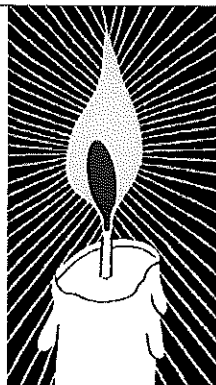


RAP* Time



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

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Love is associated with greater condom use for paid/traded sex among women

Transactional sex involves the exchange of sex for money, drugs, food, shelter, or other goods and services. Studies show that women engaging in transactional sex (paid/traded sex) have higher HIV/STI rates compared to their peers.

Characteristics of the sexual relationship have an impact on HIV/STI risk. For women in transactional sex, characteristics of the sexual relationship may justify condom use or condom non-use. Rates of condom use with romantic partners are low compared to condom use with transactional partners. One factor may be feelings of love: feelings of love vary both within women over time and by partner type.

This study explored within-person, within-day, and event-level predictors of condom use during transactional sexual activity among women.

Methodology

Participants (26 total and 18 who reported transactional sex) were English-speaking women from Indianapolis, Indiana, at least 18 years old and reported: (1) exchanging sex for drugs, money or items of daily living within the preceding 90 days; (2) a likelihood

that they would engage in sex exchange again within the next 30 days; and (3) being able to safely store and charge a cellular phone. Participants completed a digital diary on a study-provided smartphone twice daily.

Outcomes of the Study

Median age was 41. Fourteen were Black and 14 had household income less than \$10,000.

Major findings include:

- 26 women reported 175 vaginal sex events.
- 18 reported 87 paid/traded vaginal sex events (median=5).
- There were no statistically significant differences in demographic characteristics between the 18 who reported transactional sex and those who did not.
- Condoms were used in 52% of paid/traded vaginal sex events.
- Feeling in love was associated with an increased odds of condom use.
- Having sex on the weekend and at night were associated with lower odds of condom use.
- Mood, partner type and event-level sexual behaviors were not statistically associated with condom use.
- Feeling in love on a given day was

associated with higher odds of condom use.

- In paid/traded sexual events with romantic partners, the frequency of condom use was 71% when women did not report love and 40% when love was reported.
- In sexual events with non-romantic partners, the frequency of condom use was 44% when women did not report feeling love and 60% when love was reported.

Implications for Prevention

The study found that the study women were less likely to report protected sex with romantic partners and more likely to report protected sex with non-romantic sex when they were in love.

Interventions focusing on affective state (e.g. love) on condom use may help women with risk management across partner types.

SOURCE:

Roth, A., M., et al. (2016). Love moderates the relationship between partner type and condom use among women engaging in transactional vaginal sex. *Sexual Health*, 13, 170-176.

MSM with bacterial STI had greater odds of HIV diagnosis

Men who have sex with men are at a high risk for HIV infection after diagnosis with other sexually transmitted infections. HIV/STI surveillance data from Washington State from January 2007-June 2013 were calculated to determine the incidence of new HIV diagnoses after different STI diagnoses among MSM.

MSM were at greatest risk for acquiring HIV after diagnosis with rectal gonorrhea, followed by early syphilis, urethral gonorrhea, rectal chlamydial infection, pharyngeal gonorrhea, late syphilis, and urethral chlamydial infection. The NTT (need to treat) with PrEP was lowest for rectal gonorrhea and early syphilis.

Using the highest estimate of PrEP efficacy (92% risk reduction), 26 and 38 MSM with rectal gonorrhea and early syphilis would need to be treated.

This study supports conclusions from prior studies that MSM with rectal infections and early syphilis are at very high risk for subsequently acquiring HIV.

SOURCE: Katz, D. A., et al. (2016) HIV incidence among men who have sex with men after diagnosis with sexually transmitted infections. *Sexually Transmitted Diseases*, 43, 249-254.

Homeless youth engage in trade sex as survival strategy

Pelvic inflammatory disease (PID) is common, often has no symptoms, and can cause tubal infertility, ectopic pregnancy and chronic pelvic pain. This study identified risk factors for PID in female students.

2529 sexually experienced, multiethnic, female students from 11 universities and 9 colleges in London, UK, provided self-taken vaginal samples and completed questionnaires.

Of 2004 participants who reported numbers of sexual partners during follow-up, 32 were diagnosed with PID. The strongest predictor for PID was *Chlamydia trachomatis*. Multiple or new sexual partners in the last 12 months, younger age and attending a college rather than a university were also predictors. Bacterial vaginosis and *Mycoplasma genitalium* infection were not significantly associated with PID after adjustment for baseline *C. trachomatis*.

Sexual health education and screening programs should be targeted at the high-risk groups like those identified in this study.

SOURCE: Maria, D. S., et al. (2015). Exploring contextual factors of youth homelessness and sexual risk behaviors: A qualitative study. *Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health*, 47, 195-201.

Zika virus can be spread by men but unknown for women

The Zika virus can be spread during sex by a man infected with Zika. In known cases, the virus can be spread when there are not symptoms. The Zika virus stays longer in semen than in blood, but it is not known how long it stays in semen. At this time, it is unknown if a women infected with Zika can spread to her sexual partners. It is not known if Zika can be spread from other body fluids that may be exchanged during oral sex, including saliva and vaginal fluids.

SOURCE: CDC. (2016). Zika and sexual transmission. Atlanta, GA.

HPV vaccine lagging in men

Nationally, 5% of men reported receiving the HPV vaccination, with no differences in uptake by race/ethnicity or sexual orientation. 30% of women reported HPV vaccine with women of color being less likely than white women.

SOURCE: Daniel-Ulloa, J., et al. (2016). Human papillomavirus vaccination in the United States: Uneven uptake by gender, race/ethnicity, and sexual orientation. *American Journal of Public Health*, 106, 746-747.

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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.

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