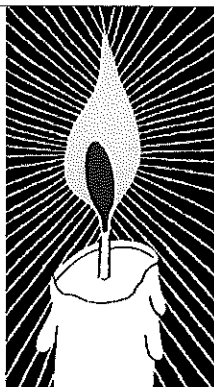


# RAP\* Time



RURAL CENTER *for*  
AIDS/STD PREVENTION

DEPARTMENT OF APPLIED HEALTH SCIENCE

INDIANA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF PUBLIC  
HEALTH-BLOOMINGTON

\*Rural AIDS/STD prevention. rap (rap) v. *Slang*. To talk freely and openly

Vol. 20, No. 2, February, 2016

## Condom use declines for both men and women during early coital exposures

Condom use declines within a few weeks of first coitus between 2 partners. Reasons for decline during increased relationship duration include diminished perceived STI risk, increased trust of each other, and change to nonbarrier contraception.

Determining when condom use declines in new sexual relationships relates to STI prevention in that the duration of infectiousness for STI acquired in a previous relationship may be several weeks or months, potentially extending past a period of relatively high condom use in new sexual relationships. The risk of being exposed to STI infection may occur if the interval between sequential partners is less than the duration of infectiousness.

This study explored an alternative understanding of factors associated with condom discontinuation by prospectively assessing condom use as a function of the number of coital exposures reported with a special partner.

### Methodology

Data were from a prospective 12 week study of sexual behaviors and incident STI. Participants who reported at least one new partner during the study (n=115) com-

pleted weekly STI testing and 3 times daily electronic diary collection assessing individual partner effect, daily activities, sexual behavior, and condom use.

### Outcomes of the Study

Participants were ages 18-29 years; 48% women and 90% African American.

Major findings include:

- Men started at average condom use of 56% that declined to 26% during the first 17 coital events then stabilized at 25%.
- Women started at average condom use of 43% that declined to 6% during the first 17 coital events which remained.
- Women reporting high relationship satisfaction and high sexual satisfaction were less likely to use condoms.
- Men reporting high relationship satisfaction, in contrast to those with lower relationship satisfaction, were more likely to use condoms.
- Men's condom use probability in the high relationship satisfaction group decreased from 55% to 16% during the first 9 coital events and stayed between 7 and 15% for subsequent coital events.
- Women's condom use probability

showed rapid decrease from 36% to 8% during the first 9 coital events, followed by a low level between 3% and 8%.

- Median number of lifetime sexual partners was 31 and 22 for women and men, respectively.
- About 24% of women and 18% of men had chlamydia, gonorrhea, or trichomonas at enrollment.
- More rapid decline in condom use among women was highly associated with higher relationship and sexual satisfaction.

### Implications for Prevention

This study found that condom use declines sharply for both men and women during the first coital experiences in a relationship, then remains stable at much lower levels.

Higher levels of couple relationship and sexual satisfaction were associated with more rapid declines in condom use, even after very few coital events, particularly for the women.

### SOURCE:

He, F., et al. (2016). Condom use as a function of number of coital events in new relationships. *Sexually Transmitted Diseases*, 43, 67-70.

### HIV testing low among adolescents and young adults

HIV infection disproportionately impacts adolescents and young adults compared with the overall general population. CDC recommends routine HIV screening for Americans aged 13 to 64 years, yet 50% of adolescents and young adults with HIV remain undiagnosed.

Testing data from the CDC YRBS (2005-2013) and the BRFSS (2011-2013) were analyzed.

During the study periods, a mean of 22% of high school students (17% of males and 27% of females) who ever had sexual intercourse and 33% of young adults reported ever being tested for HIV. Among high school students, no change was detected in HIV testing prevalence during 2005-2013, regardless of gender or race/ethnicity. Among young adult males, an average of 27% had ever been tested with no changes overall or by race/ethnicity, 2011-2013. Significant decreases in testing were detected during 2011-2013 among young adult females overall.

SOURCE: Van Handel, M. (2016). HIV testing among US high school students and young adults. *Pediatrics*, 137(2): e20152700.

### HIV transmission documented among adult film performers

The CDC reported the first well-documented work-related HIV transmission among an adult film performer.

A male performer was infected by a non-work-related partner who was not aware of his HIV infection. The performer, having tested negative by nucleic acid amplification test within the preceding 14 days, and unaware of his very recent HIV infection, infected another performer and a non-work-related partner. The viruses in all four HIV infections were highly genetically related, indicating a transmission cluster.

The federal and state Occupational Safety and Health Administration delineates workers' right for a safe work environment. The adult film industry is well suited for the implementation of HIV biomedical prevention strategies (HIV testing, treatment, pre-exposure prophylaxis), behavioral interventions (consistent/correct condom use facilitated with lubrication), and regulatory interventions directed toward protecting the adult film performers.

SOURCE: Wilken, J. A., et al. (2016). Occupational HIV transmission among male adult film performers—multiple states, 2014. *MMWR*, 65, 11-114.

### Time from HIV diagnosis to viral suppression declined

U.S. guidelines now recommend that all HIV-infected persons receive antiretroviral therapy. How much time, between 2007 and 2013, for viral suppression to occur among HIV-infected persons in King County, WA was assessed. 1490 (84%) of 1766 newly diagnosed persons achieved viral suppression in a median time of 213 days. 36% of all persons diagnosed in 2007 and 77% in 2013 were virally suppressed within 12 months of HIV diagnosis.

SOURCE: Toren, K. G, et al. (2016). Time from HIV diagnosis to viral load suppression: 2007-2013. *Sexually Transmitted Diseases*, 43, 34-40.

### Expedited partner therapy encouraged

Preventing STDs among youth is a priority as they represent half of 20 million new STDs annually. CDC encourages the use of expedited partner therapy for sex partners of persons diagnosed with chlamydia or gonorrhea.

SOURCE: CDC. (2015). Reported Cases of Sexually Transmitted Diseases on the Rise, Some at Alarming Rate. Atlanta, GA: CDC

**RAP\* Time** is a monthly AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases prevention bulletin published by the Rural Center for AIDS/STD Prevention (RCAP) at Indiana University, Bloomington.

RCAP is located within the Department of Applied Health Science, Indiana University School of Public Health-Bloomington. The major focus of RCAP is the promotion of AIDS/STD prevention in the American rural communities, with the goal of reducing HIV/STD incidence. RCAP began operations on March 1, 1994.

**Senior Director**  
William L. Yarber, HSD  
Indiana University, Bloomington

**Co-Directors**  
Janet N. Arno, MD  
IU School of Medicine, Indianapolis  
Richard A. Crosby, PhD  
University of Kentucky  
Beth Meyerson, MDiv, PhD  
Indiana University, Bloomington  
Mohammad R. Torabi, PhD  
Indiana University, Bloomington

#### Rural Center for AIDS/STD Prevention

Indiana University  
801 East Seventh Street  
Bloomington, Indiana  
47405-3085

Phone, Fax, E-mail, web page:  
Voice and TDD: (812) 855-7974  
(800) 566-8644  
FAX line: (812) 855-3936  
aids@indiana.edu  
<http://www.indiana.edu/~aids>