Introduction

• Attitudes towards condom use may play a role in its actual use and ultimately in the reduction of HIV of prevalence.
• We studied the relationship between condom use attitudes versus condom use itself, with a goal of building capacity for ACB men to meaningfully engage in HIV prevention initiatives.
• An intersectionality lens enabled us portray how an array of factors beyond attitudes inter-connect to inform condom use among Black men.

Research questions

• How do disposition towards condom use influence its actual use among ACB men?
• How do socioeconomic, cultural and psychological factors jointly and independently mediate condom use among ACB men?

Method (continued)

Condom use was scaled on frequency of use where
• Never used condom = 1
• Used condoms sometimes = 2
• Used condom most times = 3
• Used condom always = 4.

Condom use attitudes were measured on a validated 10-items 5-points Likert scale:

we dichotomized each of the Likert scale response as follows: Statements in favour of condom use,
• strongly agree/agree = 1,
• strongly disagree/disagree/neutral = 0.

The reverse coding was used for statements not in favour of condom use

All 10 items and controls were entered into the model with condom use frequency as the outcome variable where “never” used condom was the reference outcome.

Sociodemographic characteristics of the mothers

Sociodemographic characteristics n (%)
Age (M ± SD) 18.7 ± 8.5
Marital status Single 415 (63.7)
Married 226 (36.3)
Education More than high school 546 (69.1)
High school 76 (9.6)
Less than high school 9 (1.1)
No formal schooling 7 (0.9)
Employment status Full time 428 (79.1)
Part time 113 (20.9)

Statistics of men who agreed to the listed condom use attitudes

Attitudes n (%)  
Condom are uncomfortable 233 (31.2)
The idea of using condoms does not appeal to me 184 (25.7)
Using condoms made sex enjoyable 190 (25.5)
Never use condoms unless sexual pleasure 705 (94.9)
I would avoid using condoms if possible 247 (33.2)
I just don’t like the idea of using condoms 366 (51.9)
Men who use condoms show concern and responsibility to their partner(s) 439 (59.0)
Using condoms is unnatural 64 (8.8)
Condoms are the best way to protect myself from HIV and against STIs 485 (66.6)
Suggestion from a sexual partner to use a condom means that your partner does not trust you 124 (16.7)

Condom use attitudes score (M ± SD) 26.5 ± 9.3
Percent of total score (M/50)*100 53.0

Results from Inferential analysis

At p < .05:

• Men who reported that condom make sex un-enjoyable were less likely to use condom always (OR=0.374, P=0.003) use condoms during intercourse.
• Also, Men who reported that condom makes sex un-enjoyable were less likely to use condom sometimes (OR=0.586, P=0.003) during intercourse
• Men born in Canada (OR=0.206, P=0.004) were less likely to use condom frequently than those born elsewhere.
• Married men (OR=0.024, P=0.000) were less likely to use condom use than those that were not married.
• Age (OR=1.063, P=0.035) was associated with increased condom use.
• Also, education (P=1.312, P=0.018) was associated with increased use.

Conclusion

Worrying about sexual enjoyment appears to be a key attitudinal factor reducing condom use among Black men in Ontario, but experience (age and education) tend to improve condom use.

Recommendations

We recommend policies to stimulate both public enlightenment on proper use of condoms along with improvement of condom quality to satisfy the dual goal of sexual enjoyment and protection against HIV transmission.