HEALTHCARE ENGAGEMENT AND HPV VACCINATION AMONG GAY, BISEXUAL, AND OTHER MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN (gbMSM): A CIRN STUDY

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Background Canada was one of the first countries to offer publicly funded programs providing HPV vaccine free of charge to gbMSM. In 2015–2016, the provinces of British Columbia (BC), Ontario (ON), and Quebec (QC) implemented programs for gbMSM aged 9–26 years. We sought to explore where men received the HPV vaccine and the influence of healthcare engagement on vaccination.

Methods Engage is a sexual health study among gbMSM aged 16+ in the largest urban centres in each province: Vancouver, BC; Toronto, ON; and Montreal, QC. Men are recruited via respondent driven sampling (RDS). We compared proportions (non-RDS adjusted) to questionnaire responses on healthcare engagement among vaccinated (1+) versus unvaccinated in the subset of men aged ≥26 years old at enrolment.

Results From 01/2017 to 31/12/2018, 477 men aged ≥26 enrolled (144 Vancouver, 84 Toronto, 249 Montreal). Their median age was 24 years (QRR 22–25). In Vancouver, Toronto and Montreal, respectively, 48.6%, 44.1%, 44.2% had initiated HPV vaccination with 58.6%, 56.8% and 48.2% of vaccinated men having received all 3 doses. Popular venues for vaccination included: a sexual health clinic (50.7%), medical clinic not specializing in sexual health (14.8%), community health centre (10.6%), and doctor’s office (7.4%). Compared to unvaccinated men, more vaccinated men had a family doctor (65.9% vs 52.3%, p=0.0047), had a different provider/clinic for sexual health care or had a HIV care provider (66.8% vs 51.8%, p=0.0022), had a STI/THV test in the past year (90.8% vs 68.6%, p<0.0001), and were diagnosed with a STI in the past year (39.6% vs 20.0%, p<0.0001).

Conclusion Compared to unvaccinated men, vaccinated men were more engaged in healthcare. It is unknown whether men requested the vaccine or providers offered it. Nevertheless, our findings suggest opportunistic HPV vaccination when men receive other services, particularly those related to sexual health.

Disclosure No significant relationships.

THE TRANSMISSION OF HPV IN THE SEXUAL NETWORKS OF SWingers, A MULTILEvel NETWORK APPROACH

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Background Swingers, i.e. heterosexual couples who, as a couple, have sex with others within the swingers’ subculture, are a subpopulation at risk for Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI). Human papillomavirus (HPV) has proven to be highly prevalent in female swingers (unpublished data). The aim of this study is to assess how the different HPV genotypes are distributed within the sexual networks of swingers and whether certain HPV genotypes cluster.

Methods We build a sexual network of swingers based on the network data given by 115 swingers who participated in our prospective cohort network study on swingers between April 2011 and March 2012. The vaginal samples of all female swingers in the network and known in our STI clinic were tested for HPV. HPV genotypes were identified by the highly sensitive SPF10-LiPA25 method detecting 25 different genital HPV genotypes. The multilevel transmission network consisted of the one-mode sexual network of the swingers and the two-mode network of swingers and the HPV genotypes. Distribution and clustering of HPV genotypes in the sexual network was assessed using multilevel network analysis.

Results The sexual network contained 1231 individual swingers of whom 556 female swingers. The sexual network consists of 38 separate components. Of 103 female swingers known in our STI clinic and tested for HPV, 96 (93%) were positive for at least one of the 25 HPV genotypes. All 25 HPV genotypes were present, but not equally distributed throughout the network. Some genotypes clustered together in specific components of the sexual network.

Conclusion All assessed genotypes of HPV were prevalent in the sexual networks of swingers. Despite the incomplete data in our study, multilevel network analysis turns out to be useful for studying transmission networks. Clustering of highly prevalent HPV could be used as a marker for sexual behaviour, potential STI risk and transmission in swingers.

Disclosure No significant relationships.

THE BURDEN OF HPV AND HSV-RELATED ANOGENITAL DISEASES IN A SOUTHEASTERN US URBAN HIV CLINIC

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Background Although HPV- and HSV–related conditions (HPVcs, HSVcs) have increased in PLWH, incidence, racial, and gender disparities of the conditions are unclear. We
examined the public health burden of anogenital HPVCs and HSVCs among PLWH from a southeastern US HIV clinic.

Methods Electronic health records from the HIV Clinic at University of Alabama, Birmingham (01/2006—03/2018) were reviewed. Patients ≥ 18 years at HIV diagnoses with ≥ 2 clinical visits were analyzed. Incidence rates of HPVCs (cervical and vaginal/vulvar low and high grade squamous intraepithelial lesion (LSIL, HSIL) and cancers in women, penile cancers in men, warts, anal LSIL, HSIL, and cancers in both) and herpetic ulcers were calculated. Each condition was counted only once at its first diagnosis in the period. We used Jopln regression to estimate average annual percentage changes (AAPCs).

Results There were 1038 HPVCs, 546 HSVCs, and 3191 both condition-free, with mean ages: 38.3, 39.6, and 41.3 years, and median nadir CD4 counts: 243, 283, 323 cells/µL, respectively. Incidence of warts, anal LSIL, HSIL, and cancer were different between men (189, 252, 44, 26 per 10,000 PYs) and women (68, 15, 6, 0 per 10,000 PYs) (p<0.0001 for each). Racial disparities were observed in anal LSIL and cancer, cervical HSIL and cancer among whites (rates: 284, 28, 162, 50 per 10,000 PYs) and blacks (rates: 142, 14, 94, 15 per 10,000 PYs), respectively (p<0.05 for each). Incident ulcers were higher among women than men (260 vs 163 per 10,000 PYs) and blacks than whites (192 vs 183 per 10,000 PYs). Warts, anal HSIL and cancer, cervical LSIL and cancer increased significantly over time (AAPCs: 19.1, 25.3, 24.9, 13.0, 15.1%, p<0.0001 for each, respectively).

Conclusion HPVCs and HSVCs are common in the southeastern US PLWH, with substantial increases of warts, anal and cervical lesions and cancers. Better screenings are warranted in the high-risk population.

Disclosure No significant relationships.

P848 REVISITING ENFUVIRIDE’S MECHANISM AND DESIGNING ITS ANALOG WITH IMPROVED ACTIVITY BY TARGETING TRIPLE SITES IN GP41

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Background In the early of 1990’s, several peptides overlapping gp41 CHR region, including SJ-2176, T20, and C34 were reported to have potent HIV-1 fusion inhibitory activity. T20 (generic name: enfuvirtide) was approved by the U.S. FDA as the first HIV-1 fusion inhibitory peptide-based anti-HIV drug. However, its clinical application is limited because of its low potency and low genetic barrier to resistance. Furthermore, its mechanism of action is still elusive. Therefore, it is essential to define T20’s mechanism of action, based on which a new analogous peptide with improved antiviral activity can be designed.

Methods The inhibitory activity of peptides on 6HB formation was tested in a temperature-controlled cell-cell fusion assay by flow cytometry using 6HB-specific mAb 2G8; on HIV-1 infection and fusion was assessed by p24 and cell-cell fusion assays. Interaction between different peptides or peptide and antibody was evaluated by ELISA.

Results T20 could inhibit 6HB formation at early, but not late, stage of HIV-1 fusion, while T1144 was effective at both stages. T20-SF is much more effective than T20 in binding to HIV drug. However, its clinical application is limited because of its low potency and low genetic barrier to resistance. Furthermore, its mechanism of action is still elusive. Therefore, it is essential to define T20’s mechanism of action, based on which a new analogous peptide with improved antiviral activity can be designed.