

Introduction Female sex workers (FSW) may experience barriers to accessing sexual health services. Appropriate treatment for STIs is paramount to prevent the spread of antibiotic resistant infections. We aimed to understand how healthcare access might impact self-treatment and antibiotic use for genitourinary symptoms among FSWs in Tijuana, Mexico.

Methods 282 FSW participants were tested for STIs and underwent an interview. APTIMA COMBO 2 (Hologic, Inc.) was used to diagnose cervicovaginal *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* (NG) infection. We summarised data and used logistic regression to assess associations between self-medication (use of pills and/or injections that were not prescribed by a doctor or nurse) for genitourinary symptoms and prior HIV test (a proxy for accessing sexual health services), income and STI history. Genitourinary symptoms included dysuria, vaginal discharge, vaginal bleeding between periods, pelvic pain, or dyspareunia.

Results 282 FSW participants were recruited in Tijuana. Of the 263 with test results, 41 (15.6%) tested positive for NG, of which 23 (56.1%) endorsed current genitourinary symptoms. Of the 282 total participants, 60 (21.3%) reported that they had ever self-medicated to treat genitourinary symptoms. Never having an HIV test (OR=2.3 (95% CI: 1.3, 4.3)) and reporting lower income (<MX\$3500 vs. ≥MX\$3500) (OR=2.2 (95% CI: 1.1, 3.6)) were associated with reporting ever self-medicating for treatment of genitourinary symptoms. In addition, those that reported they had ever had an STI (n=83 (29.4%), OR=2.7 (95% CI: 1.5, 4.8)) were more likely to report self-medication for treatment of genitourinary symptoms.

Conclusion We found a high prevalence of NG infection among a cohort of FSWs in Tijuana, Mexico. The high prevalence and past medication use without a prescription point to a potential for emerging NG antibiotic resistance in this setting. Barriers to access for sexual healthcare may drive the use of medications without a prescription. Additionally, those with a history of STIs may be self-treating for familiar symptoms.

P4.28 STIGMA AND DISCRIMINATION EXPERIENCES IN HEALTH CARE SETTINGS MORE EVIDENT AMONG TRANSGENDER PEOPLE THAN MALES HAVING SEX WITH MALES (MSM) IN INDONESIA, MALAYSIA, THE PHILIPPINES AND TIMOR LESTE: KEY RESULTS

RN Cortes. *The Philippine Ngo Council on Population, Health and Welfare, INC., Pasay City, Philippines*

10.1136/sextrans-2017-053264.525

Introduction A four-country study was conducted by the ISEAN-Hivos Program (Global Fund regional AIDS grant) which aims to provide information on the status of stigma and discrimination (SAD) among males having sex with males (MSM) and transgender people in health care settings (including HIV/AIDS services) using a questionnaire based on the forms of SAD described in the Stigma and Discrimination Index Questionnaire.

Methods The study's questionnaire described SAD in terms of the respondents' self-reported perception of: 1. Refusal of health care services, 2. Physical maltreatment, 3. Verbal maltreatment, and 4. Provision of health care service below standards. A total of 2409 respondents, 30% (n=719) of whom are self-identifying male-to-female trans persons, participated

in this study. There were 264 trans respondents from Indonesia, 204 in the Philippines, 174 in Malaysia, and 77 in Timor Leste.

Results Overall, the results indicate that significantly more trans people experienced SAD in health care settings compared to MSM. Verbal maltreatment was the most commonly experienced (24.26%), followed by receiving a perceived low quality of health service (22.57%), being refused access to health care services (18.23%) and lastly, physical maltreatment (18.21%). There were proportionately more SAD experiences reported by trans people in Timor Leste (41.06%), followed by Malaysia (32.67%), Philippines (7.47%) and Indonesia (2.0%).

Conclusion The result of the SADS suggests that there is a wide variation across the four countries in terms of trans people experiencing stigma and discrimination. Verbal maltreatment is the topmost common form of SAD among trans people. The study indicates that trans' personal experiences of SAD are more frequent than MSM. Also, about one third of the trans people continue to experience SAD. Almost 60% of the trans people, however, did nothing to address SAD. SAD still exists in health care settings, which needs support for more interventions to significantly decrease, if not totally eradicate SAD in its many forms.

P4.29 THE VALUE OF BUILDING SOCIAL NETWORKS AMONG NIGERIAN MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN AFFECTED BY SEXUAL STIGMA: A QUALITATIVE STUDY OF BARRIERS AND BENEFITS

¹Cristina Rodriguez-Hart, ²Cory Bradley, ²Danielle German, ³Ifeanyi Orazulike, ⁴Blessing Kayode, ⁵Hongjie Liu, ⁶Trevor A Crowell, ²Stefan Baral, ¹Man Charurat, ¹Rebecca G Nowak. ¹Institute of Human Virology University of Maryland School of Medicine, Baltimore, USA; ²Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, USA; ³International Centre on Advocacy and Rights to Health, Abuja, Nigeria; ⁴Institute of Human Virology Nigeria, Abuja, Nigeria; ⁵University of Maryland School of Public Health, College Park, USA; ⁶U.S. Military HIV Research Program, Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, Silver Spring; Henry, Bethesda, USA

10.1136/sextrans-2017-053264.526

Introduction Sexual stigma affecting men who have sex with men (MSM) in Nigeria may contribute to acquisition and onward transmission of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs). Prior analysis found stigma to be associated with increased HIV and STI prevalence and larger MSM social network size. The aim of this study was to explore the association between stigma and MSM social networks.

Methods From March 2013 to February 2016, the TRUST/RV368 study recruited 1,480 MSM in Abuja and Lagos, Nigeria into a prospective cohort that provides HIV and STI diagnosis and treatment. From this parent study, 15 semi-structured in-depth interviews were conducted with participants who experienced elevated stigma. Interviews were transcribed and coded using thematic analysis.

Results The key themes for how sexual stigma may have led to greater vulnerability for HIV and STIs were: financial vulnerability and emotional trauma, constrained opportunities to share HIV and STI resources, and internet use. Participants described financial exploitation and emotional trauma as common consequences of stigma that at times was associated with condomless sex and transactional sex. Fear of stigma constrained MSM's willingness to openly socialise, which may have limited exposure to sexual health services, as MSM social

networks were often described as a medium for emotional support, information on HIV/STIs, and referrals to clinics serving MSM. Instead, many relied on the internet to find MSM. This strategy was considered to be safer, but it may have increased participants' exposure to HIV/STIs through exposure to more sex partners and increased their vulnerability for blackmailers to locate and extort them for money.

Conclusion These interviews suggest that interventions that reduce sexual stigma and leverage social resources in networks among Nigerian MSM can support improved HIV and STI outcomes such as improved awareness of services, earlier diagnosis and engagement in care. Capitalising on the broad use of social media applications represents an important platform for these services.

P4.30 INTEGRATING SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH EDUCATION IN PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF STI & AIDS

Danielle Guerrero Saique.

10.1136/sextrans-2017-053264.527

Cswdo, Akap-Bata, Dasmariñas - Philippines

Introduction Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) encompasses all stages of life. Women have rights to quality life. It is attained by practicing, exercising SRH in preventing Violence Against Women (VAW). SRH education is integrated in the total health package service-delivery system of the Medical Social Worker (MSWr) and health service-providers availed from the medical-health services, from health facilities. This paper presented the cause, prevalence, effects of VAW for not practicing/violating SRH. It proposed to the Stakeholders to formulate Matrix of Action Plan by integrating SRH in the holistic approach of the Medical Social Work, practice and health service-delivery thereby preventing VAW and spread of STI and AIDS.

Method VAW cases showed that victim and violators are known to each other, related, living together. Cases of VAW transpired at home, reported, investigated in the police station, filed in the legal courts of law inclusive of Y-2016 from the City of Dasmariñas. Data from police blotters, reports, filed cases, social/medical case studies were gathered by MSWr. Qualitative analysis identified causes, prevalence, effects of VAW related in violating SRH. The MSWr served innovative interventions by implementing his/her SRH background, knowledge/skills in educating/counselling and managing cases of the client-victims to end VAW and prevent spread of STI and AIDS.

Results 65 VAW cases reported the causes and effects related to violating SRH were varied from: Due to non-negotiation or refusal of practicing SRH by the couples, non-acceptance of Family Planning, wrong choice of FP methods by the partners yielded helpless battered women, transmission of STI and AIDS, unwanted and unplanned pregnancies, abandoned and neglected children. Unattended or neglected pre-post natal/maternal care caused medical complications and death of mother or infant. Rape, incest led to adverse trauma effect to the changing behaviour of the victim and result to her suicide or death. Unsafe, unprotected sex transmitted STD and AIDS to the incest or rape victim. From the presented cases, VAW is eliminated by promoting the SRH and preventing the spread of STI and AIDS.

Conclusion Youths, PWDs, LGBTs, Elders of non-health seeking-behaviour, non-access to SRH from health facilities, from MSWr, health service-providers violated the: Rights to life, quality health care/protection; Rights to information/education; Rights to plan family; Rights from torture/ill-treatment. VAW brings adverse effects of psychosocial trauma to victim's well-being and humaneness. MSWr's interventions on SRH and VAW's findings/results are recommendations to Stakeholders in making quality SRH education available by integrating SRH to the health-service delivery thereby promoting SRH: empowering women's rights to development, gender equality, thus preventing the spread of STI and AIDS and ending VAW. Therefore, Stakeholders must vouch in duplicating this best-practice to access SRH as implemented by the MSWr and health service-providers from the medical-health facilities.

P4.31 KISSING IS ASSOCIATED WITH THE SOURCE FOR MEETING CASUAL PARTNERS: AN IMPLICATION FOR GONORRHOEA TRANSMISSION AND CONTROL IN MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN

David Priest, Christopher K Fairley, Sandra Walker, Vincent J Cornelisse, Marcus Chen, Catriona S Bradshaw, Tiffany Phillips, Eric P.F. Chow. Melbourne Sexual Health Centre, Melbourne, Australia

10.1136/sextrans-2017-053264.528

Introduction Kissing has been identified as one of the most common sexual practices among men who have sex with men (MSM), and it has also been identified as one of the risk factors for pharyngeal gonorrhoea. We conducted this study to understand the kissing pattern amongst MSM by different sources for meeting partners.

Methods A cross-sectional questionnaire-based study was conducted amongst MSM attending Melbourne Sexual Health Centre between March and September 2015. Participants were asked about the sources they used to meet their casual sexual partners and about their kissing practices in the previous three months. Multivariate logistic regression analyses were performed to determine whether kissing is associated with the source for meeting partners.

Results A total of 753 men completed the questionnaire with a median age of 29 (IQR 25–36). Our results showed that men who met partners at gay bars were 7.3 (95% CI 2.1–25.0) times more likely to kiss their sexual partners and they were less likely (aOR 0.6; 95% CI 0.4–0.8) to have sex-without-kissing partners after adjusting for age and other sources for meeting partners. Men who met partners via smartphone applications were 7.0 (95% CI 3.0–15.9) times more likely to kiss their partners. Kissing was not associated with men who met partners at sex on premises venues (SOPV) and via friends. In contrast, men who met partners at SOPV were 2.3 (95% CI 1.6–3.3) times more likely to have sex-without-kissing partners.

Conclusion There is considerable difference in kissing practices among men who met partners at different locations. Our data suggest kissing may be a more important contributor to gonorrhoea transmission among men who met partners at gay bars, while penile-anal sex may be the major mode of gonorrhoea transmission among men who met partners at SOPV.