

National HIV Behavioral Surveillance (NHBS) Men Who Have Sex with Men

Marlene LaLota, MPH

Lisa Metsch, PhD

David Forrest, PhD

Stefanie White, MPH

Wei Zhao, MD



NHBS Background

- First funded in 2002
- Sentinel MSAs with high AIDS prevalence
- Eligible: states & directly funded cities
- Follow-up incidence testing in 6 MSAs that participated in YMS

NHBS Sites, 2005



NHBS Objectives

Risk Behaviors

- Assess prevalence of and trends in risk behaviors
 - sexual risk behaviors
 - drug-use risk behaviors

HIV Testing Behaviors

- Assess prevalence of and trends in HIV testing behaviors

Prevention

- Assess exposure to and use of prevention services
- Assess impact of prevention services on behavior
- Identify prevention-service gaps and missed opportunities for prevention

Population

- MSM, IDU, and HET
- Miami-Dade and Broward counties (Palm Beach County residents are eligible but sampling does not target this area)

Sample size: 500 from each county

Overall Strategy

- Will be conducted in 12-month cycles
 - ◆ One group per cycle (MSM, IDU, HET)
 - ◆ Different sampling methods each cycle/group
 - ◆ Formative research done for each cycle
 - ◆ Same populations and MSAs over time
- Core Questionnaire
- Consistent eligibility criteria
 - ◆ 18 years of age or older
 - ◆ Resident of MSA

Data Collection

■ Questionnaire

- ◆ Core: Behavioral risks for HIV, HIV testing, exposure to/use of prevention services
- ◆ Local Questions:
 - ◆ Awareness/Use of specific prevention programs
 - ◆ Any other local topics

Data Collection

- MSM
 - ◆ Time-space sampling to randomly selected venues
 - ◆ Participants in venues are systematically recruited and interviewed
- IDU
 - ◆ Respondent Driven Sampling
 - ◆ Participants recruit each other from within their networks
- Heterosexuals (Pilot Phase)
 - ◆ Venue Based Sampling
 - ◆ Respondent Driven Sampling

Assessing Characteristics of population X In ON-going surveillance

The logo for ACXION is displayed in a stylized, metallic, 3D font. The letters are arranged horizontally and are set against a background that features a vertical gradient from yellow at the top to red at the bottom, with a dark blue gradient at the very bottom. The letters 'A', 'C', 'I', 'O', and 'N' are in a sans-serif font, while the 'X' is significantly larger and more prominent. The entire logo has a glowing, metallic appearance with highlights and shadows.

ACXION

Interviewing Van



NHBS-MSM



NHBS – Miami and Broward Teams



NHBS-MSM Update

Broward:

- Started: January 2004
- Ended: June 2004
- 747 completed surveys
 - ◆ 698 MSM

Miami-Dade

- Started: July 2004
- Blood collection started: December 2004
- Ended: April 2005
 - ◆ 1,015 completed surveys
 - 842 MSM
 - ◆ 312 completed surveys with blood
 - 258 MSM

Definition of MSM

- Self-reported oral or anal sex with a man in the past 12 months

Venues Sampled

We sampled a total of 50 venues in Broward and
46 venues in Miami-Dade

	Broward County		Miami-Dade County		Total
B-Bars	14	28%	10	21.7%	24
C-Café/Restaurant	7	14%	1	2.2%	8
D-Dance Club	1	2%	7	15.2%	8
F-Fitness	2	4%	4	8.7%	6
O-Social Organizations	4	8%	1	2.2%	5
P-Parks	5	10%	4	8.7%	9
R-Retail	8	16%	7	15.2%	15
S-Street	2	4%	9	19.6%	11
X-Sex	0	0%	2	4.3%	2
Z-Other	7	14%	1	2.2%	8

Preliminary Data

Demographic Characteristics of MSM

	Total	Broward	Miami
	(1540)	(698)	(842)
Age (mean)	36.2	39.1	33.8
Race			
White	47.9	71.9	28.0
Black	11.7	8.6	14.3
Hispanic	34.9	14.6	52.1
Other	5.3	5.3	5.4

Preliminary Data

Demographic Characteristics of MSM

- Broward MSM have higher education
- Miami MSM more likely to be born outside U.S.
- Few are homeless (Miami more likely to be homeless)
- Most self-identify as gay
- Miami less likely to self-identify as Gay and more likely to self-identify as bisexual
- About 1/5 are depressed (using CES-D 10 scale); more MSM in Miami are depressed

HIV Seroprevalence

- 258 MSM tested using OraQuick rapid test and confirmed by Western blot.
- STARHS was used to assess for recent infection
 - ◆ 21% (54) tested HIV+
 - ◆ Of these 54, 15% were recent infection
 - ◆ Of these 54, 45% did not know they were infected

Health Care Experiences of MSM

- Almost all have seen a health care provider in past 12 months (more in Broward)
- Of those who saw health care provider, less than half received recommendation from provider to get HIV test
- Of HIV+s, almost all have seen HIV provider in past 12 months
- Majority have taken antiretrovirals (more in Broward)

Drugs Used in the Past 12 Months

- Over 1/3 of sample reported marijuana use
- High rates (around 1/5 of sample) of use of amphetamines, cocaine, ecstasy, and poppers (amyl nitrates)
- 18% in Miami and 14% in Broward report amphetamine use; most are high during sex
- Low use of opiates
- Higher rates of stimulant use in Miami

Crystal Meth Local Study

- Local Question: How often have you used crystal methamphetamine (Tina, crystal, crank) in the last 12 months?
- Total meth sample N= 1040
 - ◆ Non meth users n=861 (82.8%)
 - ◆ Meth users n=179 (17.2%)

Sexual Risk Behaviors

- The majority of MSM had more than 1 male sex partner in the past 12 months
- Almost 1/4 of MSM in Miami reported having sex with both men and women
- The majority of MSM reported having anal sex with men
- Of those having anal sex, over 1/2 of MSM in Broward and Miami-Dade counties reported having unprotected anal sex with men

Knowledge of Sex Partners' Serostatus

- 67% of MSM had a main partner
- 15% of MSM did not know the serostatus of their main partner at last sex

- 76% of MSM had a non-main partner
- 64% of MSM did not know the serostatus of their non-main partner at last sex

Main Partner: Sexual Risk Behavior with Most Recent Sex Partner

- Almost 1/2 of MSM reported having unprotected anal sex with MAIN partner
- Almost 1/5 of HIV+ MSM report having unprotected INSERTIVE anal sex with MAIN partner
- Almost 1/5 of HIV- MSM report having unprotected RECEPTIVE anal sex with MAIN partner
- Broward MSM had high rates of unprotected anal sex with MAIN partner

Non-Main Partner: Sexual Risk Behavior with Most Recent Sex Partner

- Almost 1/5 of MSM reported having unprotected anal sex with NON-MAIN partner
- Almost 1/5 (in Broward) of HIV+ MSM report having unprotected INSERTIVE anal sex with NON-MAIN partner
- Few HIV- MSM report having unprotected RECEPTIVE anal sex with NON-MAIN partner
- Broward MSM had high rates of unprotected anal sex with NON-MAIN partner

What factors are independently associated with high-risk sexual behavior? Multivariate Analysis

- Miami MSM less likely to engage in high-risk behavior
- Black MSM less likely to engage in high-risk behavior
- MSM who have tested for HIV in past 12 months less likely to engage in high-risk behavior
- MSM arrested in past 12 months more likely to engage in high-risk behavior
- MSM crystal meth users more likely to engage in high-risk behavior
- MSM Ecstasy users more likely to engage in high-risk behaviors

HIV Testing Experiences

- Almost all (94%) MSM in both counties have been tested in their lifetime
- Over 2/3 (70%) have been tested in the past 12 months

GOOD NEWS

- Recently published MMWR article on HIV testing results in 5 cities (Baltimore, LA, Miami, NYC, and San Francisco) showed that Miami had the highest percentage of MSM tested in the past 12 months!

Use of Prevention Services

- Almost all MSM reported receiving free condoms in the past 12 months
 - ◆ Most often they received them from HIV/AIDS CBOs
 - ◆ Majority reported using free condoms
 - ◆ Majority reported free condoms increased likelihood of use during sex

Receipt of Free Condoms by MSM

- MSM least likely to receive free condoms include:
 - ◆ MSM over 50
 - ◆ MSM with less than high school education
 - ◆ MSM whose HIV status is unknown
 - ◆ Homeless MSM
 - ◆ MSM crack users

Receipt of Individual-Level Intervention (ILI)

- Only 14% of MSM reported receiving individual-level interventions (ILI)
 - ◆ Most frequent sources of ILI were HIV/AIDS CBOs, community health clinics and “Other” organizations
 - ◆ ILI most frequent topics included:
 - ◆ Ways to talk to a partner about safer sex
 - ◆ Ways to effectively use condoms
 - ◆ Over half reported talking with a sex partner differently about safer sex as a result of ILI
 - ◆ Very little attention to safer injection practices

Receipt of Individual-Level Interventions (ILI)

- MSM least likely to receive ILI include:
 - ◆ MSM over 40
 - ◆ White MSM
 - ◆ MSM with less than high school education
 - ◆ Homeless MSM
 - ◆ MSM arrested in past 12 months

Receipt of Group-Level Intervention (GLI)

- Only 7% of MSM reported receiving group level-interventions (GLI)
 - ◆ Most frequent sources of GLI were HIV/AIDS CBOs, Gay/Lesbian/bisexual CBOs and “Other” organizations
 - ◆ GLI most frequent topics included:
 - ◆ Ways to talk to a partner about safer sex
 - ◆ Ways to effectively use condoms
 - ◆ Over half reported talking with a sex partner differently about safer sex as a result of GLI
 - ◆ Very little attention to safer injection practices

Receipt of Group-Level Intervention (GLI)

- MSM least likely to receive GLI include:
 - ◆ MSM over 50
 - ◆ White MSM
 - ◆ MSM with less than a high school education
 - ◆ Homeless MSM

Receipt of Either ILI or GLI – What factors are independently associated with receipt of prevention services?

- MSM over 30 less likely to receive prevention services
- Black MSM more likely to receive prevention services (compared with white MSM)
- HIV-positive MSM more likely to receive prevention services (compared with HIV-negative MSM)

Areas of Concern – Risk Behaviors

- High percentage of men who tested positive who DID NOT KNOW they were infected
- High percentage of men who do not know the serostatus of their NON-MAIN casual sex partner
- High rates of unprotected anal sex by MSM
- High rates of drug use (including crystal meth use) among MSM and their association with high-risk sexual behavior

Areas of Concerns – Prevention Services

- Only a small percentage of MSM are receiving prevention services beyond the receipt of free condoms
- Older MSM and white MSM are receiving the least amount of prevention services

Limitations

- Data are preliminary
- Data are predominantly self-reported and subject to recall bias
- Data are cross sectional and time order cannot be established
- Findings can only be generalized to the population meeting eligibility criteria who attended venues on the sampling frame

Next steps....

- Share data with Broward and Miami health departments, CBOs, ASOs, community partnerships, etc.
- What are your recommendations???????

Contact Information

Stefanie White, MPH
Behavioral Surveillance Coordinator,
Early Intervention Section
Bureau of HIV/AIDS
Florida Department of Health
4052 Bald Cypress Way Bin # A09
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1715
(850) 245-4444 x 2568
SunCom: 205-4444 x2568
Stefanie_White@doh.state.fl.us

David Forrest, PhD
Field Operations Director
University of Miami, Department
of Epidemiology and Public Health
1801 NW 9th Ave. 3rd Floor (D-93)
Miami, FL 33136
305-243-5782
dforrest@med.miami.edu

