PII-21: Factors Associated with Risky Sexual Behaviors in Older Adults

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**Abstract Categories:**
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**Abstract:**

**Introduction:** Introduction: Despite the increasingly high percentage of newly identified AIDS cases in older adults, they are largely ignored in the HIV prevention literature. HIV is mainly transmitted through sexual activity in this population, and is therefore preventable. Intervention strategies are needed with a focus on reducing risky sexual behaviors. The purpose of this study is to use the Informational-Motivation-Behavioral Skills Model and Self-efficacy Theory to examine specific factors that may be helpful in assessing the HIV prevention needs of older adults. Findings from this study will provide a foundation for future age-appropriate interventions to decrease HIV in this population.

**Method(s):** Methods: This study design is a cross-sectional, correlational design. The nonrandom sample will include 109 men and women who are single adults, 50-74 years old, and sexually active, or plan to be sexually active in the future. Older adults are being recruited from community sites such as senior centers, churches, and independent living centers in a large Southeastern state. Data will be collected with standard questionnaires that measure knowledge of HIV/AIDS, motivation to practice safer sex, self-efficacy to practice safer sex, behavioral skills to perform safer sex, including condom application and perceived effectiveness, HIV testing, and risky sexual behaviors.

**Results:** Results: Data collection is in progress and preliminary data will be presented. Data will be analyzed using descriptive statistics, Pearson product moment correlation coefficients, and multiple linear regression.

**Discussion & Conclusions:** Discussion: Research is needed to understand factors associated with reducing sexual risk behaviors in older adults. These data will provide the foundation for developing theory-based safer sex behavior interventions for older adults to reduce transmission of HIV in this population.

**Abstract History:**
This abstract has been presented or accepted for presentation in whole or in part at the SNRS or other scientific meeting.
Some of the material in the abstract has been submitted to the BAGNC Leadership Conference 2009

**Financial Disclosure:**
No, I (or a member of my immediate family) have not received something of value* from or own stock (or stock options) in a commercial company or institution related directly or indirectly to the subject of my presentation.

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