EPIDEMIOLOGICAL CONTEXT OF BLACK GAY MEN’S HEALTH IN BALTIMORE CITY

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Sankofa Conversations.
Overview

• Methods and definitions
• Characteristics and life context for Black MSM in Baltimore
• Health issues among Black MSM in Baltimore
• HIV among Black MSM in Baltimore
METHODS AND DEFINITIONS
BEhavioral
SUrveillance
REsearch
Study

• CDC National HIV Behavioral Surveillance Project in Baltimore = BESURE
• Maryland DHMH and JHSPH partnership
• Behavioral self-report survey and HIV serological testing among populations with highest rates of HIV, including MSM
• Venue-based time-location sampling
• Current presentation
  • Focused on 2011 data
  • MSM in past year
Identity and behavior among MSM

Partners in the past year
- Male only: 76%
- Male and female: 24%

Do you consider yourself to be:
- Heterosexual or "Straight": 3%
- Homosexual or Gay: 63%
- Bisexual: 34%
CHARACTERISTICS AND LIFE CONTEXT
Age of Black MSM by sexual identity, BESURE 2011***

* p<0.05 **p<0.01 ***p<0.001
Relationship status of Black MSM by sexual identity, BESURE 2011

- **Single**: 71% Total (n=350), 56% Heterosexual (n=9), 74% Bisexual (n=119), 71% Gay (n=220)
- **Long term relationship or married with a man**: 22% Total (n=350), 0% Heterosexual (n=9), 13% Bisexual (n=119), 29% Gay (n=220)
- **Long term relationship or married with a woman**: 44% Total (n=350), 5% Heterosexual (n=9), 14% Bisexual (n=119), 0% Gay (n=220)

*p<0.05 **p<0.01 ***p<0.001
Socioeconomic status among Black MSM by sexual identity, BESURE 2011

**Education**

- Less than H.S.: 22% (Total), 23% (Heterosexual), 13% (Bisexual), 8% (Gay)
- H.S. or GED: 49% (Total), 49% (Heterosexual), 49% (Bisexual), 49% (Gay)
- More than H.S.: 44% (Total), 43% (Heterosexual), 38% (Bisexual), 29% (Gay)

**Employment**

- Full-time: 34% (Total), 25% (Heterosexual), 17% (Bisexual), 14% (Gay)
- Part-time: 44% (Total), 44% (Heterosexual), 32% (Bisexual), 18% (Gay)
- Unemployed: 43% (Total), 43% (Heterosexual), 25% (Bisexual), 18% (Gay)
- Not in labor force: 18% (Total), 18% (Heterosexual), 18% (Bisexual), 18% (Gay)

* p<0.05  ** p<0.01  *** p<0.001
Household income of Black MSM by sexual identity, BESURE 2011

* $p<0.05$ **$p<0.01$ ***$p<0.001$
Housing and incarceration among Black MSM by sexual identity, BESURE 2011

**Homelessness**

- In past year **
  - Total (n=350): 56%
  - Heterosexual (n=9): 16%
  - Bisexual (n=119): 12%
  - Gay (n=220): 6%

- Current *
  - Total (n=350): 20%
  - Heterosexual (n=9): 11%
  - Bisexual (n=119): 12%
  - Gay (n=220): 3%

**Arrest/ incarceration**

- Ever ***
  - Total (n=350): 89%
  - Heterosexual (n=9): 49%
  - Bisexual (n=119): 67%
  - Gay (n=220): 56%

- In past year *
  - Total (n=350): 14%
  - Heterosexual (n=9): 37%
  - Bisexual (n=119): 14%
  - Gay (n=220): 16%

*p<0.05 **p<0.01 ***p<0.001
Exposure to stigma among Black MSM by sexual identity, BESURE 2011

Stigma in past year

- Any gay-related
  - Total (n=350): 35%
  - Heterosexual (n=9): 11%
  - Bisexual (n=119): 31%
  - Gay (n=220): 38%

- Any race-related
  - Total (n=350): 28%
  - Heterosexual (n=9): 28%
  - Bisexual (n=119): 31%
  - Gay (n=220): 44%

- Any HIV-related *
  - Total (n=350): 13%
  - Heterosexual (n=9): 13%
  - Bisexual (n=119): 11%
  - Gay (n=220): 7%

# Types of Stigma

- Total (n=350)
  - 55%

- Gay (n=220)
  - 23%

- Bisexual (n=119)
  - 16%

- Heterosexual (n=9)
  - 7%

* p<0.05 **p<0.01 ***p<0.001
House ball participation among Black MSM by sexual identity, BESURE 2011

- **Attend in past year**: 24% Total (n=350), 11% Heterosexual (n=9), 13% Bisexual (n=119), 31% Gay (n=220)
- **Member**: 11% Total (n=350), 0% Heterosexual (n=9), 15% Bisexual (n=119), 15% Gay (n=220)

* p<0.05  ** p<0.01  *** p<0.001
HEALTH ISSUES
Substance use among Black MSM by sexual identity, BESURE 2011

 Alcohol

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>BISURE 2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In past year</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Binge at least monthly</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Drug use

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>BISURE 2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Any cocaine, crack, heroin past year**</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ever IDU</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDU in past 12m</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* p<0.05 **p<0.01 ***p<0.001

** p<0.05 **p<0.01 ***p<0.001

Legend:
- Total (n=350)
- Heterosexual (n=9)
- Bisexual (n=119)
- Gay (n=220)
Substance use treatment among Black MSM by sexual identity, BESURE 2011

Alcohol treatment

Ever ***

Drug treatment

Ever ***

* p<0.05  ** p<0.01  *** p<0.001

* Total (n=350)  
** Heterosexual (n=9)  
*** Bisexual (n=119)  
**** Gay (n=220)
Depression and smoking among Black MSM by sexual identity, BESURE 2011

Depressive symptoms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total (n=350)</th>
<th>Heterosexual (n=9)</th>
<th>Bisexual (n=119)</th>
<th>Gay (n=220)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Smoking

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total (n=350)</th>
<th>Heterosexual (n=9)</th>
<th>Bisexual (n=119)</th>
<th>Gay (n=220)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ever</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*p<0.05 **p<0.01 ***p<0.001
### STIs and hepatitis among Black MSM by sexual identity, BESURE 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>STI diagnosis in past year</th>
<th>HBV diagnosis ever</th>
<th>HCV diagnosis ever</th>
<th>Test HCV positive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total (n=350)</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heterosexual (n=9)</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bisexual (n=119)</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gay (n=220)</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Healthcare among Black MSM by sexual identity, BESURE 2011

Healthcare

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total (n=350)</th>
<th>Heterosexual (n=9)</th>
<th>Bisexual (n=119)</th>
<th>Gay (n=220)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health insurance coverage **</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visit healthcare provider in past year *</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

HIV testing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Ever</th>
<th>Past year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total (n=350)</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heterosexual (n=9)</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bisexual (n=119)</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gay (n=220)</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* p<0.05 **p<0.01 ***p<0.001
HIV risk behaviors among Black MSM by sexual identity, BESURE 2011

UAI in past year *

Any used needle in past year

Any sex exchange in past year

* \( p < 0.05 \) ** \( p < 0.01 \) *** \( p < 0.001 \)

*Total (n=350) Heterosexual (n=9) Bisexual (n=119) Gay (n=220)*
HIV care status among known HIV+ Black MSM, BESURE 2011

- Doctor visit for HIV care in past year: 91%
- Currently using ARVs: 70%

Total (n=43)
HIV AMONG BLACK MSM IN BALTIMORE
HIV among Black MSM by sexual identity, BESURE 2011

HIV-positive ***

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Heterosexual</th>
<th>Bisexual</th>
<th>Gay</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HIV positive</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Unrecognized HIV infection **

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Heterosexual</th>
<th>Bisexual</th>
<th>Gay</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unrecognized HIV infection</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* p<0.05  ** p<0.01  *** p<0.001
HIV prevalence and unrecognized infection, Black MSM in Baltimore 2004-2011
Baltimore City Reported Adult/Adolescent HIV Diagnosis Trends by Exposure Category

Using data as reported through 12/31/2013
Maryland Adult/Adolescent MSM HIV Diagnosis Trends by Age at Diagnosis

Using data as reported through 12/31/2013
With sincerest thanks to:

- Study participants
- Community partners
- Data collection, data management, study management teams past and present
- Current BESURE team: Christine Powell, Ju Park, Lou Spencer, Jennifer Han
- Frank Sifakis and Carol Hilton
- David Celentano and David Holtgrave
- Colin Flynn
- DHMH, CDC
- BESURE 2014 coming soon!