HIV knowledge, behavior and prevalence among MSM: Results from the integrated bio-behavioral survey, Côte d’Ivoire - 2016.

THEME

L’Afrique: une approche différente vers la fin du SIDA.
Africa: Ending AIDS-Delivering Differently.

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ABIDJAN | CÔTE D’IVOIRE
HIV knowledge, behavior and prevalence among MSM: Results from the integrated bio-behavioral survey, Côte d’Ivoire - 2016.

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Outline of presentation

• Background
• Methods
• Results
• Conclusions

We believe that health is a human right.
Background
Who We Are

HAI implements programs on a range of human rights issues, in Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin American and the Caribbean, and the Middle East and North Africa, as well as the Marjorie Kovler Center for survivors of torture in Chicago.
HAI core competencies

- Trailblazer in **stigma-free** health care
- Leader in **trauma-informed** mental and psychosocial care
- Advocate for equitable **access to justice**
- Proponent of **human rights** and **gender equity**
Comprehensive HIV prevention / care and treatment services (PMA) in Cote D’Ivoire

- BCC
- Promotion of condoms and lube
- STI testing and treatment
- HIV Counseling and Testing
- HIV Care and treatment
- Support for common diseases
- Proctology diseases
- Reproductive Health & FP
- GBV & Gender Norms
- Reference for CC, Hep B/C, proctology diseases, ART 3rd line
- Governance, management & capacity building
HIV/AIDS IN CÔTE D’IVOIRE

• National HIV prevalence ages 15-49: 3.7%
  • Down from 4.7% in 2005
  • 4.6% among women vs. 2.9% among men
  • 4.3% in urban areas vs. 3.1% in rural areas
  • Abidjan prevalence among general population men (4.1%) (INS, 2012)

• 18% HIV prevalence among MSM in Abidjan (2012, SHARP study) (Hakim, 2015) (5x that among general population men)

• Very high incidence of HIV among MSM in Abidjan (15.9 per 100 person years (95% CI: 7.6-33.4) (Couderc, 2017)
METHODS
Time-location sampling

- CDC, HAI, CI IRB approval
- Formative assessment
- MSM invited to social events
- Consenting MSM ≥18 years old invited to participate

- Separate informed consent for 4 steps
  - Interview
  - Medical Exam
  - STI testing
  - HIV testing

- Socio-demographic, knowledge, behavioral, service use, biological data
Localities and sample size

Localities and sites

1. Abidjan
2. Man
3. Abengourou
4. Bondoukou
5. Gagnoa
6. Daloa
7. Guiglo

Sample size

- 4,160
  - 2,140 FSW
  - 321 FSW partners
  - 1,544 MSM
  - 155 Female partners of MSM

Data collection period: March 22 through July 20, 2016
Results
Study Population

• 1554 MSM approached to participate
• 1,456 interviewed (93.3%)
• 1,268 Tested for HIV with valid results (81.5%)
• 1,293 Tested for STIs with valid results (83.2%)
Current age (N=1,456) vs. Age at first sex with a man (N=1431)

- National Median Age: 24.4 years
- National median age at first sex with a man: 16 years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Locality</th>
<th>Average age</th>
<th>Average age at first sex</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abengourou</td>
<td>17.6</td>
<td>22.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abidjan</td>
<td>15.7</td>
<td>25.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bondoukou</td>
<td>17.2</td>
<td>24.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daloa</td>
<td>17.7</td>
<td>24.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gagnoa</td>
<td>17.8</td>
<td>24.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guiglo</td>
<td>16.5</td>
<td>25.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Man</td>
<td>19.5</td>
<td>26.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Monthly income ($60,000 CFA / US$106, Minimum Wage)

- <60,000 CFA (minimum wage): 57%
- 60,000 CFA or more: 43%
Literacy among MSM (read a small phrase) (N=1447)
Reported sexual orientation (N=1434)

- Bisexual: 61%
- Gay: 34%
- Heterosexual: 2%
- Transvestite: 1%
- MSW: 2%
- Don't Know: 0%
Reported sexual attraction (N=1253)

- Mostly men: 37.5%
- Men only: 38.0%
- Mostly women: 24.2%
- Only women: 0.2%
- Refused: 0.1%
Has ever had sex with women (N=1446)

- Yes: 79%
- No: 21%
HIV Prevention Knowledge (UNGASS 5 questions)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Correct (N)</th>
<th>Incorrect (N)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Healthy person can be infected (yes)</td>
<td>1173 (82%)</td>
<td>253</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sharing a meal can transmit (no)</td>
<td>1076 (75%)</td>
<td>352</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Condoms consistently protective (yes)</td>
<td>1161 (82%)</td>
<td>261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single HIV-partner protective (yes)</td>
<td>1161 (81%)</td>
<td>270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mosquitos can transmit (no)</td>
<td>1141 (80%)</td>
<td>292</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Uses internet to find partners (N=1443)

- Yes: 44%
- No: 56%
Received or given money or goods in exchange for sex (N=1440)

- Yes: 33%
- No: 67%
Sex in last 12 months under influence of alcohol or drugs (N=1360)

- Yes: 35%
- No: 65%
Frequency of HIV testing (N=1425)

- Never tested: 28%
- Annually: 20%
- Every 3 months: 43%
- Every month: 4%
- Other: 5%
Lack of pleasure (N=1447) and feeling depressed/desperate (N=1445) past 2 weeks

- Not at all: 39% (Little pleasure/interest), 45% (Depressed or desperate)
- Several days: 36% (Little pleasure/interest), 22% (Depressed or desperate)
- Over half of the days: 15% (Little pleasure/interest), 23% (Depressed or desperate)
- Almost everyday: 10% (Little pleasure/interest), 10% (Depressed or desperate)
- Refuse: 0.1% (Little pleasure/interest), 0.1% (Depressed or desperate)
National Average: 71% YES
HIV Prevalence by locality (MSM) (%) (N=1,268)

- Abidjan: 21.6%
- Gagnoa: 21.7%
- Man: 19.1%
- Daloa: 15.7%
- Guiglo: 15%
- Bondoukou: 5.3%
- Abengourou: 4.2%

Average HIV prevalence: 19.6%
HIV Prevalence by age group MSM(%) (N=1268)

Average HIV prevalence 19.6%
Prevalence des IST (%)
N=1293
CONCLUSIONS
Conclusions

• MSM remain highly at risk for HIV transmission
• Legal/Policy constraints to reaching MSM <18 excludes a large proportion of sexually active MSM
• Increasing complete HIV transmission/prevention knowledge must be an urgent priority
• High levels of violence and stigma result in high levels of psychosocial distress –
• Enabling environment for MSM must be improved
Thank You
Merci

