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Provider Knowledge and Comfort with the Use of HIV Pre-exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) Therapy in High-Risk Patient Populations

Megan Scott

Henry Ford Health System, mscott10@hfhs.org

Indira Brar

Henry Ford Health System, ibrar1@hfhs.org

Monica Kole

Henry Ford Health System, MKole2@hfhs.org

Roopina Sangha

Henry Ford Health System, rsangha1@hfhs.org

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Provider Knowledge and Comfort with the use of HIV Pre-exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) therapy in High Risk Patient Populations

Megan Scott MD, MPH, Indira Brar MD, Monica Kole MD,
Roopina Sangha MD, MPH

Presented by: Megan Scott, M.D

PI:



HIV preexposure prophylaxis (PrEP)

- This study's aim was to determine provider knowledge, barriers and willingness to prescribe PrEP, in order to guide education initiatives to raise awareness and usage of PrEP therapy.
- PrEP has been shown to be an effective tool in preventing HIV infection
- When taken consistently reduces HIV transmission via sexual intercourse in:
 - More than 90% of serodiscordant couples
 - More than 70% in intravenous drug users



HIV Demographics

- The highest risk group for HIV transmission in the US remains men who have sex with men (MSM)
 - Accounts for 82% of all newly diagnosed infection
- Consistent condom use is still the most effective means to reduce transmission
 - Only 25-28% of people report using condoms consistently
- Rates of HIV transmission
 - Michigan has been stable at 7.8 per 100,000 people from 2011-2015
 - Rates in the Detroit Metro Area remain the highest 37.5 per 100,000 people
- A large population of high-risk patients in Detroit are treated, but there is opportunity to reach these individuals prior to exposure, prevent disease transmission and reduce disease burden



Methods

- An anonymous survey was sent to residents in:
 - Internal Medicine Residents
 - Family Medicine Residents
 - Obstetrics/Gynecology Residents
 - Attending physicians at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit as well as the surrounding community affiliate hospitals.
- Data was compared using chi-square test for non-sparse data and Fisher exact test for sparse data
- Sparsities were defined as expected frequencies less than at least 25% of the cells being compared
- Data was compared using non-parametric Wilcoxon rank sum test and Kruskal-Wallis test.



Results

110 Respondents		
Specialty	66% (73) Internal Medicine	26 % (28) Ob/Gyn 8% (9) Family Medicine
Experience	56% (61) were senior staff	44% (49) residents
Location	69% (76) Henry Ford Hospital	31% Surrounding community affiliate hospitals

Survey Results	Yes	No
Heard about PrEP?	78% (86)	22% (24)
Initiated a conversation about PrEP with their patients?	24% (26)	76% (84)
Family Medicine	67% (6)	33% (3)
Internal Medicine	22% (16)	78% (57)
Ob/Gyn	14% (4)	86% (24)
Prescribed PrEP to a patient?		
Family Medicine	67% (6)	33% (3)
Internal Medicine	24% (17)	76% (56)
Ob/Gyn	4% (1)	96% (27)



Conclusions

- Our survey identified gaps in provider knowledge, comfort level and initiation of discussion with high-risk patients.
- Providers indicated that with more education/training they would prescribe PrEP
- With the data from this survey we will institute educational training for our physicians regarding PrEP therapy to improve prescribing rates across our hospital network so as to reach high risk patients and be successful in achieving widespread prescribing

