

Violence Screening and Viral Load Suppression among HIV-Positive African American Women

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Women & HIV

- 242,178 women living with HIV nation wide (1 in 4 cases)
- 88% are aware of their status
- 45% engaged in care
- 32% virally suppressed

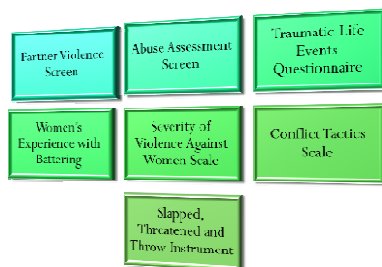
IPV & HIV

- 68-95% of clinical samples in resource-rich settings have experienced IPV in their lifetime
- IPV risk and consequence of HIV
- IPV is associated with high risk behavior
 - Substance use
 - Multiple sex partners
 - Exchange sex
 - Coercive sex
 - Challenges negotiating safe sex
 - Sex with HIV positive men and those with increased risk (injection drug use)

IPV & HIV

- 68-95% of clinical samples in resource-rich settings have experienced IPV in their lifetime
- IPV risk and consequence of HIV
- IPV is associated with poor health outcomes
 - Poorer physical health
 - Poorer mental health
 - Poorer HIV outcomes as well (high no-show, ART failure, detectable viral loads, low CD4 counts, higher OIs,)

IPV Screening & Support



IPV Screening Methodology

- Need to deploy a variety of kinds of questions and tools over time to most fully screen for IPV

Study

78 African American HIV positive Women who were engaged in an intervention aimed at newly diagnosed, new to care, sporadically engaged or lost to care women

22-63 yrs of age (m 48Yrs)	78% Single	60% renting house or apartment remaining unstable housed	96% heterosexual	63% HS/GED	Majority unemployed or under-employed	88% living with \$1000 or less a month in income
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Prevalence of Violence Concerns

- Tools:
 - WEB
 - Screening questions:
 - Have you ever been emotionally or physically abused by your partner or someone important to you?
 - Are you afraid of a past or current partner?
 - Has anyone forced you to have sexual activities?
 - Barrier to HIV care - "Thought that Partner might hurt you" ("a great deal" and "somewhat")
 - HIV Infection through Sexual Assault ("Most likely" and "Somewhat likely")
 - Report of past or current concerns of safety on acuity measure
- Identified individually between 12-40% of sample as having concerns with violence
- Composite measure identified 68%

Viral Suppression (< 200copies/mL)

- Overall high rate of suppression (80%)
- Responses to individual tools were not identified with suppression concerns
- Those identified using composite measure were more likely to not be virally suppressed ($\chi^2(1) = 6.15, p < 0.05$)

	Violence Concerns	No identified Violence Concerns
Suppressed	71.7%	96.0%
Not Suppressed	28.3%	4.0%

Support/Clinical Guidelines

- Women-Centered Care
- Identification & Care of IPV Survivors
- Clinical Care for Survivors of Sexual Assault
- Training of Healthcare Providers on IPV & Sexual Violence
- Health-care Policy & Provision
- Mandatory Reporting of IPV
- IPV Screening for Women of Childbearing Age & Referral to Services for those who test positive
- Incorporate a Trauma-Informed Primary Care Framework
- Integrate Primary & Secondary Gender-based Violence Prevention Programs for Pregnant Women

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