

Racial Disparities in Unprotected Sex, HIV Infections, and Engagement in Care, Viral Load Suppression among Individuals living with HIV in Hyperendemic MSM Community of Washington DC

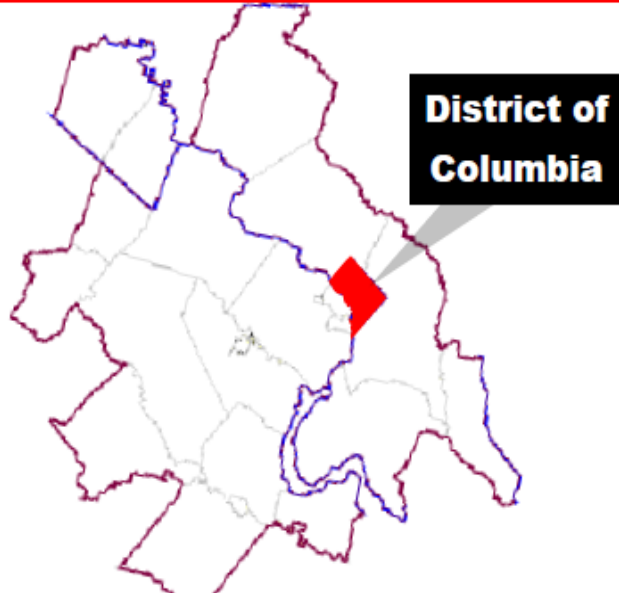
**Gregory Pappas, MD, PhD
HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis, STD and TB Administration
Washington DC Department of Health**

**2012 National Summit on HIV and Viral Hepatitis Diagnosis, Prevention and Access to Care
November 26-28 2012 Washington, DC**



50% of people with HIV in the United States Reside in 12 Cities

Washington, DC Metropolitan Area



Living with HIV: **0.64**
Rate of New HIV Diagnoses: **60.7**
Metropolitan Population: **4.4***
DC Population **0.6**

United States

San Francisco Metropolitan Area

Living with HIV per 100,000: **0.62**
 Rate of New HIV Cases in 2007: **30.4**
 Population: **3.6***

Chicago Metropolitan Area

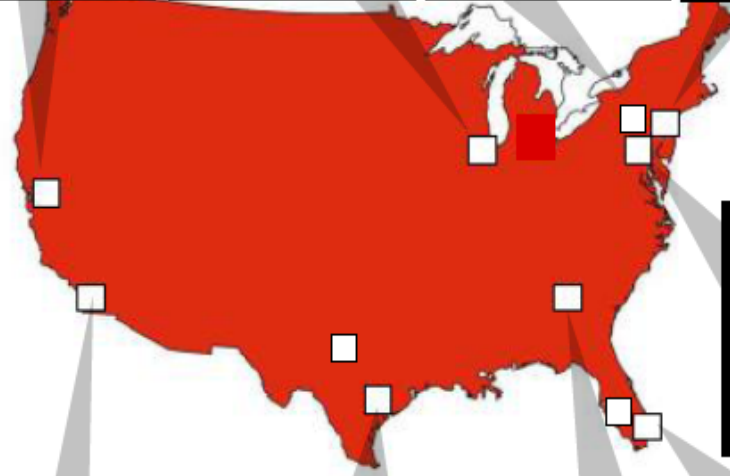
Living with HIV per 100,000: **0.34**
 Rate of New HIV Cases in 2007: **22.8**
 Population: **7.7***

Philadelphia Metropolitan Area

Living with HIV per 100,000: **0.52**
 Rate of New HIV Cases in 2007: **36.2**
 Population: **4.8***

New York Metropolitan Area

Living with HIV per 100,000: **0.81**
 Rate of New HIV Cases in 2007: **36.9**
 Population: **15.8***



Baltimore Metropolitan Area

Living with HIV per 100,000: **0.78**
 Rate of New HIV Cases in 2007: **64.2**
 Population: **2.2***

Los Angeles Metropolitan Area

Living with HIV per 100,000: **0.40**
 Rate of New HIV Cases in 2007: **25.9**
 Population: **10.4***

Houston Metropolitan Area

Living with HIV per 100,000: **0.44**
 Rate of New HIV Cases in 2007: **30.7**
 Population: **4.4***

Atlanta Metropolitan Area

Living with HIV per 100,000: **0.47**
 Rate of New HIV Cases in 2007: **41.0%**
 Population: **4.2***

Miami Metropolitan Area

Living with HIV per 100,000: **1.0**
 Rate of New HIV Cases in 2007: **77.2**
 Population: **4.5***

* Number in Millions

Source: Hall HI et al, *Epidemiology of HIV Infection in Large Urban Areas in the United States*. PLoS One. 2010 Sep 15;5(9):e12756.

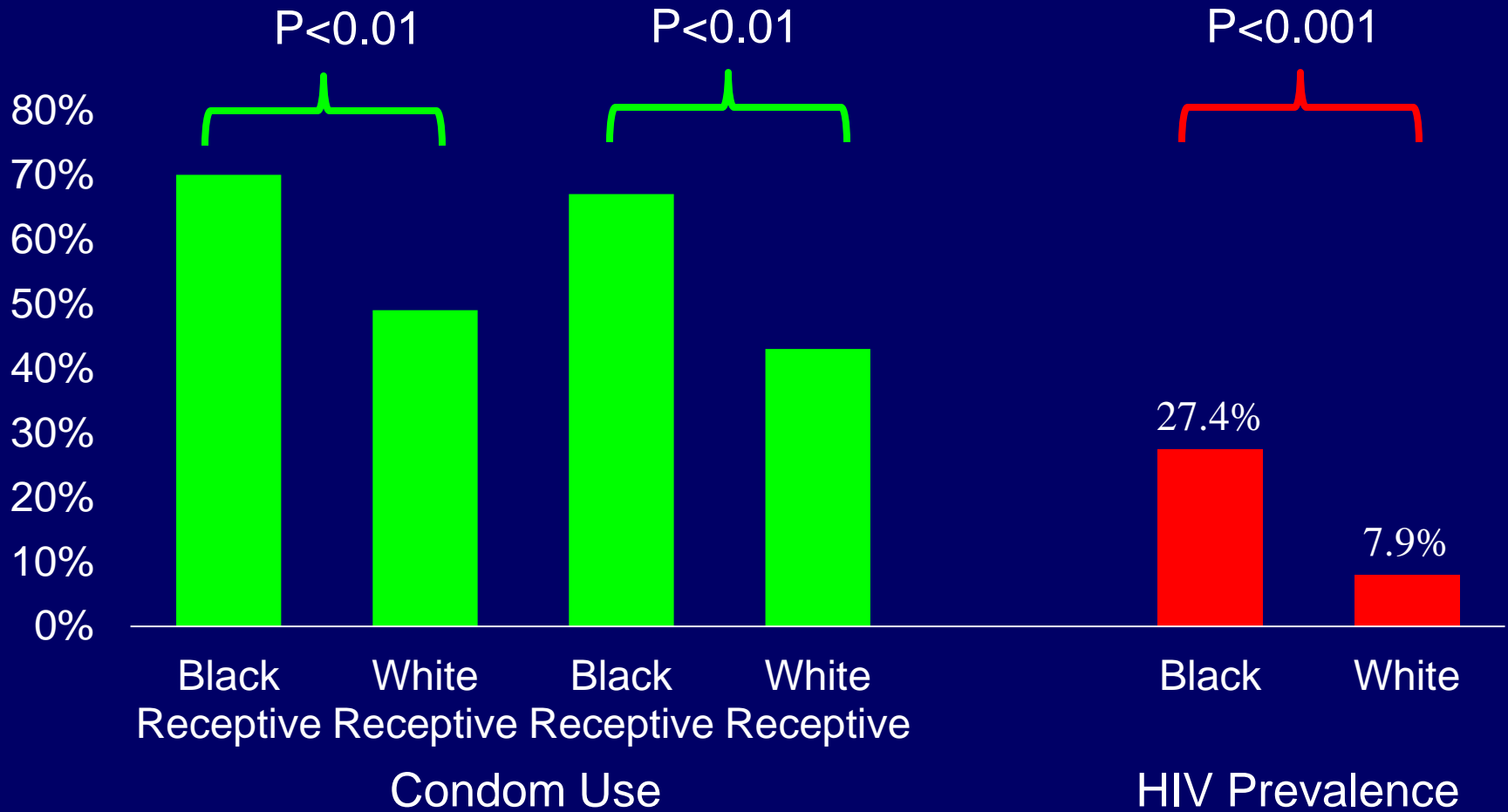
Objective

- The purpose of this study is to examine the disparities between White and Black men who have sex with men (MSM) in infections, unprotected sex, engagement in care, and viral load suppression among individuals living with HIV in hyperendemic MSM community of Washington DC.

Methods and Data Sources

- National HIV Behavioral Surveillance Survey
 - CDC multi-site cross sectional survey
 - Performed in 25 MSAs in the U.S.
 - Ongoing cyclical three risk groups, NHBS-MSM, IDU, and high-risk heterosexuals (HET)
 - NHBS-MSM data collection in 2008
 - Anonymous quantitative survey & HIV test
- Case Surveillance Report Data

Results (1) Unprotected Sex and HIV Infections (N=500 MSM)



Results (2): Engagement in Care and Viral Load Suppression

Among newly diagnosed cases (1095 black MSM and 567 white MSM) in 2005-2009

- **Linked to care** within 3 months after diagnosis
 - Black (89%) vs. White (95%) $P < 0.001$
- **Viral load ever suppressed** (< 200 copies/mL)
 - Black (54%) vs. White (88%) $P < 0.001$
- **Viral load suppressed** (< 200 copies/mL)
 - Black (26%) vs. White (43%) $P < 0.001$

Discussion (1)

- After three decades of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the United States, racial disparities is an ongoing observation in sexual behavior changes, the engagement in care and treatment among people living with HIV/AIDS.

Discussion (2)

- Higher rate of condom use among Black MSM versus White MSM indicates success of targeted prevention intervention
- The rate of condom use may be not high enough to curtail the epidemic and address racial gaps because of the "sexual ecology"
- The dramatic racial disparities of HIV prevalence and engagement in care and treatment within the hyperendemic MSM community in DC.

Discussion (3)

- The findings underscore the continued needs to intensify the effective combination intervention measures, including
 - Continued condom promotion and prevention
 - Innovative approaches to expand HIV testing and evidenced-based prevention, improve engagement in care and adherent to antiretroviral therapy
- All components needed to help addressing disparities particularly targeting Black MSM

**Any questions and comments
are most welcome!**

gregory.pappas@dc.gov