MSM clinic attracted a population with riskier sexual behaviours. Patients cited non-judgemental acceptance and understanding of MSM sexual practices as pivotal for attending. Perceived reduction in stigma, rapid HIV testing and tailored advice has encouraged service engagement; this provides a valuable opportunity to screen and vaccinate patients at high risk of sexually transmitted infections.

Abstract P219 Table 1 Risk data for patients attending the MSM clinic and routine GU clinic

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Patient group</th>
<th>Number of partners in the past 3 months</th>
<th>12 or more partners in the past 3 months</th>
<th>Group sex</th>
<th>Sex parties</th>
<th>Chem-sex</th>
<th>Casual partner sourcing online</th>
<th>Sexual activity in London</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MSM clinic (n = 13)</td>
<td>Mean = 6.4</td>
<td>15.4%</td>
<td>38.5%</td>
<td>23.1%</td>
<td>30.8%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>53.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mode = 4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GU clinic (n = 27)</td>
<td>Mean = 4.5</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>11.1%</td>
<td>14.8%</td>
<td>70.4%</td>
<td>22.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mode = 2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>p value Reason for attending MSM clinic</td>
<td>p = 0.392</td>
<td>p = 0.599</td>
<td>p = 0.293</td>
<td>p = 0.211</td>
<td>p = 0.029</td>
<td>p = 0.021</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less stigma STI screen Tailored service Advice and support Rapid HIV test</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total number of responses</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

P221 DRUG AND ALCOHOL MISUSE IS ASSOCIATED WITH STIs IN MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN (MSM)

Waseem Rawdah*, Larisa Muika, Elaney Youssif, Ben Tooke, Daniel Richardson. Claude Nicol Centre, Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton, UK; Terrence Higgins Trust, Brighton, UK

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Background/introduction Alcohol and recreational drug misuse is an increasing problem in sexual health clinics, particularly MSM where it is often associated with unsafe sexual practices and increasing prevalence of sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

Aims/objectives To determine the proportion of MSM testing positive for STIs reporting substance misuse in a dedicated sexual health clinic, compared to the proportion attending THT services reporting high risk sexual activity requiring support for substance misuse.

Methods Case notes of patients attending a MSM clinic testing positive for STIs over a 6 month period were reviewed. Data was collected on type of STI, recreational drug and alcohol use. Over the same period, data on high-risk sexual activity and referral to specialist drug and alcohol services was collected for MSM attending THT services.

Results 285 MSM attended the sexual health clinic, whereby 97 (34%) tested positive for 1 or more STI. 88 cases of gonorrhoea were seen, 49 cases of chlamydia, 20 cases of syphilis and 7 new HIV infections. Of those testing positive for STIs, 45 (46%) reported alcohol and/or recreational drug misuse. Of the 162 MSM attending THT services, 90 (56%) reported high risk sexual behaviour with concurrent substance misuse. 27 (30%) were referred to specialist substance misuse services.

Discussion/conclusions High rates of substance misuse associated with high risk sexual activity were seen in the MSM clinic and at THT. This reinforces the importance of screening and brief intervention/referral for substance misuse as a risk reduction strategy for STIs and HIV.

P222 MULTIDISCIPLINARY AND MULTIAGENCY WORKING IN A METROPOLITAN YOUNG PEOPLE’S SEXUAL HEALTH CLINIC

Nasria Linder, Katrina Strachan, Mahasti Darvishjazi, Alison Richardson-Jones, Petal Edwards, David Phillips, Mark Pakianathan*. Croydon University Hospital, London, UK

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Background/introduction A weekly multidisciplinary team meeting (MDTM) was introduced to discuss clinically or
Abstracts

Understanding the Greater Burden of STIs Among Black Caribbean in the UK: Evidence from a Systematic Review

Sonalí Waya*, 1Catherine Griffiths, 1Catherine Mercer, 1Makela Gersseu, 1Gwenda Hughes, 1University College London, London, UK; 2Public Health England, London, UK

Background In the UK, Black Caribbeans are disproportionately affected by STIs.

Aim We conducted a systematic review of attitudinal, behavioural and contextual risk factors of this inequality.

Methods Ten electronic databases were searched for studies on risk factors and drivers of STI among UK Black Caribbeans from 1948 to 30/11/2014. Two independent reviewers screened all identified abstracts and extracted data from selected studies using standardised forms.

Results Of 3220 abstracts identified, 165 were included in the review. STI risk among Black Caribbeans is higher compared to other ethnic groups and varies by gender and age. Being single and reporting first intercourse aged ≤16, >1 new sex partner in the past year, concurrency, and assortative sexual mixing were identified as risk factors. STIs were considered of lower priority compared to other health issues. Perceived negative attitudes of clinic staff of the same ethnicity towards young women negatively affected care-seeking.

Discussion/conclusion Among Black Caribbeans highlighting the need for further evidence on contextual drivers of STIs, STI reduction interventions should be gender-specific, informed by partnership patterns and address attitudes to STIs and sexual health care-seeking.

Reach out and test me

Susanna Currie*, 1Melissa Pearson, 1Holly Eadsworth, 1Ofa McQuillan, 1Manchester Royal Infirmary, Manchester, UK; 2University of Manchester, Manchester, UK

Background Saunas have traditionally been where MSM participate in risky sexual activities, contracting high numbers of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and have been ideal targets for sexual health outreach work. There has however been a recent trend towards private “Chem-Sex” parties arranged through social media. Is sexual health outreach work in the saunas still justified, particularly in these financially pressured times?

Aim Comparison of outreach services in a large urban centre in 2011 and 2013.