

Intimate Partner Violence, Social Support, and Substance Use Among Black Men Who Have Sex With Men (BMSM) in the United States: HPTN 061

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HPTN

HIV Prevention
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- Intimate partner violence (IPV) is highly prevalent among men who have sex with men (MSM)
- MSM experiencing IPV have higher odds of reporting psychosocial health problems, substance use, and sexual risk
- Social support might reduce the effect of experiencing IPV on psychosocial health outcomes
- However, a vast majority of studies investigating IPV were cross-sectional and conducted among women and White MSM

Project Objectives/Aims

- **Aim 1:** Assesses whether experiences of IPV predict substance use among BMSM
- **Aim 2:** Examine the role of social support (low, moderate high) as a moderator of the association between IPV and substance use among BMSM

N=1505

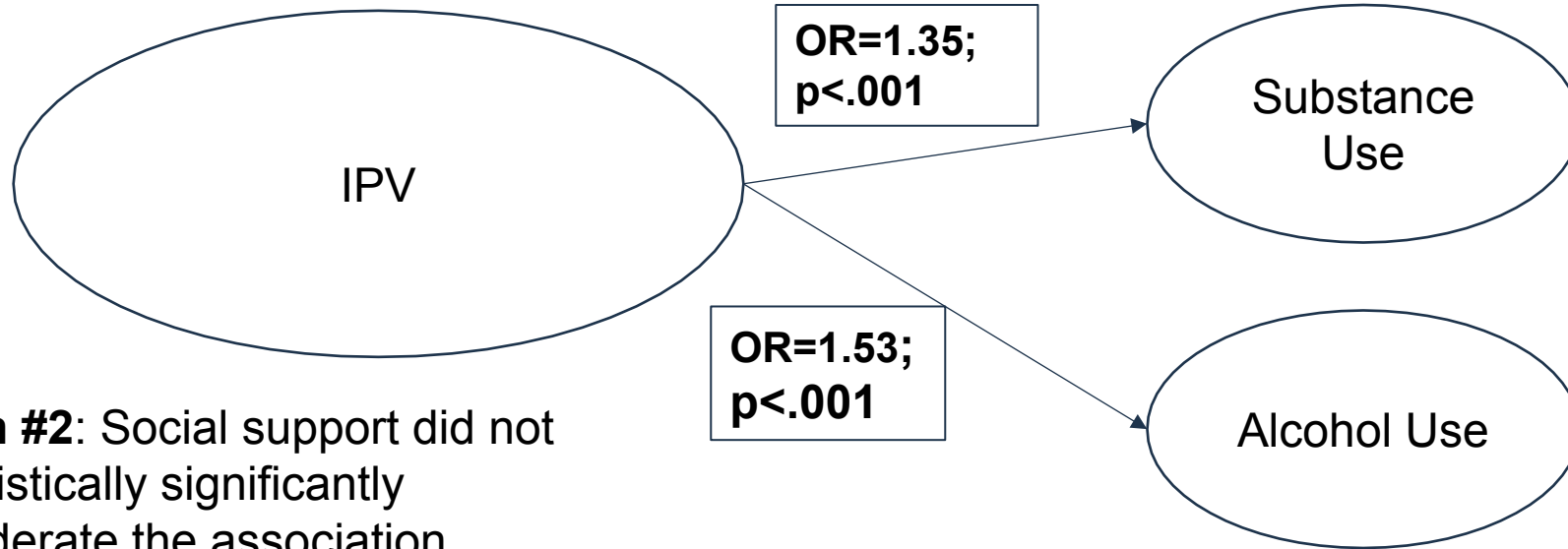
**Recruited from
07/2009-10/2010**

**Assessments at
baseline, 6-, and
12- months**

**Los Angeles and
San Francisco, CA;
Atlanta, GA; Boston,
MA; New York, NY;
Washington, DC.**

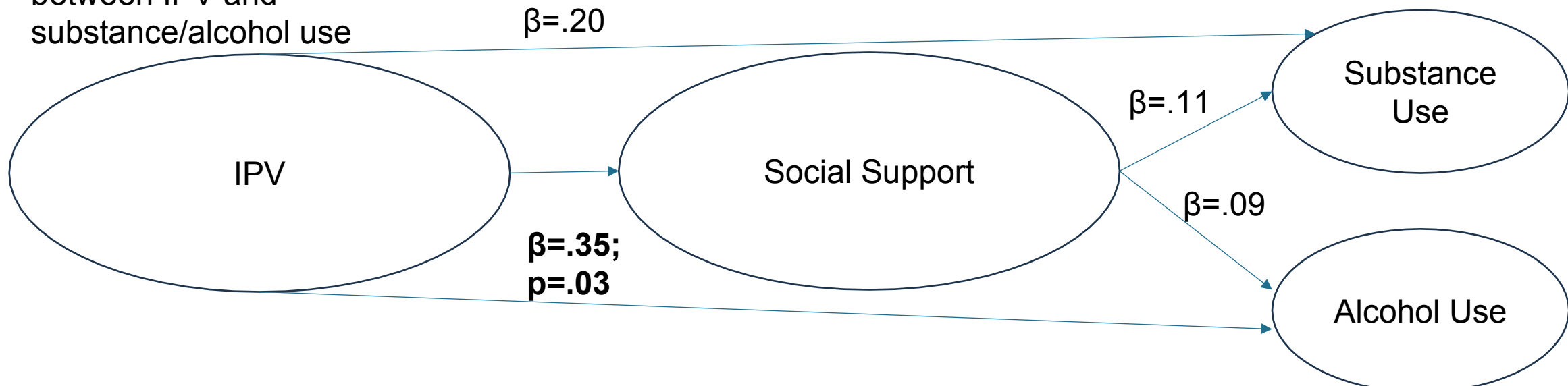
- GEE models assessed the association between experiencing IPV at baseline (emotional, physical, sexual or, any) and substance (marijuana, crack cocaine, powder cocaine, and methamphetamine)/ alcohol use at baseline, 6-month, and 12-month follow-up
- GEE models assessed the possible moderating effect of social support (high, medium, or low) on the association between IPV and substance/alcohol use at baseline, 6-month, and 12-month follow-up

Results



Aim #1: Experiences of IPV at baseline was **positively significantly associated** with substance and alcohol use during follow-up

Aim #2: Social support did not statistically significantly moderate the association between IPV and substance/alcohol use



- Our findings highlight IPV as a problem impacting BMSM, with more than half of the sample (52%) reporting a history of IPV
- We found that IPV was significantly associated with both stimulant and alcohol use, suggesting that that substance use as possible coping mechanism for individuals experiencing IPV.
- Our finding that social support was not a significant moderator between IP and substance use suggests there might be other more important pathways through which IPV impacts substance use behavior among BMSM

- Our findings reinforce the need for intervention programs that aim to relieve the overall burden of IPV among BMSM
- Intervention programs should utilize a holistic approach to devising sustainable solutions for BMSM experiencing IPV to ensure their safety and well-being is top priority
- Future studies should explore the role of both perpetuating **and** experiencing IPV on psychosocial health and substance use



Thank you

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