

# HIV Positive Women's Prevention Needs in the State of Michigan

# Sample Size and Demographics

- 90 HIV positive women
  - 53% African American
  - 35% White
  - 6% Latina
  - 1% Native American

# Sample Characteristics

- 89% Heterosexual
- 2% each-Bi/Lesbian and Other
- 24-69 years of age
- From 29 different counties (42% FROM Wayne County)
- 75% report having children (1-45 years of age)

# Access to Services

- 73% indicated access to Case Management
- 34% utilizing Support Groups
- 96% have HIV Medical Specialist
- 77% taking HIV meds
- 12% accessing Substance Abuse Treatment

# Relationships

- 51% not in a relationship at survey time
- If in a relationship...
  - Partner (-) 29.7%
  - Partner (+) 16.5%
  - Partner Unknown Status 3.3%

# Beliefs about infecting others BEFORE learning their HIV + Status

- No 60.4%
- Possibly 31.9%
- Probably 4.4%
- Yes 2.2%

# Beliefs about infecting others AFTER learning their HIV + Status

- No 81.3%
- Possibly 9.9%
- Probably 3.3%
- Yes 1.1%

# Knowledge About HIV

- Moderate to high levels of HIV transmission knowledge
- Except for knowledge about transmission risks related to oral sex
- “In terms of HIV transmission factors, having oral sex involves less risk than anal sex” 81% selected “False”

# Normative Influences

- “Who’s opinion matters most to you?”  
Scale 1-7: 1 = Not at all, 7 – a lot )
  - Family – 5.79
  - Significant Others - 5.79
  - Friends – 4.07

# Challenges in the 2 years prior to the survey

Scale: 1 = "Not at all a challenge" to 5 = "Definitely a challenge"

1. Telling friends about my HIV status	Mean – 3.61
2. Telling family about my HIV status	3.35
3. Meeting people I can relate to	3.23
4. Meeting other HIV+ people	3.20
5. Fearing intimate relationships	3.15
6. Meeting potential relational partners	3.13
7. Feeling unworthy of intimate relationships	3.02

## Challenges in the 2 years prior to the survey

Scale: 1 = "Not at all a challenge" to 5 = "Definitely a challenge"

8. Feeling hopeless about intimate relationships	Mean = 2.95
9. Feeling that I am dirty or contaminated	2.85
10. Feeling that I'm damned or doomed	2.81
11. Telling partners about my HIV status	2.76
12. Feeling confident I won't infect others	2.65
13. Finding support for my children	2.52
14. Having no sex drive	2.47
15. Practicing/Maintaining safer sex	2.37

## Challenges in the 2 years prior to the survey

Scale: 1 = "Not at all a challenge" to 5 = "Definitely a challenge"

16. Feeling assertive enough for safer sex	Mean = 2.12
17. Needing money for drugs	1.84
18. Alcohol and other drug use	1.77
19. Using condoms	1.65
20. Using clean needles/works	1.58
21. Having access to condoms	1.57

# Top Outcome expectations about enacting risk reduction behaviors

Scale 1-7:

1 = Very Unlikely, 7 = Very Likely

1. If I disclosed to a potential partner they may tell others	Mean = 4.03
2. If I disclosed to a potential partner I might lose the chance to have sex	3.91
3. I would be afraid that a potential partner might not trust me if I asked their HIV status	3.08

# Top Outcome expectations about enacting risk reduction behaviors

Scale 1-7:

1 = Very Unlikely, 7 = Very Likely

4. If I ask to use a condom, it will look like I don't trust my potential partner	Mean = 2.81
5. If I ask to use a condom my potential partner may not want to have sex with me	2.75
6. If I disclose, my potential partner may respond with physical violence	2.55

# Attitudes toward drug therapy

*Scale 1-5: 1 = Strongly Disagree, 5 = Strongly Agree*

1. HIV is a controllable disease like diabetes.	Mean = 3.14
2. There will be a cure for HIV/AIDS in the next few years.	2.65
3. There will soon be a vaccine to prevent people from getting HIV.	2.55
4. New HIV treatments can be taken after unsafe sex to prevent HIV infection.	1.71
5. HIV positive persons who take HIV drug cocktails are less likely to infect their sex partners during unsafe sex.	1.61

# Attitudes toward risk reduction behaviors

*Scale 1-5: 1 = Strongly Disagree, 5 = Strongly Agree*

1. It's important for me to ask a sex partner to use condoms if we have sex.	Mean = 4.11
2. I think it is very important that I talk to a sex partner about his/her HIV status.	4.02
3. It's O.K. to not have sex if a partner won't play safe.	3.52
4. Oral sex feels as good as vaginal sex.	2.89
5. Sex is the best if I am drunk or high.	1.89
6. There is no point in bringing up that I am HIV positive with a sex partner..	1.58

# Behaviors at last sexual encounter

## **The last time you had sex did you...**

- Ask your partner to pull out before cumming  
84% said no
- Ask your partner for oral instead of vaginal sex  
82% said no
- Tell your partner 'no' or refuse to have sex  
62% said no  
31% said yes

\* % do not add to 100, "don't know" was valid response

# Behaviors at last sexual encounter

## The last time you had sex did you...

- Ask your partner about using male or female condoms  
61% said Yes  
35% said No
- Ask your partner to engage in non-penetrative sex  
24% said Yes  
68% said No
- Decide not to have sex because you were drunk or high  
79% said No

\* % do not add to 100, "don't know" was valid response

# Behaviors at last sexual encounter

## The last time you had sex did you...

- Ask if your partner was HIV positive
  - 61% said No
  - 32% said Yes
- Tell your partner that you are HIV positive
  - 35% said No
  - 58% said Yes

\* % do not add to 100, "don't know" was valid response

# Needs Related to HIV

*Scale 1-5:*

*1 = Very Useful, 5 = Not useful*

1. Information on safer sex practices	Mean = 1.31
2. Opportunities to socialize with other HIV+ people	1.74
3. Easy access to condoms	1.76
4. Counseling/support for making decisions about disclosing HIV status	1.80
5. Assistance in adhering to drug regimens	1.80
6. Counseling and/or support to help with decisions about living w/HIV	1.90

# Needs Related to HIV

*Scale 1-5:*

*1 = Very Useful, 5 = Not useful*

7. Counseling/support to help you practice safer sex	Mean = 2.14
8. Counseling/support for your sex partner	2.21
9. Counseling/support for your child/children	2.31
10. Information on safer injecting practices	2.43