

Transgender Individuals

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March 4, 2010 – HIV Domestic Prevention Working Group

Definition

- Individual who expresses a different gender identity than the one assigned at birth

Population Diversity

- Identification:
 - Transwomen
 - Transmen
 - Other / non-trans-identified
- Surgical status:
 - Pre-operative
 - Post-operative
 - Non-operative
- Physical appearance
 - Hormone replacement therapy
 - Other gender-related surgery
- Sexual orientation
 - Attracted to males
 - Attracted to females

HIV Risk in U.S. Transwomen

- HIV seroprevalence (k=4) 27.7%
 - African Americans (k=4) 56.3%
 - Hispanic (k=3) 16.1%
 - White (k=4) 16.7%
- Self-report HIV status (k=18) 11.8%
- Prior STI diagnosis (k=10) 21.1%

Herbst et al. (2007). Estimating HIV prevalence and risk behaviors of transgender persons in the United States: A systematic review. *AIDS and Behavior*, 12, 1-17.

Behavioral Risk Factors

- Sex work
- Drug and alcohol use
 - Sex under the influence of substances
 - Injection drug use
- Multiple partnerships
- High-risk partners

Social Risk Factors

- Transgender stigma / transphobia
- Unequal access to
 - Employment
 - Housing
 - Health services (basic, gender-related)
- Mental health
- Violence

Prevention Opportunities

- No known prevention interventions designed / tested in trans-populations
- Population responsive to public health / HIV outreach
- Cohesive transgender networks

Potential Approaches

- Individual or small group counseling
 - Focus on: gender empowerment; couples/partner dynamics; economic needs
- Pre-exposure prophylaxis
- Rectal Microbicides
- Multi-component programs, address HIV AND
 - Substance use
 - Mental health
 - Economics/livelihood

Additional considerations

- Younger trans individuals
- Gender fluidity
- Male partners of transwomen
- Transmen who have sex with men