



*A survey of HIV knowledge
and use of health services
among people from culturally
and linguistically diverse
populations in WA*

Presented by Corie Gray
BSc. Health Promotion

Supervisors: Dr. Roanna Lobo, Gemma
Crawford and Associate Professor Alison Reid

*I acknowledge the Whadjuk Noongar people as
the traditional owners of the land on which we
meet today.*

*I pay my respects to them and their culture; and to
elders past, present and future.*



Overview

- Historically, HIV predominantly spread through male-to-male sex^{1,2}
- HIV transmissions have increased in Australia among those reporting heterosexual contact by 25% in the last decade (2004-2013)¹
- Most noticeable among people born in **high HIV prevalence countries**, particularly those born in **sub-Saharan Africa and South-East Asia**¹
- Largely **late diagnosis** (CD4+ cell count < 350 cells/ μ l at diagnosis) - increasing the likelihood of subsequent morbidity and mortality, health care costs and the risk for onward HIV transmission³

¹The Kirby Institute (2014) HIV, viral hepatitis and sexually transmissible infections in Australia Annual Surveillance Report 2014. The Kirby Institute, UNSW, Sydney, NSW

²The Kirby Institute (2015) HIV, viral hepatitis and sexually transmissible infections in Australia. Annual Surveillance Report 2015. The Kirby Institute, UNSW, Sydney, NSW.

³Fisher M. (2008) Late diagnosis of HIV infection: major consequences and missed opportunities. Current Opinion in Infectious Diseases 21, 1-3.

HIV surveillance - WA

In 2009-2013²

52% heterosexually acquired (n=287)

56% born outside of Australia - most were from sub-Saharan Africa and South East Asia

Heterosexually acquired 2009-2013

57% overseas born diagnosed late

²Department of Health Western Australia (2015) The Epidemiology of Notifiable Sexually Transmitted Infections and Blood-Borne Viruses in Western Australia 2014. Department of Health, Western Australia, Perth, WA.

Past surveys with CaLD

2006-2008¹: Cross-sectional survey of Thai, Cambodian, Sudanese and Ethiopian communities (284 participants) in NSW. Paper-based questionnaires, intercepted at community events.

2012-2013²: Cross-sectional survey of South African, Ethiopian, Thai, Cambodian, Zimbabwean and Sudanese (1 406 participants) in NSW.

¹Periodic survey of HIV knowledge and use of health services among people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, 2006-2008

²A study assessing HIV knowledge, risk behaviour, health service usage and testing in people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds in NSW Australia

Project aims

- a.** To adapt an existing questionnaire on HIV knowledge, risk behaviour and use of health services to be culturally appropriate and relevant for use in WA.
- b.** To explore appropriate methods of recruitment with CaLD populations in WA.
- c.** To explore knowledge of HIV, risk behaviour and recent use of health services among CaLD groups in WA

Target group

Sample size: 146

- 18 + years old
- Born in sub-Saharan Africa or South-East Asia (ABS SACC 2011*)
- Recent arrival (less than two years)
- English-speaking (self-determined)



Questionnaire

Developed with assistance from the project's advisory group – researchers and service providers who work with the target group.

Demographics – *Religion, age, country of birth, time in Australia, sex, language, education, visa status*

HIV knowledge - *Transmission routes, prevention*

Perception of HIV –

Sexual behaviour – *Number of sexual partners, condom use, attitudes to condom use*

Access to health services – *Medicare, factors that influence seeing a doctor, check-ups*

HIV testing – *Tested, reasons for and not testing*

Travel – *sexual behaviour in a high HIV prevalence country*

Recruitment

Intercept

- Approached at community events, groups, at service centre by Researcher
- Paper or electronic (i.e. iPad) option
- Response rate calculated
- Reason for non-participation will be asked where possible

Web-based

- Email through networks
- Flyer
- Social media

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MIGRANT SEXUAL HEALTH SURVEY

ARE YOU?

- Aged 18 years and over?
- Born in a sub-Saharan African or South-East Asian country?
- Able to understand English?
- Interested in migrant health issues?
- Interested in winning one of our \$20 gift cards?
- Willing to spare 10 minutes to complete an online survey?

WHAT IS THE RESEARCH ABOUT?
The purpose of this research is to explore knowledge of HIV risk, behaviours and attitudes, as well as the barriers for migrants accessing health services in WA.

TO COMPLETE THE SURVEY
Please visit <http://www.survey360.com>

FOR MORE INFORMATION
To find out more about the research please contact:

Coral Gray
0800-4730
cgray@curtin.edu.au

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Significance

- Provide a questionnaire relevant for use in CaLD communities
- Add to literature around involving CaLD communities in research
- Support further need for a proposed nationwide surveillance survey
- Inform public health interventions

I am a migrant. I face these issues.



Thank you