



Let's talk about PrEP – disclosure of PrEP use among gay and bisexual men.

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Disclosure of PrEP use among gay and bisexual men



Disclosure



Australian researchers have documented disclosure practices among HIV-negative gay and bisexual men over a long period.

Purpose of disclosure:

- To facilitate sexual exclusion of HIV-positive men
- To facilitate serosorting (for any sex, or for condomless anal intercourse)



Disclosure of PrEP use among gay and bisexual men

Serosorting

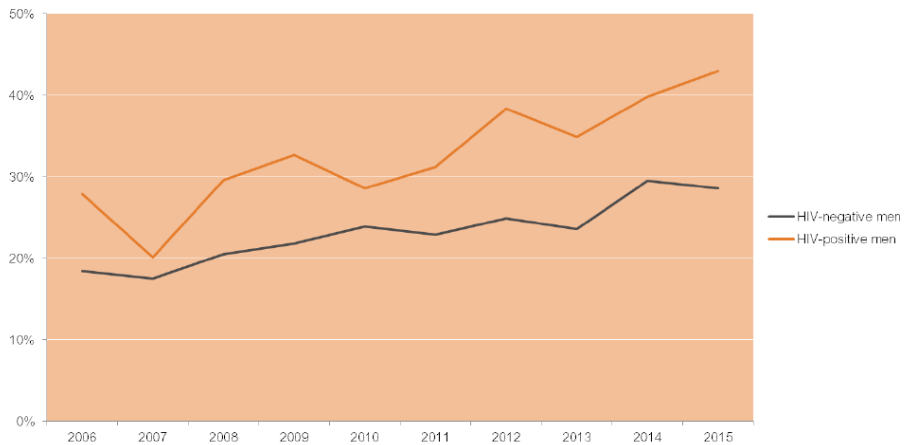
Early ARV-based HIV prevention

Barometer (2009)	N=1,044 (90% HIV-negative, 10% unknown status)	"I only have sex with someone whose HIV status is similar to mine"	37.2%
TAXI-KAB (2011)	n=262 HIV-negative men	"I made sure we were the same HIV status before we fucked without a condom"	52.7% "Often" or "Always"

3



Figure 7: Men with casual partners who reported disclosing their HIV status to all casual partners, by HIV status of participant: GPCS, 2005-2016



Source: Mao et al. 20167, Annual Report of Trends in Behaviour, CSRH

Disclosure of HIV Status to or from casual partners, by HIV status of participants

Table 18: Disclosure of HIV status to or from casual partners, by HIV status of participants

	2013 n (%)	2014 n (%)	2015 n (%)	2016 n (%)	2017 n (%)	Change from 2016 (p-value)	Trend over time (p-value)
HIV-positive men							
Told casual partners	143 (84.1)	134 (77.9)	114 (77.4)	126 (78.8)	130 (76.5)	ns	ns
Told by casual partners	133 (78.2)	120 (69.8)	104 (71.2)	114 (71.3)	115 (67.7)	ns	ns
Total (not mutually exclusive)	170	172	146	160	170		
HIV-negative men							
Told casual partners	732 (59.0)	649 (59.3)	856 (59.7)	1,026 (66.5)	1161 (67.2)	ns	Increase p<.001
Told by casual partners	733 (59.1)	659 (60.2)	870 (60.7)	1,018 (66.0)	1,170 (67.7)	Increase p<.01	Increase p<.001
Total (not mutually exclusive)	1,240	1,095	1,434	1,543	1,728		

Note: This table only includes data from men who reported having casual male partners in the six months prior to the survey.

Disclosure of HIV status by HIV-negative men to casual partners has been increasing over time

Source: Hull et al. 2017, Sydney Gay Community Periodic Survey, CSRH

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Telling Study: Demographic characteristics

n=433 HIV-negative men

Mean age	36
Median age	33
Sexuality	83% gay; 16% bisexual
Education	61% university
Occupation	53% manager/professional
Not on PrEP	356
On PrEP	77

Sample similar to other surveys of GBM
18% of negative men were on PrEP



Results – Condom negotiation

Men on PrEP (n=77)

Condomless anal intercourse with casual partners	88.5%
Described themselves to partners as a non-condom user	50.0%
Were 'pressured' to use condoms by sex partners	55.4%

9



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HIV-negative men not on PrEP (n=356)

Were 'pressured' to not use condoms by sex partners	35.1%
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10



Disclosure of PrEP use among gay and bisexual men  



Disclosure and asking HIV status of casual partners

Men on PrEP (n=77)

Disclosed HIV status to casual partners	87.5%
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11



Disclosure of PrEP use among gay and bisexual men  

Disclosure and asking status of casual partners

Men on PrEP (n=77)

Disclosed HIV status to casual partners	87.5%
Disclosed PrEP status to casual partners	85.5%

12



Disclosure and asking status of casual partners

Men on PrEP (n=77)

Disclosed HIV status to casual partners	87.5%
Disclosed PrEP status to casual partners	85.5%
Asked partners their HIV status	76.8%

13



Conclusions

Gay and bisexual men on PrEP actively discuss HIV status and PrEP use with their sexual partners

Although some PrEP users experience rejection or pressure to use condoms, most are communicating their status freely across a diversity of settings and partner types.

The circumstances that accompany PrEP use may also facilitate more effective disclosure and communication about risk reduction strategies and HIV status.

PrEP is promoting disclosure and discussion; there is an opportunity for us to take advantage of this.

14





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