

The Development of a Black Caucus in a Community Level HIV Prevention Intervention for Black Men in Six Cities in the US

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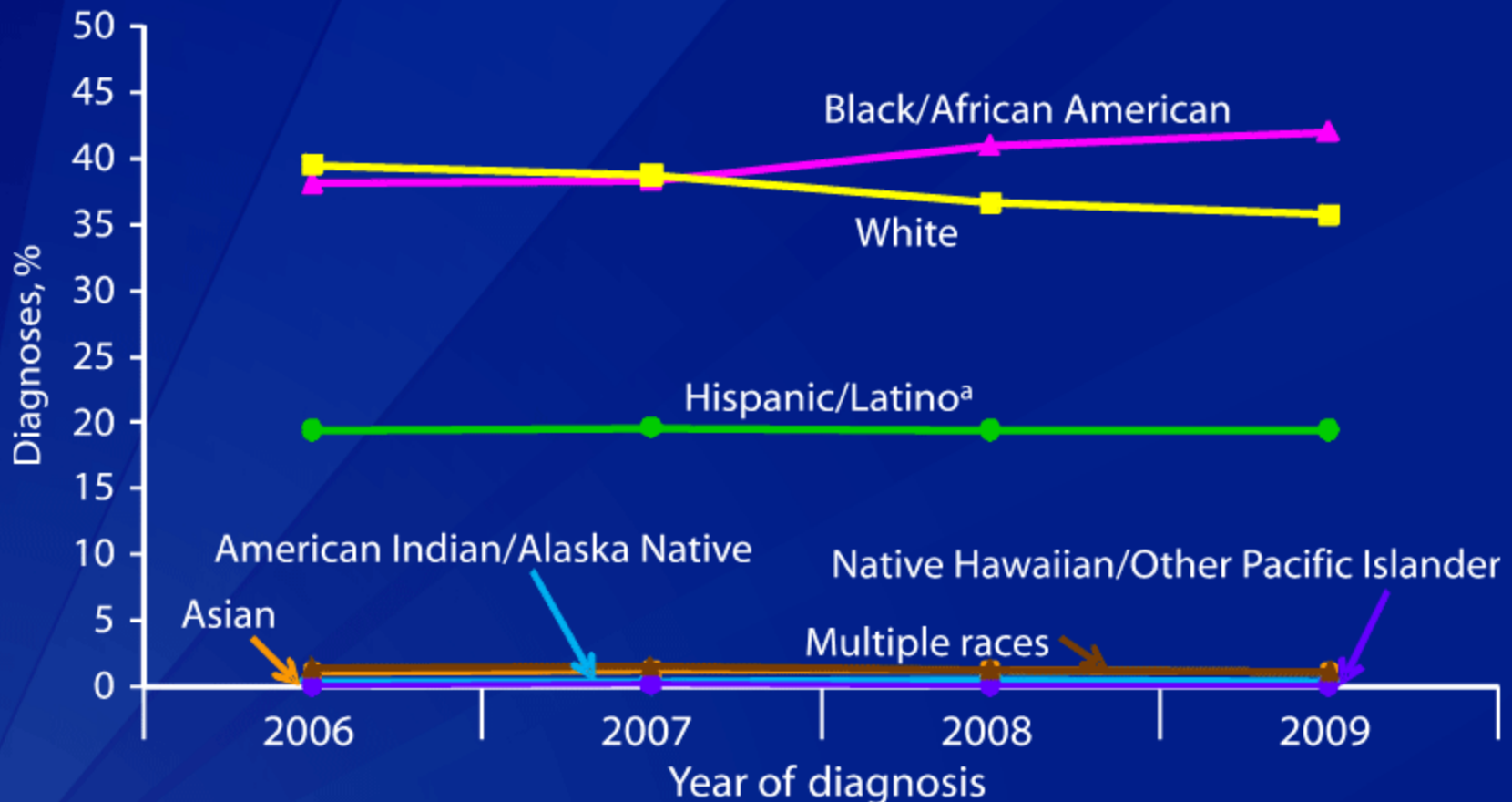


Workshop Objectives

- Epidemiology of HIV in US BMSM
- HPTN Network
- HPTN 061
- Purpose of Analysis
- HPTN 061 Black Caucus History
- HPTN 061 Black Caucus Contributions

Epidemiology of HIV in BMSM in the US

Diagnoses of HIV Infection among Men Who Have Sex with Men, by Race/Ethnicity, 2006–2009—40 States and 5 U.S. Dependent Areas



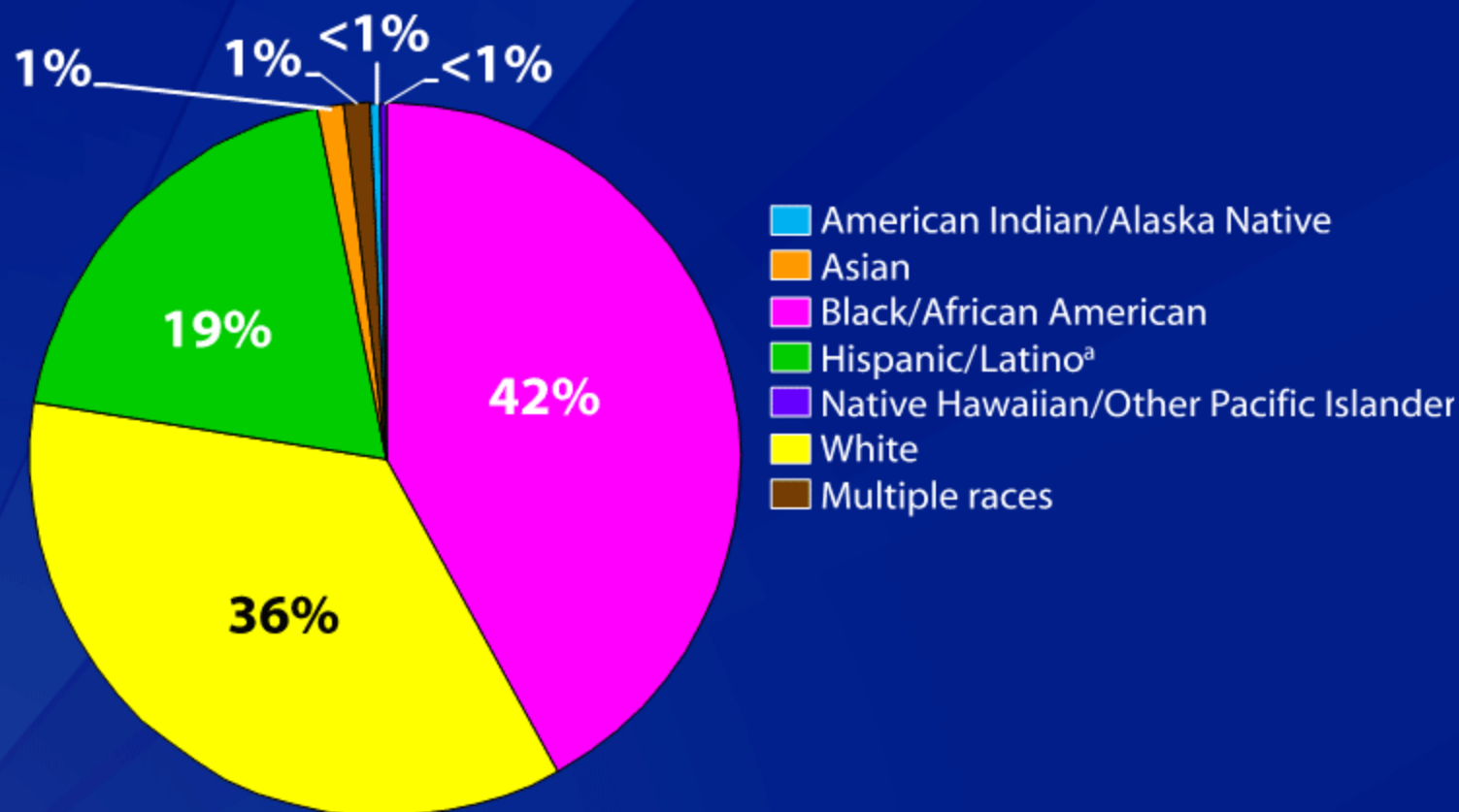
Note. Data include persons with a diagnosis of HIV infection regardless of stage of disease at diagnosis. All displayed data have been statistically adjusted to account for reporting delays and missing risk-factor information, but not for incomplete reporting. Data exclude men who reported sexual contact with other men and injection drug use.

^aHispanics/Latinos can be of any race.



Diagnoses of HIV Infection among Men Who Have Sex with Men, by Race/Ethnicity, 2009—40 States and 5 U.S. Dependent Areas

N=24,132



Note. Data include persons with a diagnosis of HIV infection regardless of stage of disease at diagnosis. All displayed data have been statistically adjusted to account for reporting delays and missing risk-factor information, but not for incomplete reporting. Data exclude men who reported sexual contact with other men *and* injection drug use.

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Contributors for Increased Risk of HIV Infection

- High prevalence of HIV infection among MSM
- Sexual risk accounts for most HIV infections in MSM
- Alcohol and illicit drug
- Unknown sero-status
- Stigma and homophobia
- Racism, poverty, and lack of access to health care
- Complacency about HIV

HPTN Network Overview

Network Overview

- The HIV Prevention Trials Network (HPTN) is a worldwide collaborative clinical trials network that develops and tests the safety and efficacy of primarily non-vaccine interventions designed to prevent the acquisition and transmission of HIV
 - 80 research sites in 15 countries
 - 50 clinical trials ongoing or completed
 - 50,000 study participants followed
 - 300 publications

Combination HIV Prevention

**Male
Circumcision**

**HIV Counseling
and Testing**

**Treatment for
Prevention**

**Treatment of
STIs**

**Behavioral
Interventions**

**Prevention for
Positives**

**Needle
Exchange**

PrEP

Cash Incentives

Condoms

Microbicides

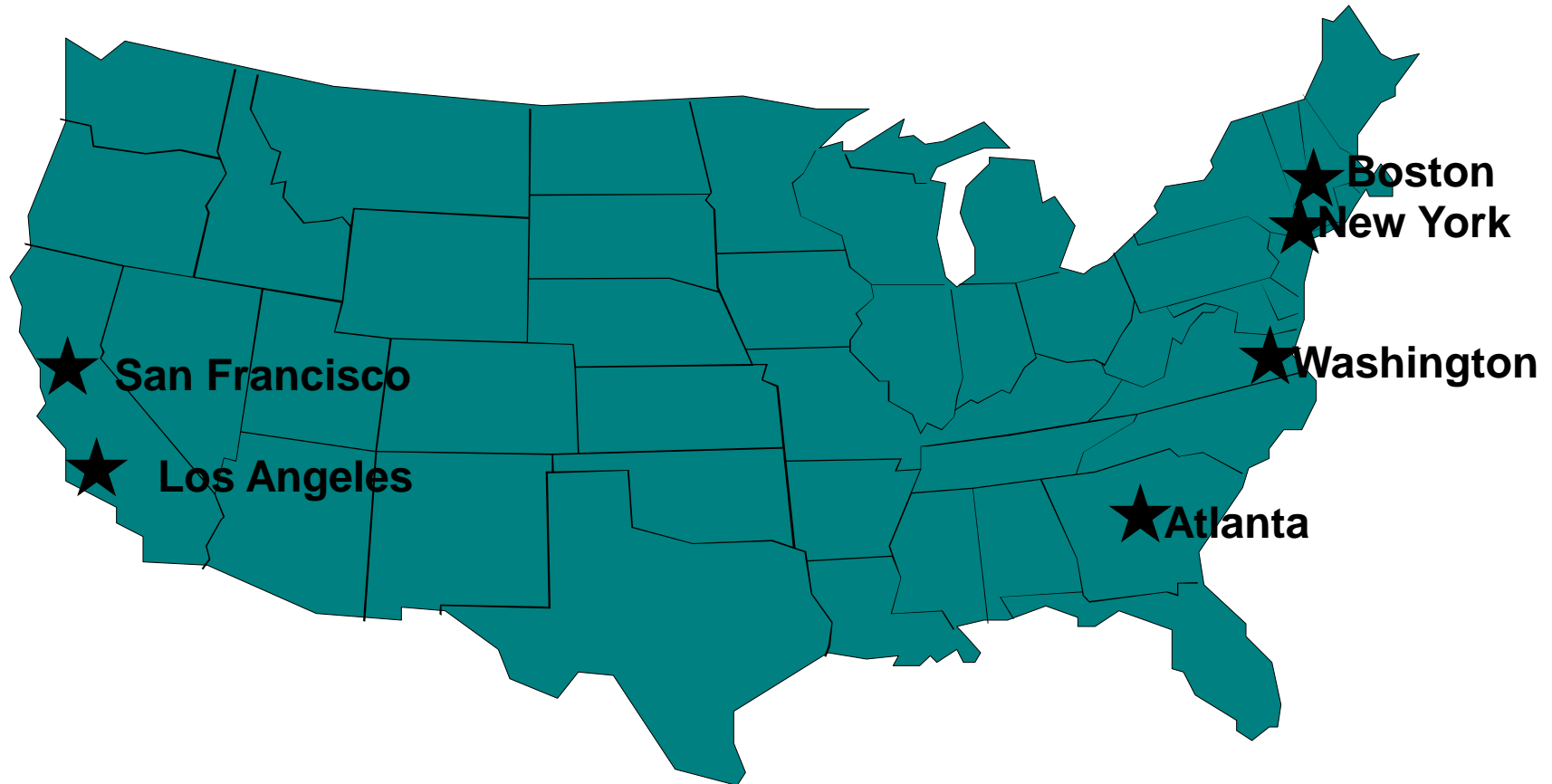
Vaccines

brothers

Primary Study Objectives

- Recruitment of Black MSM
- Uptake of the intervention components
- Estimating
 - proportion of participants newly diagnosed with HIV
 - increase in condom use
 - decrease in viral load among HIV infected participants
 - decrease in STIs
- Satisfaction of Black MSM with intervention components.

HPTN 061 Clinical Research Sites



HPTN 061 Black Caucus Development Analysis

Purpose of Analysis

- Describe how HPTN 061 overcame the complexities/variation in study design to create the HPTN 061 Black Caucus
- Importance of community input and culturally appropriate technical assistance
- Impact of the Black Caucus on recruitment, retention, study design and implementation
- Importance of culturally sensitive data analysis and dissemination
- Future advance of the BMSM domestic research agenda

Understanding the past

- Why a HPTN 061 Black Caucus?
- What was the role of the Black Caucus in shaping HPTN 061?
- How does the Black Caucus address the needs of BMSM?
- What are the key contributions of the Black Caucus?
- What is the future of the Black Caucus?

Methodology

- **In depth, semi-structured individual interviews**
 - 11 participants, between December 2010 – February 2011
- **Participants**
 - Members or persons who were identified as helping shape the HPTN Black Caucus
- **Data Analysis**
 - Coded and categorized according to patterns and themes
 - Transcripts were transcribed by an outside agency, then triple coded by authors
 - Themes were developed using a grounded theory approach.

Preliminary Results

- Addition of...
 - Black MSM as Protocol Co-Chair
 - Qualitative study
 - Cultural relevant staff at each CRS
- Cultural relevant social marketing
- Development of future BMSM researchers
- Deeper understanding of the lived experiences of BMSM

Results (2)

- Emergent Themes and Sub-themes
 - *“The Role of the Black Caucus in Shaping the HPTN”*
 - *“How the Black Caucus Addresses the Needs of the BMSM Communities” (influence of Race and Sexual identity)*
 - *“The Key Contributions of the Black Caucus”*
 - *“Cultural Competence”*
 - *“Study Design and Implementation”*
 - *“Considerations for Future work”*

The Current

HPTN 061 Black Caucus

Who We Are

- Highly knowledgeable interdisciplinary group of dedicated Black professionals (Black MSM) for expert consultation
- Unique expertise in conducting research on, about, and related to the lives of Black MSM at increased risk for HIV/AIDS
- The ***mission*** of the Black Caucus is to
 - Advise/Support Community Engagement work
 - Advise on staff diversity (site & study wide) specifically Black gay men
 - Serve as advisory group for Study Co-PI's

Black Caucus Composition

- Chair
- Study PI
- CRS representatives
- Legacy representative
- EWG representative
- QWG representative
- FHI 360 CORE Staff



Black Caucus Members

- Dr. Sheldon Fields
- Dr. Darrell Wheeler
- Dr. Leo Wilton
- Irvin Parker IV
- Craig Hutchinson
- Matthew Sanchez
- Christopher Hucks-Ortiz
- Gregory D. Victorianne
- Jamaal Clue
- Dr. LaRon Nelson*
- Ben Perkins
- Yovannys Kennedy
- Rudolph Carn
- Dr. Lawrence Bryant
- Christopher Chauncey Watson
- Jonathan Lucas
- Damon Humes
- S. Wakefield
- Jermel Wallace
- Dr. Russell Brewer*

* Denotes HPTN Scholar

Black Caucus Scientific/Community Contributions To Date

Scientific and Community Expertise

- Garner the scientific expertise of the Black MSM communities in assuring the success of HPTN 061
 - Adapting and refining methodological, theoretical and conceptual approaches to research involving Black MSM
 - Qualitative study protocol design and implementation
 - Assistance with access to Black MSM national social networks to increase the acceptance of the study among Black MSM
 - Ongoing review of HPTN 061 protocol for cultural relevance
 - Development of Resource Troubleshooting Guide (REST) (http://www.hptn.org/research_studies/HPTN061StudyDocuments.asp)

Implementation

- Assist with and enhance the implementation of HPTN 061 in order to assure its success
 - Cultural SWOT of each study site
 - How to engage and recruit Black MSM nationally for study inclusion
 - Individual site specific set-up, assessment, and problem solving
 - Study design and implementation to assure cultural relevance
 - Mentorship for Black researchers outside of the Network.
 - Appointment of Black PI to HPTN 061

Analysis, Interpretation, and Dissemination

- Enhance the analysis, interpretation and dissemination of HPTN 061 data from Black MSM perspectives
 - “Black” Paper on the HPTN 061 process (in progress)
 - NIH protocol development
 - Cultural data management, organization, analysis, and interpretation

Cultural Experience/Interpreters

- Enhance Black MSM cultural competencies throughout all aspects of HPTN 061
 - Ongoing cultural competence site survey
 - Culturally competent transcription
 - Study staffing and cultural diversity training
 - Survey construction, review, and re-assessment
 - Development of a cultural awareness curriculum

Participant Retention

- Enhance HPTN 061 with culturally relevant technical assistance to implement the Retention recommendations.
 - Assessment of study retention trends
 - Identification of retention barriers and facilitators
 - development of retention recommendations document (http://www.hptn.org/research_studies/HPTN061StudyDocuments.asp)

Conclusions

- Collaboration with, and inclusion of, community representatives in the research process
 - builds trust
 - increases the likelihood that affected communities are invested and supportive
 - provides immediate access to community support in the event of problems
 - minimizes unintentional use of offensive or culturally inappropriate terminology or procedures
 - minimizes wasted time and resources

Additional Information

- Social Media

 facebook.com/HIVPTN

 twitter.com/HIVPTN

- Websites

– www.hptn.org

– www.blackmenstandtogether.org

Acknowledgements

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- HPTN 061 Black Caucus
- HPTN 061 Protocol Team



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