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The Continual Prevalence of HIV/AIDS within the African American Gay Male Population

Kayla Bartell

Kennesaw State University

Crystal Darby

Kennesaw State University

Julia Wozniacki

Kennesaw State University

Jasmin Cabeza

Kennesaw State University

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Title: The Continual Prevalence of HIV/AIDS within the African American Gay Male Population

Authors: Kayla Bartell, Julia Wozniacki, Crystal Darby, Jasmin Cabeza

Abstract

Background: Black/African American males that identify as gay or bisexual are more affected than any other ethnicity. Countless amounts of young adults who have contracted HIV have below standard medication adherence.

Aim: The purpose of this study is to explore accessibility and adherence to pre-exposure prophylactic medications for young African American gay adults who have contracted HIV.

Methods: The Johns Hopkins Evidence-Based Practice Model and Guidelines were used in the literature review, critical analysis, leveling of evidence, and quality rating. The PRISMA flow diagram was used to map out the number of records for inclusion and exclusion. PubMed, CINAHL plus, and MEDLINE in the last 5 years.

Results: Five articles were included for the review. Stigma and discrimination were main factors influencing readiness to access testing and treatment services. Studies also revealed that African American gay adults were willing to take pre-prophylactic medication like PrEP if provided proper education and access to resources that provide the medication. Moreover, research further uncovered licensed physician's lack of awareness in factors contributing to the disproportionate gap in medication adherence amongst African American gay males and knowledge of PrEP.

Conclusion: This population of young black gay men are at a higher risk for developing HIV and it is imperative health professionals not only recognize this but put action to this issue.