An In-depth Examination of an Emerging Population

Who Are These Older Adults Living with HIV

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New York University College of Nursing
older adults and HIV

ancianos y VIH
Percent of PLWHA in NYC 50 Years and Older
(NYCDOH)
Research on Older Adults with HIV

Investigators
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Mark Brennan, PhD
ACRIA Center on HIV and Aging
ROAH
the book now in press – to be released December 2009

Older Adults with HIV:
An In-depth Examination of an Emerging Population

Editors: M. Brennan, S. E. Karpiak, M. H. Cantor & R. A. Shippy

Nova Science Publishers
# ROAH Research Collaborators/Advisory Group

Chairperson: *Marjorie Cantor, Emerita Fordham U & Brookdale Scholar*

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<td>NIA/NIH Section Chief</td>
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ROAH Modules

- Demographics
- Sexual Behavior
- Social Networks
- Psychological Well-Being
- Distress – Depression
- HIV Status/Health
- Religiousness & Spirituality
- Loneliness Among Older Adults
- HIV Stigma and Disclosure
Long-term survivors living with HIV/AIDS for 10 to 25 years

- Latino: 32%
- Black: 44%
- White: 21%
- Female: 31%
- Male: 69%

- Heterosexual: 67%
- Bisexual: 9%
- Homosexual: 24%
## ROAH HIV Care

### 83% Medicaid Dependent

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Treatment facility</th>
<th>%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Private physician</td>
<td>21.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public clinic / hospital</td>
<td>58.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VA Hospital</td>
<td>4.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASO / day program</td>
<td>17.0</td>
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</table>
Percent Living Alone: ROAH vs. Community-Dwelling NYC Elderly
Transmission Mode in ROAH: The Changing HIV Population

Unprotected Vaginal

Sharing Needles

Unprotected Anal

- > 10 years
- 6-10 years
- 1-5 years
More than 80% rely on Medicaid

54% are currently in recovery

Half of their friends do not know they are HIV+

Almost 70% live alone

Only 15% have a spouse or life partner
Stigma
ROAH: Disclosure of HIV Status

- Healthcare
- Sexual partners
- Family
- Friends
- Social groups
- Drug buddies
- Co-Workers
- Place of Worship
Percent Wanting to Disclose HIV Status to Others

- Latino: 42.9%
- Black: 37.8%
- White: 29.8%
Comorbidities
ROAH Self Report Data

Comorbid Health Problems

- Depression
- Arthritis
- Hepatitis
- Neuropathy
- Hypertension
- Dermatologic...
- Herpes
- Vision loss
- Diabetes
- Neurological...
- STD
- Hearing loss
- Pneumonia
- Respiratory...
- Heart condition
- Broken bones
- Shingles
- Migraines
- Cancer
- Stroke
- Staph. infection

Percent
Average Number of Comorbidities

- Elderly 70+: 1.1
- ROAH: 3.3
There was a significant correlation between the number of comorbidities with depressive symptoms (CES-D) 
(p<0.01 2 tailed)

The higher the level of depressive symptoms the more comorbid conditions reported
### Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Significance</th>
<th>% No Depressive Symptoms</th>
<th>% Moderate Depressive Symptoms</th>
<th>% Severe Depressive Symptoms</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vision Loss</td>
<td>p&lt;0.01</td>
<td>18.3</td>
<td>27.5</td>
<td>54.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hearing Loss</td>
<td>ns</td>
<td>28.2</td>
<td>21.4</td>
<td>50.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dermatological Problems</td>
<td>p&lt;0.05</td>
<td>24.7</td>
<td>23.5</td>
<td>51.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Heart Condition</td>
<td>p&lt;0.05</td>
<td>26.6</td>
<td>20.2</td>
<td>53.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respiratory Condition</td>
<td>p&lt;0.01</td>
<td>20.2</td>
<td>20.2</td>
<td>59.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stroke</td>
<td>p&lt;0.05</td>
<td>13.8</td>
<td>41.4</td>
<td>44.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Diabetes</td>
<td>ns</td>
<td>32.6</td>
<td>19.4</td>
<td>48.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Broken Bones</td>
<td>p&lt;0.01</td>
<td>19.2</td>
<td>33.3</td>
<td>47.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Impotence</td>
<td>ns</td>
<td>29.4</td>
<td>21.0</td>
<td>49.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neuropathy</td>
<td>ns</td>
<td>33.5</td>
<td>23.6</td>
<td>42.9</td>
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</table>
Substance Use
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current %</th>
<th>History %</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>57</td>
<td>84</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
GHB
Ketamine
Ecstasy
Crys Meth
LSD/PCP
Poppers
Heroin
Crack
Cocaine
Pain Killers
Marijuana
Alcohol

Present
Life Time

0
80
%
## ROAH: Substance Use Recovery

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recovery Status of Substance Users</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ever enrolled in 12-step</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Currently in recovery</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No substance use in past 3 months</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In recovery for more than 1 year</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Social Networks
ROAH: Informal Network Composition

- Parent
- Child
- Sibling
- Other Relative
- Friend

Living

%
CAREGIVERS are derived from SOCIAL NETWORKS

Social networks are a significant healthcare resource for aging people

350 Billion Dollars Annually
And other outlandish lies about getting older
ROAH: Sexual Behavior

Center for HIV/AIDS Educational Studies
(CHEST) @ Hunter College
City University of New York
Drs. Golub, Grov, Tomaselli, Parsons
Concurrent HIV/AIDS among persons diagnosed with HIV in 2006 by age group, United States

ROAH: First Data on Risk Behavior in Older Adults

- Substance use impact - Significant
- Viagra and other ED Drugs Impact - None
- Of those who are sexually active
  16% engaged in high risk sexual behavior in the last 3 months
Depression
ROAH

Over 2/3 are Moderate to Severely Depressed
Figure 1 Comparison of UCLA Loneliness Scale Scores between Older Adults with HIV and Community Dwelling Elderly as reported in Adams et al. (2004).
Loneliness and HIV-Related Stigma Explain Depression Among Older HIV-positive Adults (in press)

Grov, Golub, Parsons, Brennan, Karpiak

Center for HIV/AIDS Educational Studies and Training (CHEST) and AIDS Community Research Initiative of America (ACRIA)
Implications of ROAH Study

Over 2/3 of the study group had moderate to severe depression

Depression Causes Non-Adherence to ALL Medication including HIV Meds

Although in Medical Care Their Depression Remains Unmanaged
ACRIA Study Using the MacArthur Model as an Intervention for Depression

Marlena Vega, PhD
Study Clinician

Funded by the Robert Mapplethorpe and Keith Haring Foundations
Interim Results

- Change in CES-D Scores Over 20 Weeks; All weeks significantly lower than baseline
ROAH Asked:

Do you receive HIV prevention information?

- No 1%
- Yes 99%

Does prevention information target older adults?

- No 57%
- Yes 43%
The Older Adult
HIV NYC Council Initiative
ACRIA has managed the New York City Council Three Year Initiative on Older Adults and HIV

- Target older adults service providers
- Partnership with agencies serving older adults
- Create possibilities for networking between local HIV service providers and older adult serving agencies
- Change of knowledge, attitudes and beliefs
- Stigma of older adults (at risk and living with HIV)
- Mainstreaming HIV/older adult services