

Risk Factors for HIV Infection among Thai Young Men Aged 21-23 Years

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Essentially, all new HIV infections can be prevented if people can be helped to make changes in sexual and drug use practices. Perhaps the most difficult area of HIV prevention lies in the area of behavior change. Biomedical based behavioral research has concentrated on special risk groups. From a behavioral public health perspective, those less researched and understood are the residual categories of people potentially "at risk" and young men are among them. A comprehensive behavior change intervention strategy must be designed to address specific

Illegal wife*	16 (8.0)	1 (4.7)	27 (6.2)
Total	200 (100)	232 (100)	432 (100)
Native area			
North	41 (20.1)	55 (23.5)	96 (22.0)

1,001-2,000	7 (3.5)	13 (5.6)	20 (4.6)
2,001-3,000	24 (12.1)	26 (11.2)	50 (11.6)
3,001-4,000	40 (20.1)	29 (12.6)	69 (16.0)
4,001-5,000	39 (19.6)	32 (13.8)	71 (16.5)
5,001 and over	49 (24.6)	57 (24.7)	106 (24.6)
Total	199 (100)	231 (100)	430 (100)

Variables

HIV+ n(%)

HIV- n(%)

Crude OR (95% CI)

p-value

Variables	HIV+ n (%)	HIV- n (%)	Crude OR (95% CI)	p-value
N	203	234		
You can be infected with HIV by traveling with HIV-infected persons.				
Incorrect	56 (27.6)	48 (20.5)	0.68 (0.42, 1.08)	0.11
Correct	147 (72.4)	186 (79.5)	1	
Total	203 (100)	234 (100)		
The mosquito can carry HIV to infect you by biting.				
Incorrect	159 (78.3)	184 (78.6)	0.98 (0.60, 1.60)	0.97
Correct	44 (21.7)	50 (21.4)	1	
Total	203 (100)	234 (100)		
You can be infected with HIV by using the same toilet with HIV-infected person.				
Incorrect	166 (81.8)	188 (80.3)	1.10 (0.66, 1.83)	0.79
Correct	37 (18.2)	46 (19.7)	1	
Total	203 (100)	234 (100)		
In the present time, AIDS can be completely cured.				
Incorrect	133 (65.5)	159 (67.9)	0.90 (0.59, 1.37)	0.66
Correct	70 (34.5)	75 (32.1)	1	
Total	203 (100)	234 (100)		
Good-looking woman cannot be HIV-infected person.				
Incorrect	132 (65.0)	151 (64.5)	1.02 (0.67, 1.55)	0.99
Correct	71 (35.0)	83 (35.5)	1	
Total	203 (100)	234 (100)		
Homosexual men are not only one group that are HIV risky.				
Incorrect	115 (56.7)	162 (69.2)	1.72 (1.14, 2.66)	0.008
Correct	88 (43.3)	72 (30.8)	1	
Total	203 (100)	234 (100)		
AIDS can happen to me.				
Yes	150 (73.9)	149 (63.7)	1.61 (1.04, 2.50)	0.02
No	53 (26.1)	85 (36.3)	1	
Total	203 (100)	234 (100)		

Table 6 Comparison of knowledge and attitude of HIV/AIDS between HIV+ and HIV- conscripts.

Variables	HIV+ n (%)	HIV- n (%)	Crude OR (95% CI)	p-value
N	203	234		
Do you think putting a condom on penis would interrupt sex?				
Yes	129 (63.5)	156 (66.7)	0.87 (0.57, 1.32)	0.56

No	74 (36.5)	78 (33.3)	1	
Total	203 (100)	234 (100)		
Have you ever talked with your friends or else about condom?				
No	34 (16.8)	28 (12.1)	1.47 (0.83, 2.63)	0.2
Yes	168 (83.2)	204 (87.9)	1	
Total	202 (100)	232 (100)		
When you had sex with nonsteady partner in the last 12 months, did you use condom?				
No	114 (56.2)	115 (49.1)	1.33 (0.89, 1.97)	0.17
Yes	89 (43.8)	119 (50.9)	1	
Total	203 (100)	234 (100)		
Do you think most of your friends use condoms when having sex with nonsteady partner?				
No	99 (49.7)	116 (50.4)	1.02 (0.69, 1.52)	0.98
Yes	100 (50.3)	114 (49.6)	1	
Total	199 (100)	230 (100)		

Table 7: Comparison of knowledge, attitude and practice of condoms between HIV+ and HIV- conscripts.

Variables	HIV+ n (%)	HIV- n (%)	Crude OR (95% CI)	p-value
N	203	234		
I do things my own way, irrespective of what my friends think.				
Yes	34 (16.7)	39 (16.7)	1.01 (0.59, 1.72)	0.91
No	169 (83.3)	195 (83.3)	1	
Total	203 (100)	234 (100)		
If I do not have sex with lots of lovers, I would feel unattractive.				
Yes	39 (19.2)	36 (15.4)	1.71 (0.77, 2.23)	0.35
No	164 (80.8)	198 (84.6)	1	
Total	203 (100)	234 (100)		
I do not worried about contracting HIV.				
Yes	110 (54.2)	80 (34.2)	2.28 (1.51, 3.43)	0
No	93 (45.8)	154 (65.8)	1	
Total	203 (100)	234 (100)		
I believe it is possible for me to practice safer sex.				
No	39 (19.2)	32 (13.7)	1.50 (0.87, 2.59)	0.15
Yes	164 (80.8)	202 (86.3)	1	
Total	203 (100)	234 (100)		39 -/

Yes	178 (87.7)	216 (92.3)	1
Total	r'		

No	119 (58.6)	131 (66.0)	1	
Total	203 (100)	234 (100)		

Can you stop and look for condom even if you are sexually aroused?

Yes	50 (24.6)	52 (22.2)	1.14 (0.71, 1.83)	0.63
No	153 (75.4)	182 (77.8)	1	
Total	203 (100)	234 (100)		

Would you use condoms even if you had been drinking or using drugs?

Yes	70 (34.5)	65 (27.8)	1.37 (0.89, 2.11)	0.15
No	133 (65.5)	169 (72.2)	1	
Total	203 (100)	234 (100)		

Do you think you will use condom when having sex with your nonsteady partners?

Yes	35 (17.2)	32 (13.7)	1.32 (0.75, 2.30)	0.36
No	168 (82.8)	202 (86.3)	1	
Total	203 (100)	234 (100)		

Are you sure you can talk about safe sex with your sexual partner?

Yes	88 (44.2)	71 (30.9)	1.78 (1.17, 2.69)	0.006
No	111 (55.8)	159 (69.1)	1	
Total	199 (100)	230 (100)		

HIV risk perception	1.61	1.04, 2.50	0
High speed driving preference	2.73	1.60, 4.70	0.001
Unability of safe sex talk with partner	1.78	1.17, 2.69	0.006
Unworrying about HIV	2.28	1.51, 3.43	0

Table 9 Summary of risk factors for HIV infection among Thai army conscripts from univariate analysis

Variables		SE	Wald	OR	95% CI	Sig
Income (>2000 vs. others)	0.661	0.2739	5.8235	1.94	(1.13, 3.31)	0.0158
Heroin use (yes vs. no)	1.4299	0.7127	4.0254	4.18	(1.03,16.89)	0.0448
Drug use before sex (yes vs. no)						

perception is not enough for a person to practice preventive behaviors [31]. HIV risk perception is also demonstrated to be unrelated to injecting or sexual behaviors and previous history of STDs [28]. Focus group discussions revealed that the risk perception for acquiring HIV was decreased by never knowing a person with HIV, because FSWs had health certificates for STD-free, and by the belief that HIV/AIDS could be cured or prevented with folk medicines [32]. Thus, some conscripts underestimate the risk of HIV infection, remain unconcerned about HIV/AIDS and perform HIV-related risk behavior.

Many studies showed that some but not all beliefs about HIV have changed over time. In 1986, the survey revealed that 46% of people worried about becoming infected with HIV and 9% thought it likely they will get AIDS in their lifetime. In 1988, the proportion of respondents doubled who indicated that they were worried about AIDS (74%) and who thought it likely they will get AIDS in their lifetime (18%). There has been significant increase in the perceived likelihood of sexual transmission from 1988 to 1991 [33]. Adolescents' worry of STDs and HIV had different sets of correlates. Recent history of STDs was associated with HIV worry and partner-specific barriers were related to HIV worry [34]. Unworrying about HIV/AIDS may make the conscripts careless and engage in drug use and unprotected sexual behaviors.

Surprisingly, in this study, nonuse of condom both in first sex and last time with FSWs did not associate significantly

developed to identify at-risk individuals for appropriate HIV preventive programs in this special group.

References

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