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Poster Exhibition

Track C - HIV seroepidemiologic studies

MOPE0407 - The first integrated seroprevalence and behavioural survey for men who have sex with men (MSM) in Hong Kong - Prism

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Background: The number of HIV reports in men who have sex with men (MSM) was increasing in recent years but no systematic survey on the HIV prevalence in MSM was conducted. Department of Health collaborated with AIDS Concern and the Chinese University of Hong Kong to conduct an integrated seroprevalence and behavioural survey in MSM venues.

Method: The survey was conducted in two phases. Firstly, it mapped the customer profile and size of gay venues. The survey was conducted from Dec 2006 to Jan 2007, for 6 weeks, in bar/club and sauna. Twelve trained peer interviewers recruited local MSM involved in oral or anal sex in last 6 months in 20 venues. The survey comprised collecting a urine sample for HIV antibody test and a self-administered standardized questionnaire on sexual behaviours and basic demographics. The urine samples were collected and treated in an unlinked and anonymous procedure so that the test result could not be traced back to the individual.

Result: 859 valid samples were collected from from bars/clubs and saunas. The response rate was 45%. The age range of respondents was 15-73 with a median age of 31. 89% were Chinese. The consistent condom use rate with casual partner was 73% and the consistent condom use rate with regular partner was 41%.

Thirty-seven samples were tested HIV positive. After adjusted for the sampling proportion, the HIV prevalence of MSM attending these settings was 4.05%. HIV infection was associated with years engaged in sex with men and drug use before or during sex in previous six months.

Conclusion: This was the first available HIV prevalence of MSM in Hong Kong. The figure was many folds higher than that of other at-risk populations. MSM should be the priority area in Hong Kong. HIV control targeting MSM was urgently needed.

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