HIV Testing and PrEP Use among Manitoba's Two-Spirit, Gay, Bisexual, and Queer Men

Rusty Souleymanov^{1,5}, Albert McLeod^{2,5}, Robert Lorway¹, Mike Payne^{3,5}, Paula Migliardi^{4,5}, Gayle Restall^{1,5}, Linda Larcombe^{1,5}, Laurie Ringaert^{3,5}, Jared Star¹, Patricia Ukoli¹, Nathan Lachowsky^{6,9}, David J. Brennan⁷, Deborah McPhail¹, Bryan Magwood⁸, Christopher Campbell^{1,9}, Zoé Préfontaine¹.

1. University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB, Canada, 2. Two-Spirited People of Manitoba Inc., Winnipeg, MB, Canada, 3. Nine Circles Community Health Centre, Winnipeg, MB, Canada, 4. Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, Winnipeg, MB, Canada, 5. Manitoba HIV-STBBI Collective Impact Network, Winnipeg, MB, Canada, 6. University of Victoria, Victoria, BC, Canada, 7. University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, Canada, 8. Our Own Health Centre, Winnipeg, MB, Canada. 9. Community-Based Research Centre, Vancouver, BC, Canada.



















METHODOLOGY

- Data were drawn from a community-based, Manitoba-wide online survey of Two-Spirit, gay, bisexual, queer, and other men who have sex with men (2SGBQM).
- This study examined the socio-demographic correlates of lifetime HIV testing and recent PrEP use among 2SGBQM in Manitoba.

Eligibility:

- Identify as a man (cisgender or transgender).
- Report any sex with another man in the previous 12 months or identify as 2SGBQM.
- Be 18 years of age or older.
- Live or work in Manitoba.

Recruitment and Sampling:

Participants for the survey were recruited across Manitoba using flyers, CBOs, social media, and our website www.manitobamenshealthstudy.com

Statistical Analyses

Chi-square analyses and logistic regression were used to examine the relationships between socio-demographics on both lifetime HIV testing and recent PrEP use.



















MANITOBA TWO-SPIRIT, GAY, BISEXUAL & QUEER MEN'S HEALTH STUDY

FINDINGS: HIV TESTING

- Of 386 participants, 82 (21.2%) reported never being tested for HIV.
- Among 300 (78.8%) men who reported being tested for HIV, 72 (24%) reported being HIV-positive, 8 (2.7%) unsure, and 220 (73.3%) HIV-negative.
- Among participants living with HIV, 46 (66.7%) reported a detectable viral load (<50copies/m).
- Among respondents, 96 (32.1%) had to leave their home community (town/village/reserve) to complete their HIV test.
- Having been tested for HIV was associated with younger age (AOR=0.89,95%CI:0.83-0.96), and was less likely among participants with lower household incomes (<\$30,000) versus incomes of \$30,000-\$59,999 (AOR=5.50,95%CI:1.22-25.14) or \$60,000-\$100,000 (AOR=7.40,95%CI:1.62-33.34).

MANITOBA TWO-SPIRIT, GAY, BISEXUAL & QUEER MEN'S HEALTH STUDY

FINDINGS: PrEP USE

- Among 94 men who answered questions about PrEP, 48 (51.1%) had never been on PrEP, 21 (22.3%) used PrEP in the past year but stopped using it, and 25 (26.6%) currently used PrEP.
- Those who currently used PrEP were more likely to have higher annual incomes of \$60,000-\$100,000 versus <\$30,000 (χ 2=24.5,p<.001) and more likely to be employed full-time versus unemployed (χ 2=14.4, p<.01).

DISCUSSION: Differing HIV testing patterns should help inform targeted testing promotion for 2SGBQM in Manitoba. Policy makers should pay attention to provincial policies on PrEP coverage, extended health benefits, and socio-economic disparities that affect Manitoba 2SGBQM's access to HIV testing and PrEP.



Contact information: Rusty Souleymanov

rusty.souleymanov@umanitoba.ca







<u>Financial Disclosure</u>: This study was funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, the Winnipeg Foundation, and the Manitoba Medical Service Foundation.

Conflict of Interests Disclosure: None.