

# RAP\* Time



## RURAL CENTER *for* AIDS/STD PREVENTION

A JOINT PROJECT OF  
INDIANA UNIVERSITY, UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY,  
AND UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

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

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## Female victims of intimate partner violence have higher STI prevalence

Intimate partner violence (IPV) is commonly reported among young adult heterosexual relationships. IPV is defined as physical, sexual, or psychological harm by a current or former partner or spouse.

The National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health (Add Health) of 2001 and 2002 found that 29% of women and 25% of men aged 18 to 28 years reported ever being victimized by physical IPV. Research has shown that women in abusive relationships experience adverse health outcomes, including STIs and infertility.

This study measured the association between IPV victimization and perpetration and prevalent STIs and STI-risk behaviors among a sample of young women.

### Methodology

Data were from wave 3 of Add Health which contains demographic and behavioral information from a sample of adolescents in grades 7 to 12 in the United States enrolled in the 1994-1995 academic year. Wave 3 data were collected in 2001-2002 when participants were between 18 and 28 years of age.

Face-to-face home interviews and ACASI were used for ques-

tionnaire testing. Participants were also tested for chlamydia and trichomoniasis.

### Outcomes of the Study

This sample was restricted to 3548 women (mean age = 22 years) who reported a sexual relationship that occurred in the prior 3 months and agreed to STI testing.

Major findings include:

- The IPV prevalence over the past year was 32%: 3% victim only, 12% perpetrator-only, and 17% reciprocal.
- The STI prevalence was 7.1%: 13.2% for physical IPV and 6.3% for nonabusive relationships.
- 17% of participants reported partner concurrency and 32% reported condom use at last vaginal intercourse.
- Victim-only and reciprocal IPV were associated with partner concurrency.
- Victim-only IPV was associated with a higher likelihood of having a prevalent STI.
- Women who were sexually victimized (8%) were more likely to be a victim of physical abuse.
- Women in reciprocally violent relationships and those in victim-only relationships were significantly less likely than women in

nonabusive relationships to report condom use at last vaginal intercourse.

- There was no significant difference in reported condom use at last sex between women who only perpetrated IPV compared with women in nonviolent relationships.
- Women who were the only physical victims were more likely to have an STI than women in nonabusive relationships.
- Women who were sexually victimized by their partner were less likely to have an STI.

### Implications for Prevention

This analysis suggests that female victims of intimate partner violence have a higher STI prevalence and a higher prevalence of STI-risk behaviors than women in nonviolent relationships.

Women in violent relationships may need to be screened for STI and IPV issues should be part of STI prevention.

### SOURCE:

Hess, K. L., et al. (2012). Intimate partner violence and sexually transmitted infections among young adult women. *Sexually Transmitted Diseases*, 39, 366-371.

### Loud music listening related to inconsistent condom use

New digital technology has led to music players which can produce high volumes. This study examined, among adolescents and emerging adults attending inner-city lower education, associations between risky music listening behaviors (from MPS players and in discotheques and at pop concerts) and traditional health risk behaviors. 944 students in Dutch inner-city, senior-secondary vocational schools completed questionnaires.

Students exposed to risky sound levels during discotheque and pop concert attendance reported inconsistent condom use during sexual intercourse, were more likely binge drinkers, and used cannabis less often during the past four weeks. Risky MP3-player listeners used cannabis more often during the past four weeks.

This study highlights the need to regard high-volume music listening as a risk factor for risk-taking behavior. Risky music-listening behaviors should be included in traditional health education programs.

SOURCE: Vogel, I., et al. (2012). Risky music-listening behaviors and associated health-risk behaviors. *Pediatrics*, 129, 1097-1103.

### Only 2.5% of MSM did not use condom for last anal intercourse

This study determined the demographic and event-specific situational factors associated with condom use during the most recent penile-anal intercourse (PAI) among men who have sex with men.

Data were collected via an Internet survey from 14,750 MSM, ages 18-87 years, from 50 US states and the District of Columbia. Measures included items related to sociodemographics, recent sexual behavior history, event characteristics, condom use, and items associated with ejaculation during the event. Median age was 39.0 years.

Only 2.5% of the entire sample reported that ejaculation occurred in their own or their sexual partner's anus without a condom during the most recent PAI. Age, race/ethnicity, partner status, and location of sexual event were all significantly related to the likelihood of condom use during men's most recent PAI with another man.

Study findings highlight diversity in condom use behaviors and varying potential HIV/STI risk.

SOURCE: Rosenberg, J. G., et al. (2012). Condom use during most recent anal intercourse event among a US sample of men who have sex with men. *Journal of Sexual Medicine*, 9, 1037-1047.

### HPV-related cancers more common than ovarian cancers

The CDC reports that an estimated average of 21,290 HPV-associated cancers occurred among females each year during 2004-2008, making these cancers combined more common than ovarian cancers. For men, an average of 12,080 cases occurred per year, equivalent to invasive brain cancers. Of the 33,369 cancers that occur each year in the US at anatomic sites associated with HPV, about 26,000 are attributable to HPV, most preventable via HPV vaccine.

SOURCE: CDC. (2012). Human papillomavirus-associated cancers--United States, 2004-2008. *MMWR*, 61, 258-261.

### Gay and bisexual men most affected by HIV

Gay and bisexual men are more severely affected by HIV than any other group in the US. Among all gay and bisexual men, blacks/African Americans bear the greatest disproportionate HIV burden. From 2006 to 2009, HIV infections among young black/African American gay and bisexual men increased 48%.

SOURCE: CDC. (2012). HIV among gay and bisexual men. <http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/topics/msm/index.htm>.

**RAP\* Time** is a monthly AIDS/STD prevention bulletin published by the Rural Center for AIDS/STD Prevention (RCAP) at Indiana University, Bloomington. RCAP is a joint project of Indiana University, University of Colorado, and University of Kentucky. The major focus of RCAP is the promotion of HIV/STD prevention in rural America, with the goal of reducing HIV/STD incidence.

The opinions expressed here do not necessarily represent those of the cooperating universities.

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