

Online supplemental table 2. Wording of survey questions for key variables within the study, Positive Perspectives Study, 2019

| Variable type | Construct | Question wording | Categorical response options (responses highlighted were treated as affirmative answers, where applicable) | Recoding of variable |
|----------------------------|---|---|---|---|
| Exposure variable | Ever told of U = U by healthcare provider (HCP) | My provider has told me about “undetectable = untransmutable” (U=U) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ① Strongly disagree ② Disagree ③ Neither agree nor disagree ④ Agree ⑤ Strongly agree | Strongly agree or Agree = 1; all other responses = 0 |
| | Awareness of treatment as prevention | My HIV medication prevents me from passing on HIV to others | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ① Strongly disagree ② Disagree ③ Neither agree nor disagree ④ Agree ⑤ Strongly agree | Strongly agree or agree = 1; all other responses = 0 |
| Selected outcome variables | Self-reported viral load | What is your most recent viral load? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ① ‘Undetectable’ or ‘Suppressed’ ② ‘Detectable’ or ‘Unsuppressed’ ③ I don’t know ④ Prefer not to say | ‘Undetectable’ or ‘Suppressed’ = 1; all other responses = 0 |
| | Preamble for self-rated health | | | |
| | Self-rated health (assessed separately for physical, mental, sexual, and overall domains) | <p>How would you describe your [physical / mental / sexual / overall] health over the past 4 weeks?</p> <p><i>Physical health refers to the physical condition of your body, specifically the absence of any illness or injury and being free from aches or pains in any part of your body.</i></p> <p><i>Mental health refers to your state of well-being in which you realise</i></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ① Very Poor ② Poor ③ Neither Good nor Poor ④ Good ⑤ Very Good | Good or Very good = 1; all other responses = 0 |

| | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| | | <p><i>your own potential, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can function productively and fruitfully, and are able to contribute to your community.</i></p> <p><i>Sexual health refers to your sexual well-being, the quality of your sexual relations, your sex drive (libido), as well as your reproductive health and any (non-HIV) sexually transmitted infections.</i></p> | | |
| Reasons for not sharing HIV status | <p>For what reasons, if any, have you not shared your HIV status with someone in the past?</p> <p>1 It has not been necessary/relevant to my daily interactions with people</p> <p>2 I was worried that they would see or treat me differently</p> <p>3 I was worried that they might then disclose my HIV status to others</p> <p>4 I was worried that I might be excluded from activities</p> <p>5 I was worried about being denied access to health care services</p> <p>6 I was worried about being denied access to financial benefits/support</p> <p>7 I was worried it might affect my friendships</p> <p>8 I was worried I might lose my job</p> <p>9 I was worried it might affect my romantic or sexual relationships</p> <p>10 I was worried about my physical safety/potential violence</p> <p>11 I was worried about criminal prosecution</p> <p>98 Other, please specify</p> <p>00 None – I have always shared my HIV status</p> | Pls, select all that apply | Reason selected = 1; not selected = 0. | |
| Hiding of HIV medication | In the past 6 months, have you ever hidden or disguised your HIV medication to avoid revealing your status? | <p>① Yes</p> <p>② No</p> | Yes = 1; No = 0 | |

| | | | | |
|---|--|--|-----------------------------------|--|
| Have not shared HIV status with other people besides HIV care providers | | "Other than your HIV care providers, does anyone else know that you are living with HIV?" | ① Yes ② No ③ I don't know | No = 1 (i.e., very certain of having never shared HIV status); all other responses = 0 (i.e., definitely or possibly have shared HIV status with others) |
| Extent of sharing of HIV status (among those who indicated someone other than their HCP knows they are living with HIV) | | Other than your HIV healthcare providers, who knows about your HIV status? 1 My partner/spouse/significant other 2 One or more of my sexual partners 3 One or more members of my *close family (excluding partner/spouse) *by close family we mean parents, siblings & children only 4 One or more of my close friends 5 One or more of my wider family/circle of friends 6 My current family doctor/GP (if not one of your HIV care providers) 7 One or more other healthcare professionals (that are not one of your HIV care providers) 8 One or more of my co-workers 9 Most of the people in my life | ① Yes ② No ③ Not applicable | Yes = 1; No=0; Not applicable excluded. Exclusion of those not in the relationship of interest (i.e., 'not applicable') was to ensure the correct denominator was analyzed (e.g., sharing of status with sexual partners was analyzed only among those with sexual partners). |