

# National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day



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University of California  
San Francisco

**UCSF**

Center for AIDS  
Prevention Studies (CAPS)  
Technology and Information  
Exchange (TIE) Core

Center for AIDS Prevention Studies (CAPS)

## Research Resources

for HIV/AIDS Prevention  
with Women and Girls

[www.caps.ucsf.edu](http://www.caps.ucsf.edu)

## Center for AIDS Prevention Studies (CAPS) Research & Resources for HIV/AIDS Prevention with Women and Girls

This brochure lists CAPS research with women and girls and helpful resources produced by CAPS. You might use it to:

- Stay up-to-date on research and learn what we found out from research
- Use the materials in trainings/presentations
- Advocate for services/funding
- Write grants
- Develop new or modify existing HIV prevention programs
- Evaluate current programs
- Connect with CAPS to develop new projects. Project Investigators (PIs) are listed for each study.

Questions? Comments? Contact Marliese Warren, 415/597-4995 or [Marliese.Warren@ucsf.edu](mailto:Marliese.Warren@ucsf.edu).

This brochure was prepared by the Technology and Information Exchange (TIE) Core: "Tying research and community together."



## Research with Drug Users

### Acute UFO Study

[www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/portfolio/2009/Page\\_k-AcuteUFO2009.pdf](http://www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/portfolio/2009/Page_k-AcuteUFO2009.pdf)

Young injection drug users constitute a high risk and understudied group with high rates of hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection. The Acute UFO study has identified 135 incident HCV infections, 95 of which are being followed prospectively. PI: Kimberly Page

*Bit of Research:* An estimated 20% of acutely-infected individuals resolved infection; 86% cleared within six months. Women were significantly more likely to clear HCV infection than men. Female clearers also showed a significantly steeper decline in HCV viral load during early infection.

### Studying Youth in Northern California: The SYNC Project

[www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/portfolio/2009/Lightfoor\\_M-SYNC2009.pdf](http://www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/portfolio/2009/Lightfoor_M-SYNC2009.pdf)

Studying Youth in Northern California (SYNC) is a public health research study assessing narcotic and stimulant use among 14-25 year-olds in five Northern California counties with an emphasis on how such factors and forces place this population at risk for HIV and related health problems. PI: Kimberly Page

## Research with Persons in Prison and Jail

### Navigator-Enhanced Case Management for Jail Inmates

This project will pilot and test an enhanced case management intervention for HIV+ individuals with substance abuse and mental health issues as they are released from jail and move back to the community. We will recruit 360 HIV+ men and women leaving the San Francisco Jail. PI: Janet Myers

### Project Relate: HIV Risk among Male Parolees and their Female Partners

[www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/portfolio/2009/Comfort\\_M-ProjectRelate2009.pdf](http://www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/portfolio/2009/Comfort_M-ProjectRelate2009.pdf)

This study explores HIV risk among men who were released from prison within the last year and are currently on parole and the women who are

in sexual relationships with them. Two hundred couples will be recruited from community sites in Oakland, CA and come to an appointment together but be interviewed separately. This study will yield important information about HIV risk and risk reduction among couples affected by incarceration that can be used to develop effective interventions for the millions of low-income people of color who experience their own or their partner's incarceration each year. PI: Megan Comfort

*Currently Recruiting:* For more information about Project Relate and to find out if you are eligible to participate, please call (415) 597-9367.

## Research with Transgender Women

### Culturally Relevant HIV Prevention for Transgender Women

[www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/portfolio/2009/Sevelius\\_J-CultRelevHIVPrevTransgenderWomen2009.pdf](http://www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/portfolio/2009/Sevelius_J-CultRelevHIVPrevTransgenderWomen2009.pdf)

This study will develop and test a theory-driven, culturally grounded HIV prevention intervention for transgender women, that addresses HIV-related sexual and injection risk behaviors and protective factors. PI: Jae Sevelius

## Research with Youth

### Computer-based vs Interpersonal HIV Preventive Intervention for at-risk Youth

[www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/portfolio/2009/Lightfoot\\_M-ComptVsInterpersHIVPrevIntervYouth2009.pdf](http://www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/portfolio/2009/Lightfoot_M-ComptVsInterpersHIVPrevIntervYouth2009.pdf)

This study compared two forms of LIGHT, an HIV prevention program for high-risk adolescents: in-person v. computerized. Twenty four schools (n=960 students) in the Los Angeles Department of Education were randomly assigned into one of three conditions: 1) In-person Light in 8 schools; 2) Computerized Light in 8 schools; or 3) a standard HIV control condition. PI: Marguerita Lightfoot

*Bit of Research:* In a pilot study of this intervention with 133 adolescents, we found that adolescents in the computerized intervention were significantly less likely to engage in sexual activity and reported significantly fewer sexual partners.

## Policy Research

### A Formative Study of the Role of Gender, Ethnicity and Sexual Orientation in the Provision of Prevention Counseling with HIV+ Patients

[www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/portfolio/2009/Shade\\_S-GenderEthnicitySexualinProvCouns2009.pdf](http://www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/portfolio/2009/Shade_S-GenderEthnicitySexualinProvCouns2009.pdf)

This study will design a discrete choice experiment that will assess the relative importance of gender, ethnicity and sexual orientation in healthcare providers' decisions to provide Prevention with Positives counseling. PI: Starley Shade

## International Research - Women

### AIDS, Stigma and Gender: Health Consequences in Urban India

[www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/portfolio/2009/Ekstrand\\_M-AIDStigmasndGender2009.pdf](http://www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/portfolio/2009/Ekstrand_M-AIDStigmasndGender2009.pdf)

This collaborative study will examine the nature, extent, and context of AIDS stigma and discrimination by gender, at multiple levels, among people coming into contact with urban health care systems in India, including: people living with HIV/AIDS, healthcare staff and the general population of patients seeking healthcare in outpatient settings. We will develop and disseminate programs and policy recommendations to reduce AIDS-related stigma and discrimination in these settings. PI: Maria Ekstrand

*Bit of Research:* Avoiding disclosure of HIV status leads to greater social isolation, poorer mental health, and continuing endorsement of HIV stigmatizing attitudes among HIV+ individuals in Southern India. Disclosure avoidance does NOT lead to fewer enactments of stigma, nor does it shield one from hearing stories about discrimination against others with HIV.

### Context and Correlates of Health Behaviors in South India

[www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/portfolio/2009/Ekstrand\\_M-ContextanCorrelaSIndia2009.pdf](http://www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/portfolio/2009/Ekstrand_M-ContextanCorrelaSIndia2009.pdf)

This collaborative study will look at HIV risk-taking in the context of alcohol consumption among male migrant workers and female sex workers in

South India. We will develop and pilot-test a risk reduction intervention. PI: Maria Ekstrand

### Sex Differences in Patterns of Migration & HIV Risk in Western Kenya

[www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/portfolio/2009/Camlin\\_CMigrationinWesternKenya2009.pdf](http://www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/portfolio/2009/Camlin_CMigrationinWesternKenya2009.pdf)

This study will assess the contribution of female migration to the HIV/AIDS epidemic in western Kenya. We will identify the features of women's migration experience which render it particularly hazardous vis-à-vis their HIV infection risk. PI: Carol Camlin

*Bit of Research:* Our preliminary research in South Africa found that female migrants were at higher risk of HIV infection than were male migrants, or non-migrants of either sex. Moreover, sexual risk behavior was more likely to lead to HIV infection for female migrants than for female non-migrants, and males of either category.

### Strategies for Promoting Male Circumcision through Voluntary Counseling and Testing in Rural Sub-Saharan African Communities

[www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/portfolio/2009/Morin\\_S-MaleCircVCTSubSahaAfrica2009.pdf](http://www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/portfolio/2009/Morin_S-MaleCircVCTSubSahaAfrica2009.pdf)

This project studied logistical and sociocultural challenges involved in promoting male circumcision as a method of HIV prevention in rural districts of Zimbabwe and South Africa. PI: Steve Morin

*Bit of Research:* Participants at both sites identify local ethnic and religious forms of male circumcision, but have different discussions about it. In South Africa, discussions focus on male initiation into manhood and sexual pleasure enhancement for men and women. In Zimbabwe, discussions regard male circumcision as an alien practice.

## International Research - Couples

### Couples-Based Voluntary Counseling and Testing and HIV Prevention in South Africa

[www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/portfolio/2009/Darbes\\_L-CouplesBasedVCTPrevinSAfrica2009.pdf](http://www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/portfolio/2009/Darbes_L-CouplesBasedVCTPrevinSAfrica2009.pdf)

This study has two primary aims. The first is to identify barriers and facilitators for heterosexual couples pertaining to utilizing couples-based

voluntary counseling and testing in Soweto, South Africa. The second is to identify relationship-based predictors of HIV risk behavior in couples (e.g., communication, intimacy, commitment, etc). PI: Lynae Darbes

*Bit of Research:* For a majority of participants (both male and female) relationship factors were the primary motivation for participating. The program served to: develop and deepen relationships; facilitate trust in relationships; and provide a necessary precursor to getting married or having children.

### Developing a Comprehensive Couples-Based Intervention in South Africa

[www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/portfolio/2009/Darbes\\_L-DevelopCompBased.pdf](http://www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/portfolio/2009/Darbes_L-DevelopCompBased.pdf)

The aims of the project are to: 1) determine the ideal components of an integrated package delivering comprehensive HIV and reproductive health services to heterosexual couples in Soweto, South Africa and 2) explore the feasibility and acceptability of such a program. PI: Lynae Darbes

*Bit of Research:* Both men and women indicated a strong interest in a program focused on couples. They wanted it to include other couples so that they could learn from one another; and teach communication skills, so they could better address difficult issues in their relationships.

### Risk Reduction for HIV Serodiscordant Couples Attempting Conception

[www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/portfolio/2009/Brubaker\\_S-RiskReducSerodiscor couplesConception2009.pdf](http://www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/portfolio/2009/Brubaker_S-RiskReducSerodiscor couplesConception2009.pdf)

The goal of this study is to develop a preliminary understanding of the social and cultural context in which HIV serodiscordant couples in Kenya are making the decision to conceive. PI: Sara Brubaker

## International Research - Families and Children

### Effects of HIV/AIDS stigma on use of services by pregnant women in Kenya (the MAMAS Study)

[www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/portfolio/2009/Turan\\_J-MAMAS2009.pdf](http://www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/portfolio/2009/Turan_J-MAMAS2009.pdf)

The MAMAS Study aims to understand the effects of HIV/AIDS stigma on service use by pregnant women in rural Kenya, and to use the knowledge

gained to develop stigma-reduction interventions for this vulnerable group.  
PI: Janet Turan

*Bit of Research:* Anticipated stigma, especially from the male partner and family members, may be an important factor in pregnant women's decisionmaking regarding HIV testing in rural Kenya.

### **Family-Based HIV Voluntary Counseling and Testing in Patients at Risk for Tuberculosis**

[www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/portfolio/2009/Charlebois\\_E-FamilyVCTinPatientsRiskofTB2009.pdf](http://www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/portfolio/2009/Charlebois_E-FamilyVCTinPatientsRiskofTB2009.pdf)

This study tests an intervention based at home and based at Tuberculosis (TB) clinics that integrates HIV rapid testing and voluntary counseling and testing into TB evaluation. PI: Edwin Charlebois

*Bit of Research:* Fear of stigma is often reported as a reason for not seeking HIV testing or evaluation for TB.

### **Project Accept**

[www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/portfolio/2009/Morin\\_S-ProjectAccept2009.pdf](http://www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/portfolio/2009/Morin_S-ProjectAccept2009.pdf)

Project Accept is a multilevel intervention providing community-based HIV mobile voluntary counseling and testing (VCT), community mobilization, and post-test support services. It was evaluated in a trial in Tanzania, Zimbabwe, South Africa, and Thailand. PI: Steve Morin

*Bit of Research:* A five- to nine-fold increase in testing at the African sites indicates that the provision of mobile services, combined with appropriate support activities, may have dramatic effects on utilization of VCT.

### **Project REAC: Prevalence and Duration of False-Positive HIV Test Results in Acute Malaria**

[www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/portfolio/2009/Charlebois\\_E-ProjectREAC2009.pdf](http://www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/portfolio/2009/Charlebois_E-ProjectREAC2009.pdf)

This project will investigate the interaction between acute malaria and false positive HIV test results among children. We will follow 450 HIV- children aged 2-17 years being studied for malaria in Kampala, Uganda.

## **International Research - Young Adults**

### **The Cambodian Young Women's Health Study (YWHS)**

[www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/portfolio/2009/Page\\_K-CambodianYoungWomen2009.pdf](http://www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/portfolio/2009/Page_K-CambodianYoungWomen2009.pdf)

This collaborative study conducts research on prevalence and incidence of HIV, chlamydia, gonorrhea, and human papillomavirus, as well as rates of drug use including amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS) among young women in Phnom Penh, Cambodia working in the sex and entertainment service sectors and who have multiple sexual partners. PI: Kimberly Page

*Bit of Research:* HIV prevalence was 23%. Almost half (42.5%) reported any ATS use, including Yama (41%) or Crystal/Ice (23%).

### **A Formative Study for a Community Mobilization HIV intervention for Young Women in Rural Kenya**

[www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/portfolio/2008/Bangi-WomenKenya.pdf](http://www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/portfolio/2008/Bangi-WomenKenya.pdf)

This project will examine the multi-systemic factors that influence rural young women's health and well-being in Kenya. PI: Audrey K. Bangi

## **Technical Assistance and Capacity Building**

### **Center of Excellence for Transgender Health**

[www.transhealth.ucsf.edu/](http://www.transhealth.ucsf.edu/)

The mission of the Center of Excellence for Transgender Health (CoE) is to provide leadership, capacity building, professional training, policy advocacy, research development, and resources to increase access to culturally competent health care for transgender people in the US. PI: Michael Reyes

### **Rapid HIV Testing in Labor and Delivery (RTLTD) in California**

[www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/portfolio/2009/Reyes\\_M-RTLTD2009.pdf](http://www.caps.ucsf.edu/research/portfolio/2009/Reyes_M-RTLTD2009.pdf)

This capacity building project targets labor and delivery departments in 120 California hospitals to implement HIV rapid testing with women presenting in labor with no previous documented HIV test or prenatal care. PI: Carol Dawson-Rose



## Transitions Project

[www.caps.ucsf.edu/projects/Transitions/](http://www.caps.ucsf.edu/projects/Transitions/)

The Transitions Project provides capacity building assistance (CBA) and technical assistance to community based organizations (CBOs) and health departments throughout the US to promote knowledgeable, sensitive, and effective HIV/AIDS prevention for transgender communities of color and HIV+ transgender people. PI: Greg Rebchook

## Past Research

### CHATS: Developing a Network Intervention to Promote Women's Health

This study developed a network intervention aimed at increasing female condom use among ethnically diverse women. PI: Kyung-Hee Choi

*Bit of Research:* Female condoms supplemented (not replaced) male condom use, so that higher levels of protected sex were obtained.

### Female Condom Intervention Trials (FEMIT)

The FEMIT study developed and evaluated a skills training intervention to increase use of the female condom among ethnically diverse women between the ages of 18 to 39 who engage in multiple sexual partnerships. PI: Kyung-Hee Choi

*Bit of Research:* FEMIT was successful in increasing female condom use and protected sexual acts without reducing male condom use among women.

### GEM – A Gender Economic Model of HIV Risk in African-American and Latina Women

GEM examined the extent to which the intersection of socio-culturally prescribed sexual gender norms and socioeconomic context are associated with sexual risk behaviors among African-American and Latina women in the San Francisco Bay area. PI: Cynthia Gomez

*Bit of Research:* Younger women are more likely to view themselves as having more options and power in relationships. Socioeconomic context, including social capital is perceived as an important precursor to women's ability to decrease their vulnerability to HIV/STDs.

## HIV Prevention Interventions Targeting Asian Masseuses

The Health Project for Asian Women (HPAW) addressed Asian female sex workers at massage parlors in San Francisco, CA, with two interventions: Massage Parlor Owner Education Program and Health Educator Masseuse Counseling Program. PI: Tooru Nemoto

*Bit of Research:* Massage parlor owners/managers do not establish a clear policy for condom use at their parlors. Male customers often manipulate their intention not to use a condom while negotiating with masseuses.

### HOME Project (Health Options Mean Empowerment)

The HOME project designed and tested an intervention to reduce HIV risk among women whose male partner was being released from San Quentin State Prison. Weekly activities addressing HIV/STD prevention, women's health, and population-specific topics such as parole information were held at a center for visitors directly outside of the prison gates. PI: Olga Reznick

*Bit of Research:* The HOME Project helped reduce women's HIV risk and risk behavior in three main areas: 1) decreased unprotected sexual intercourse, 2) increased HIV testing, and 3) increased communication with their partners about HIV-related topics.

### Project ÒRÉ

ÒRÉ is a Yoruba [an African language] word meaning friends

Project ÒRÉ is a randomized, controlled trial of a friendship-based HIV intervention for African American women aged 14-18. PI: Peggy Dolcini

*Bit of Research:* Results for Project ÒRÉ vary by age: there were decreases in risky sex in the oldest group, decreases in multiple partners in the middle age group, and increases in HIV testing in the youngest group.

### Safe in the City

Safe in the City was a brief, inexpensive and easy-to-implement waiting room intervention to reduce new STD infections and risk behavior among clients of STD clinics. A professionally-produced a 23-minute video and accompanying posters were used in waiting rooms. PI: Jeffrey Klausner

*Bit of Research:* Showing a brief video in STD clinic waiting rooms reduced new infections nearly 10% overall in three clinics. Safe in the City is now a DEBI.

# CAPS Resources

## CAPS research and publications with women

[www.caps.ucsf.edu/articles/article.php?kw=women](http://www.caps.ucsf.edu/articles/article.php?kw=women)

## Fact Sheets

[www.caps.ucsf.edu/pubs/FS/](http://www.caps.ucsf.edu/pubs/FS/)

- **What are women's HIV prevention needs?**  
[www.caps.ucsf.edu/pubs/FS/revwomen.php](http://www.caps.ucsf.edu/pubs/FS/revwomen.php)
- **What are Black women's HIV prevention needs?**  
[www.caps.ucsf.edu/pubs/FS/Blackwomen.php](http://www.caps.ucsf.edu/pubs/FS/Blackwomen.php)
- **What are young women's HIV prevention needs?**  
[www.caps.ucsf.edu/pubs/FS/youngwomen.php](http://www.caps.ucsf.edu/pubs/FS/youngwomen.php)
- **What are male-to-female transgender persons' (MtF) HIV prevention needs?**  
[www.caps.ucsf.edu/pubs/FS/revMtF.php](http://www.caps.ucsf.edu/pubs/FS/revMtF.php)
- **What is the role of the family in HIV prevention?**  
[www.caps.ucsf.edu/pubs/FS/family.php](http://www.caps.ucsf.edu/pubs/FS/family.php)

## Survey Instruments

[www.caps.ucsf.edu/tools/surveys/](http://www.caps.ucsf.edu/tools/surveys/)

- Topics include risk behavior, adherence, coping, substance use and knowledge/attitudes.

## Evaluation Manuals

[www.caps.ucsf.edu/pubs/manuals/](http://www.caps.ucsf.edu/pubs/manuals/)

- **Good Questions Better Answers: A Formative Research Handbook for California HIV Prevention Programs**
- **Working Together: A Guide to Collaborative Research in HIV Prevention**

## Intervention Curricula

[www.caps.ucsf.edu/tools/curricula/](http://www.caps.ucsf.edu/tools/curricula/)

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