

# **Substance Use and HIV Risk among Gay Men in the United States**

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# Goals of the Presentation

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- Recreational drug use is pervasive among American MSM
- Non-injection drug use is associated with HIV risk and HIV prevalence
- Non-injection substance use is associated with HIV incidence
- MSM substance users/abusers can reduce sexual risk-taking
- There are no proven interventions to reduce risk among MSM substance users/abusers.

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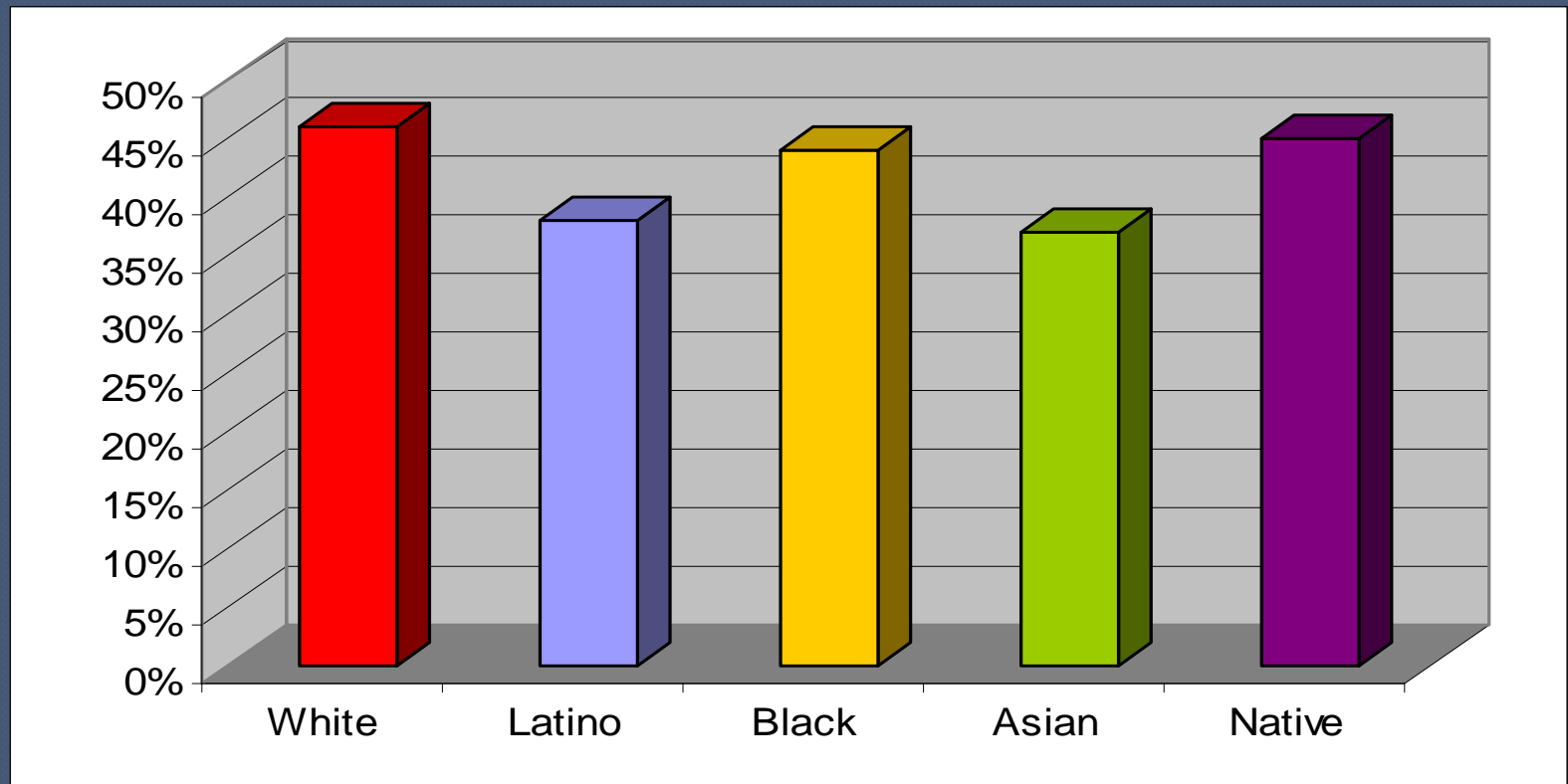
Recreational drug use  
is pervasive  
among American MSM

# Gay Culture is Drug Friendly

(UMHS Data, NIDU past 6 months, N=2184)

Alcohol	88%
Marijuana	43%
Poppers	20%
Cocaine	15%
Crack Cocaine	3%
Ecstasy/MMDA	12%
Speed/Meth	10%
Other uppers	2%

# NHBS: Noninjection Drug use among MSM (past 12 mos)



n= 2068

n= 1021

n= 758

n= 167

n= 18



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This year during Pride Weekend here in San Francisco, be yourself and make it a Bud Light.

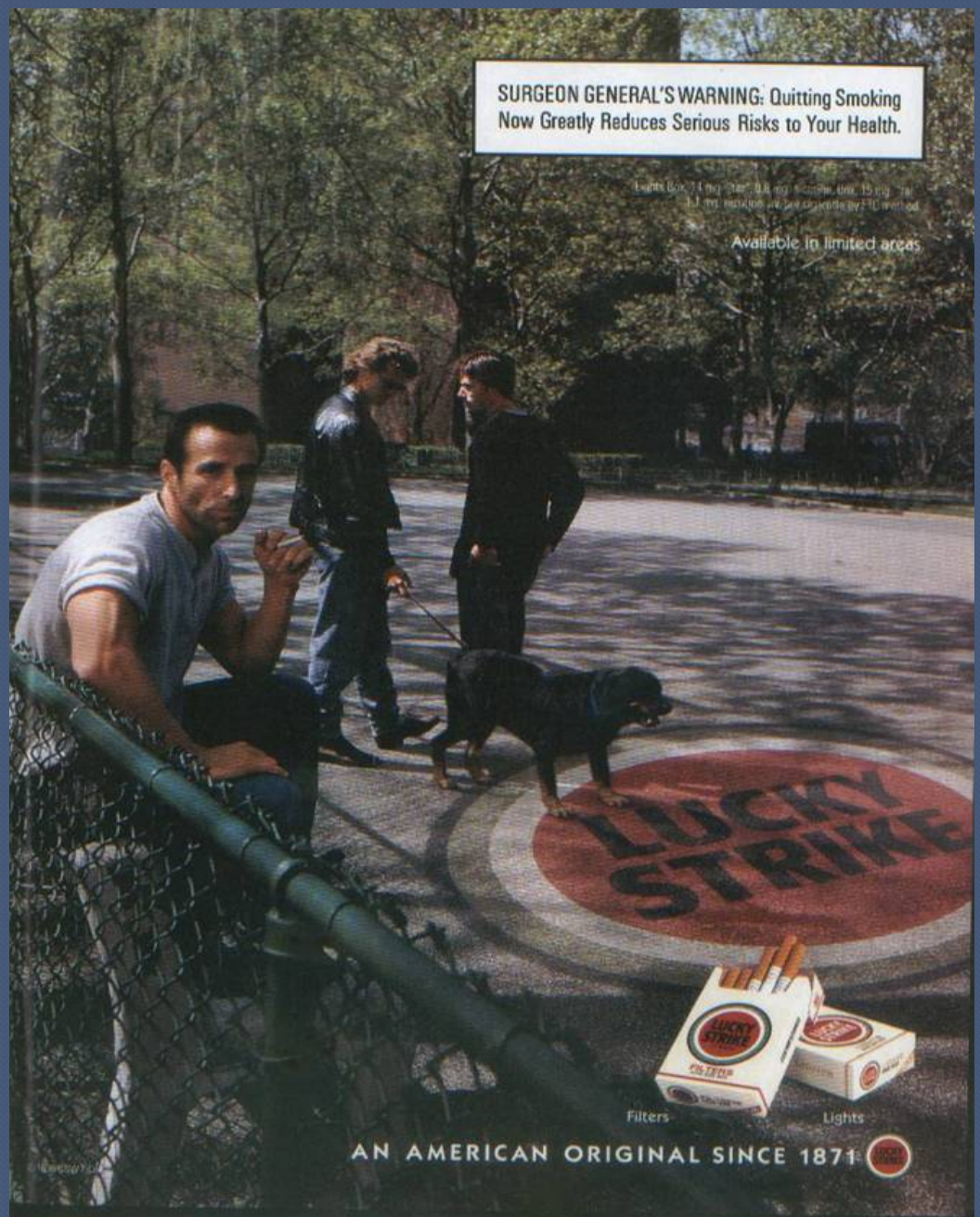


This year during the Folioon Street Fair have fun, be yourself and make it a Bud Light!

**SURGEON GENERAL'S WARNING: Quitting Smoking  
Now Greatly Reduces Serious Risks to Your Health.**

Light Box 7 mg "tar," 0.8 mg nicotine av. per cigarette by FTC method.  
Full Flavor Cigarettes in this pack by FTC method.

Available in limited areas.



Filters Lights

AN AMERICAN ORIGINAL SINCE 1871 

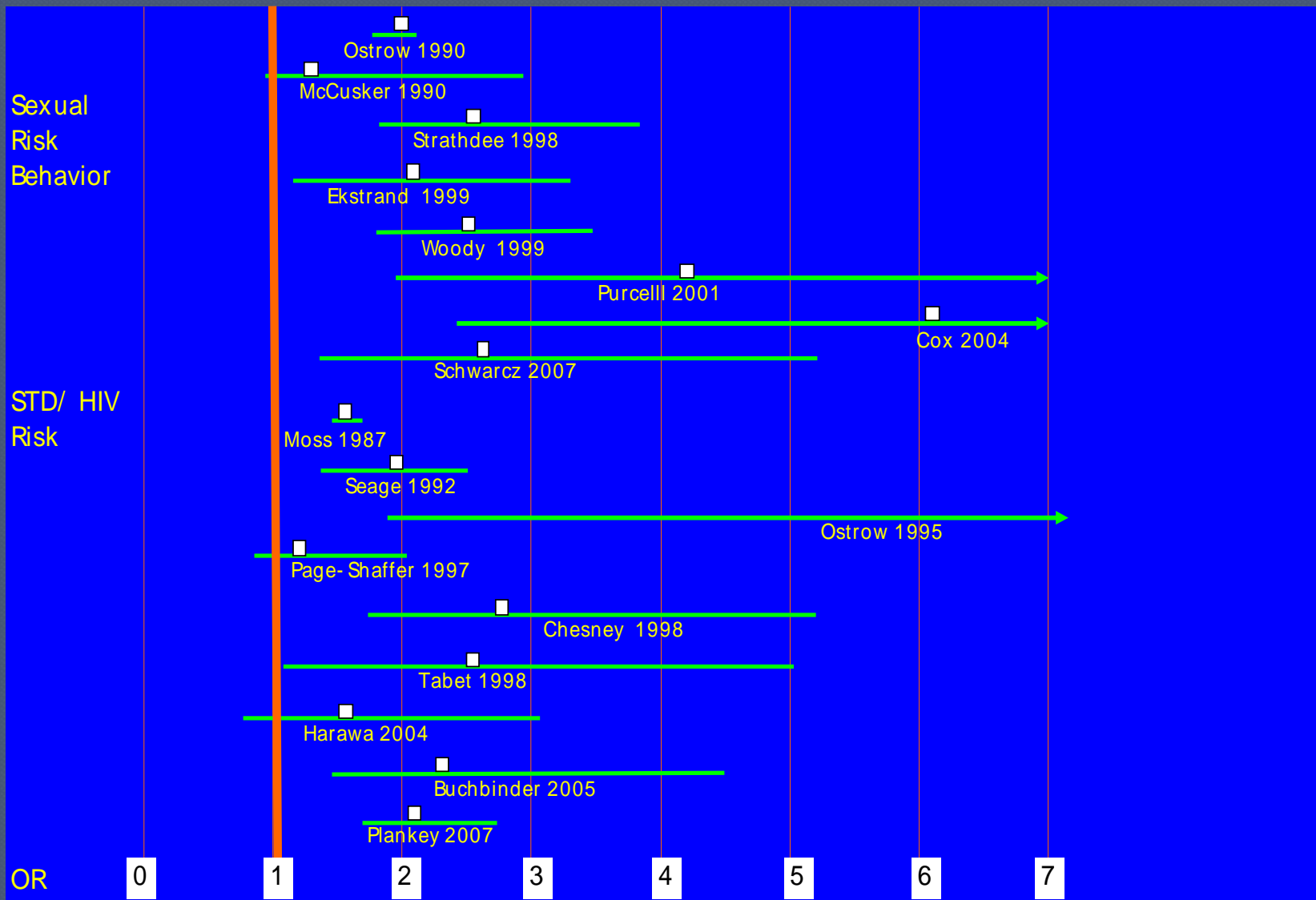
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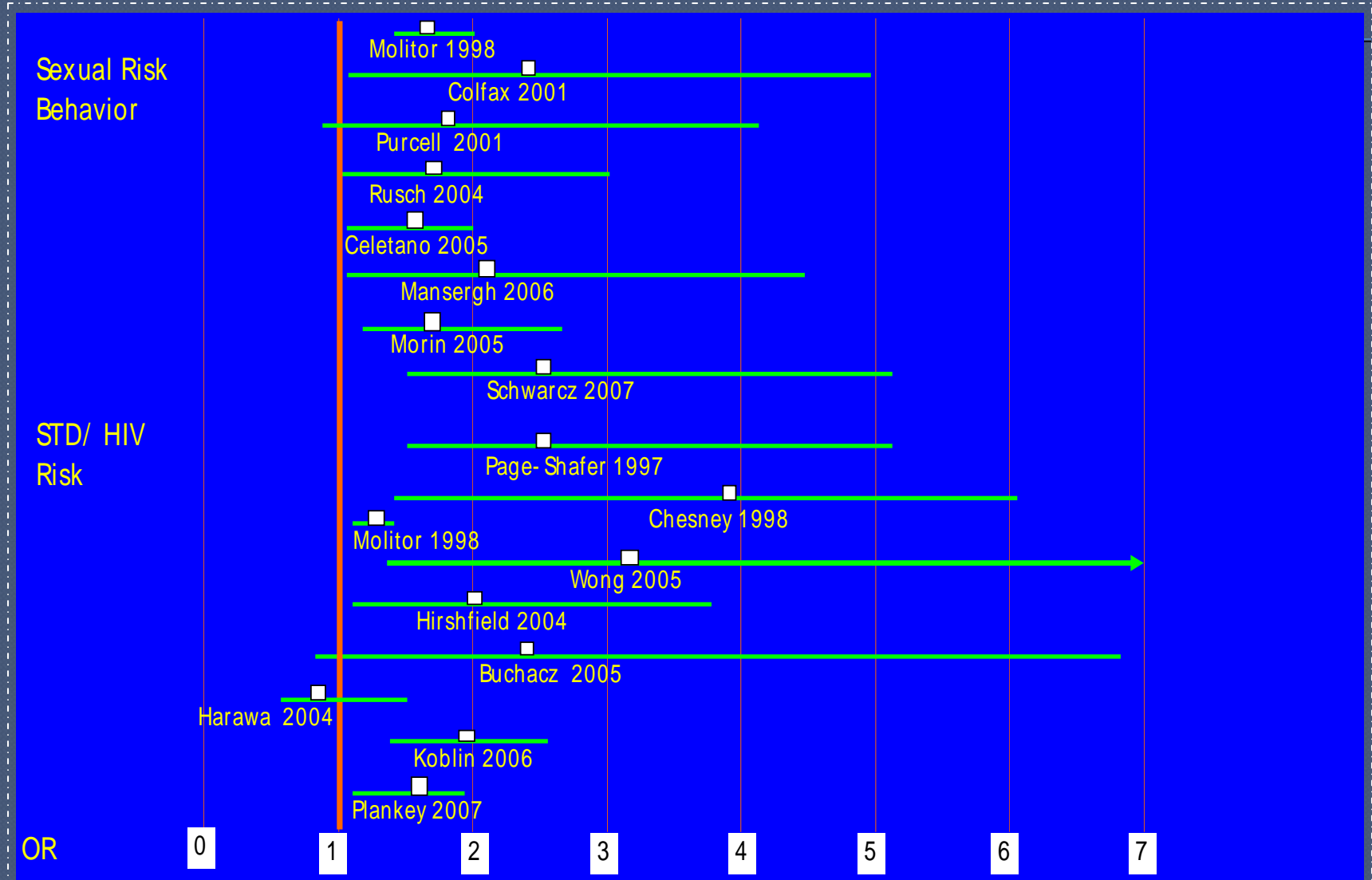
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**Non-injection drug use is  
associated with HIV risk  
and HIV prevalence**

# Poppers and HIV risk



# Methamphetamine and HIV risk



# HIV Seroprevalence: Intravenous Drug Use, UMHS

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	%	(95% CI)
Non-IDU	15%	(13-16%)
IDU < 5 years	40%	(26-55%)
IDU > 5 years	43%	(33-53%)

# HIV Seroprevalence: Level of Non-Intravenous Drug Use

Frequency of Use	%	(95% CI)
5+ Days/Week	32%	(24-40%)
3-4 Days/Week	24%	(18-32%)
1-2 Days/Week	22%	(17-27%)
Infrequent Use	16%	(13-20%)
Do Not Use Drugs	12%	(10-14%)

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**Non-injection substance  
use is associated with  
HIV incidence**

# HIV Seroconversion Among MSM : STARHS Approach

Drug use at least once during UAI: ( $p < .01$ )

	HIV Seroconverters	HIV-
Meth	29%	11%
Ketamine	6	>1
GHB	12	4
Viagra	32	10
Poppers	48	23

Carey, et al., AIDS and Behavior, 2008

# HIV Seroconversion among MSM : Cohort Approach

Drug Use Patterns and Seroconversion:

	HR	AR
Amphetamines	2.0	16%
Heavy Alcohol Use	2.0	6%
Alcohol/Drugs & Sex	1.6	29%

Koblin, et al., *AIDS*, 2006



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**MSM substance  
users/abusers can  
reduce sexual risk-taking**

# Reductions in High Risk Sex among MSM in Substance Abuse Treatment

UAI with a Non-Monogamous Partner,  
Months After Intake:

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	1	3	6	9	12
Enhanced	39%	21%	18%	18%	28%
Comparison	37	18	20	14	23

Stall, et al., *Journal of Studies on Alcohol*, 1999.

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**There are no proven interventions to reduce sexual risk among MSM substance users/abusers.**