

HIV Risk Behavior Pre- and Post-HIV Counseling & Testing in Jail

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Introduction

- Jail detainees are at increased risk for HIV and other infectious diseases due to frequent occurrence of risky behaviors including substance use and risky sex prior to incarceration
- Jails are an important venue for delivering HIV counseling & testing (C&T) services to at-risk persons
- Jails act as the portal of entry to the correctional system and incarceration times are typically brief
- Rapid HIV testing provides new opportunities to expand HIV testing services to this transient population
- Can HIV testing in jail, coupled with HIV counseling, reduce HIV risk behaviors following release from jail?**

Objective

- Perform a pilot study to investigate the feasibility of investigating changes in HIV risk behavior assessed at time of incarceration and post jail release, among jail detainees who received one of two HIV C&T approaches

Hypothesis

- Jail-based rapid HIV testing, coupled with individualized risk reduction counseling, will decrease post-release HIV risk behavior greater than standard HIV C&T

Methods

- Setting: Intake Service Center of the Rhode Island Department of Corrections:
 - 16,000 intakes per year
- Subjects: Males incarcerated < 48 hours
- Before/After study design
 - Before Group: "Standard Arm (SA)"**
 - Completed standard HIV testing upon intake
 - HIV counseling available upon request & through educational sessions
 - After Group: "Rapid Arm (RA)"**
 - Received rapid HIV test with result delivery
 - Individualized risk reduction counseling session
- Baseline risk assessment
- Follow-up risk assessment 6 weeks following jail release

Results

Table 1. Baseline Characteristics of participants

	SA (N=132)	RA (N=132)	p value
1. Demographics			
Age: median (range)	32 (18-58)	29 (19-65)	.03
Race			
Caucasian	53%	50%	-
African American	24%	19%	-
Hispanic	13%	15%	-
Homeless			
ever	52%	45%	-
prior 3 months	27%	22%	-
Lifetime incarceration: median (range)	7 (1-200)	6 (1-70)	-
working prior 3 months	27%	67%	-
2. Mental health & drug treatment			
Mental health			
ever diagnosed with mental health disorder	33%	36%	-
Drug			
ever participated in drug or alcohol treatment program	62%	49%	.05
drug or alcohol treatment program within prior 3 months	17%	18%	-

Table 2. Pre-incarceration Drug & Alcohol Use

	SA (N=132)	RA (N=132)
1. Pre-incarceration alcohol use		
Alcohol use within prior 3 months		
Heavy drinking*	36%	42%
2. Pre-incarceration drug use		
Drug use within prior 3 months		
Cocaine	40%	36%
Heroin	9%	11%
Methamphetamines	2%	1%
Marijuana	59%	64%
Injection drug use		
ever	21%	17%
prior 3 months	8%	9%

* Heavy drinking defined as ≥ 5 drinks in one day at least 2 times/month

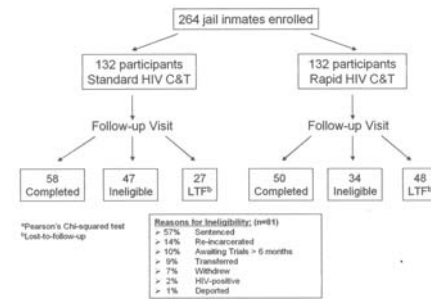
* There were no significant differences in baseline alcohol/drug use between SA & RA

Table 3. Pre-incarceration Sexual Behavior

	SA	RA
Sexual history		
Sex within previous 3 months	88%	92%
≥ 3 sexual partners	25%	27%
exchange sex for drugs/money	4%	7%
condom use at last sexual encounter	20%	20%
Main sexual partner (n=203)		
have vaginal sex within prior 3 months	100%	100%
never use condom	83%	85%
have anal sex within prior 3 months	24%	17%
never use condom	83%	89%
Non-main sexual partner (n=111)		
have vaginal sex within prior 3 months	95%	96%
never use condom	37%	35%
have anal sex within prior 3 months	17%	11%
never use condom	40%	83%

* There were no significant differences in baseline sexual risk between SA & RA

Figure 1. Disposition & follow-up of participants (p=0.01)



* Pearson's Chi-squared test

* Lost to follow-up

Table 4. Transition model of HIV risk behavior

HIV-risk behaviors	Analysis 1: Starting a Risky Behavior # of participants WITHOUT risk at baseline who WERE engaging in risk at follow-up		Analysis 2: Correcting a Risky Behavior # of participants WITH risk at baseline who WERE NOT engaging in risk at follow-up	
	Standard Arm	Rapid Arm	Standard Arm	Rapid Arm
Substance use:				
Cocaine use	2	1	19	9
Heroin use	0	0	7	2
Injection drug use	0	0	6	2
Heavy drinking	5	3	10	10
Sexual behavior:				
No condom with vaginal/anal sex with any partner	0	1	2	6
No condom at last sexual encounter	3	3	5	4

* There were no significant differences in risk behaviors assessed at the F/U visit between SA & RA

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Conclusions

- Risk behaviors were similar between the SA and RA at baseline and included:
 - Frequent cocaine & heavy alcohol use
 - Relatively little IDU
 - Low rates of condom use at last sexual encounter
 - Infrequent condom use with main sexual partner
 - Infrequent condom use with non-main sexual partner (increased compared to main partner sex)
- We were able to conduct follow-up assessments in 41% of the total cohort and in 59% of participants who were eligible for the follow-up assessment
- There were no significant differences in risk behavior post-jail release between participants in the SA & RA.
- There was a general decrease in substance use following jail incarceration within the cohort
- We were able to demonstrate feasibility in:**
 - Coupling HIV prevention counseling with rapid HIV testing delivered within 48 hours of incarceration
 - Conducting an HIV risk behavior assessment among recently released jail detainees after a one-time intervention delivered in jail

Next Steps

- Conduct future studies that investigate the delivery of optimal HIV prevention interventions coupled with rapid HIV testing to jail detainees.

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