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Men Who Have Sex With Men (MSM) and Risk Factors Associated With Condom Use at Last Sexual Intercourse With a Man and a Woman in Senegal

ELIHoS project ANRS 12139

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Background

Men who have sex with other men (MSM) are in Africa a vulnerable population which has up until now been insufficiently explored. In Senegal, HIV prevalence among MSM was 21.8% in 2007. Given the high rate of bisexuality (73% of MSM had had both male and female partners over the past year), it is important to understand their risk-taking behaviours regarding both men and women.

Methods

A socio-behavioural survey was carried out in 2007 among 501 MSM recruited using the snowball sampling method in three places (Dakar, Mbour/Thiès, and Saint-Louis). We explore in this article why a condom was not used during last sexual intercourse with a man and with a woman, bearing in mind the respondent's characteristics, type of relationship and the context of the sexual act. We constructed a multiple logistic-regression model with all factors with a p-value less than 20% in the bivariate analysis and modified the model through backwards elimination, which removed explanatory variables with a p-value greater than 0.20.

Unprotected anal sex at last sexual intercourse with a man

	Univariate analysis			Multivariate logistic regression		
	%	n	χ^2 p-value	aOR	95% CI	p-value
Age Group			0.000			0.193
18-19 years	36.5	35/96		ref.		
20-24 years	24.3	46/189		0.87	0.46-1.66	0.666
25-29 years	13.5	15/111		0.54	0.23-1.26	0.151
30-34 years	12.3	8/65		0.44	0.16-1.22	0.113
35 years or over	32.1	9/28		1.42	0.44-4.62	0.562
Occupation			0.032			0.157
None	37.0	10/27		2.98	1.10-8.10	0.032
Student / Apprentice	29.4	37/126		0.98	0.54-1.81	0.958
Frequent profession among MSM	16.7	18/108		0.91	0.48-1.75	0.780
Other profession	21.1	48/228		ref.		
Global awareness indicator			0.000			0.000
Don't know a place to be tested for HIV	40.8	31/76		ref.		
Know a place to be tested for HIV (a)	35.7	40/140		0.92	0.48-1.73	0.784
(a) + has participated in an MSM prevention program (b)	15.1	14/93		0.31	0.14-0.68	0.004
(a) + (b) + is member of an MSM organisation	10.0	27/114		0.20	0.10-0.41	0.000
Age of the partner			0.000			0.0863
19 years or under	42.1	24/57		1.84	0.86-3.94	0.117
20-24 years	26.8	40/149		ref.		
25-29 years	16.4	23/140		0.61	0.32-1.18	0.141
30 years or older	18.3	26/142		0.93	0.47-1.82	0.822
Location of sexual act			0.000			0.001
Respondent's home	20.1	20/149		ref.		
Partner's home	21.2	56/264		1.02	0.58-1.80	0.940
Public place / Outside	64.5	20/31		5.70	2.21-14.71	0.000
Hotel / A friend's home	15.6	7/45		0.66	0.25-1.75	0.405
Partner's HIV status known			0.007			0.179
No	24.7	110/445		ref.		
Yes	6.8	3/44		0.42	0.12-1.49	0.179
Total	23.1	113/489				
Base: MSM who had had at least one male sexual partner over the past year. aOR: adjusted Odds ratio. 95% CI: 95% Confidence Interval. ref. : reference.						

Conclusion

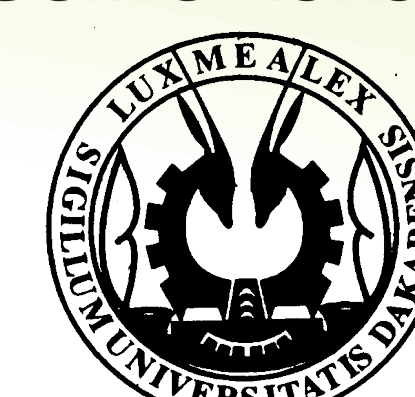
Whether intercourse takes place with a man or with a woman, the fact of having participated in a prevention program specifically targeting MSM constitutes a major prevention factor. This tends to show both the pertinence and effectiveness of these programs, and the necessity to pursue and to extend them.

However, these programs targeting MSM must address their heterosexual practices and the specific risks involved.



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