

Clinical and Behavioral Characteristics among HIV+ Persons Receiving Medical Care: Does Gender Matter in Texas?

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- medical care.
- survey during the 2011 cycle.
- abstraction (MRA).
- variables using SAS 9.3 (SAS Institute Cary, North Carolina).



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Male (n=356)	Females (n=102)	Chi Square	P-value
<u>% agreed</u>	<u>% agreed</u>		
65%	70%	I.5274	0.4659
25%	40%	6.8399	0.0327
33%	47%	5.5330	0.0629
31%	45%	4.9081	0.0859
22%	37%	9.1280	0.0104
56%	76%	20.7630	<0.0001

- groups ($\chi 2 = 8.23$, p<0.05) (Fig. 1).
- (Fig. 2).
- level ($\chi 2=15.18$, p<0.0001) (Fig. 3).

- (Table I).

Texas MMP data suggest there are significant differences between HIV+ males and females in care. In addition to using these data for program planning and resource allocation, these results illustrate the need for HIV care and social services with a gender based focus that addresses barriers to care and empowerment. Such efforts may enhance better outcomes and reduce the current health disparities among women. Additional analysis should be conducted to further assess the degree to which socioeconomic factors, depression, and stigma might influence retention in care and clinical outcomes.

- Texas MMP/Houston MMP Participants and Collaborating Healthcare Providers
- Texas MMP/Houston MMP Staff and Management
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)



Results Cont'd

78% of participants were male and 22% were female. Among males and females, 31% and 57% were Black, Non-Hispanic; 33% and 25% were Hispanic, and 33% and 18% were White, Non-Hispanic, respectively. 24% of males compared to 44% of females were in the 18-39 age

• More males (59%) completed higher education than females (38%) ($\chi 2=16.08$, p<0.001)

• More females (62%) than males (37%) reported an income below the 2010 federal poverty

33% of females compared to 17% of males ($\chi 2=9.15$, p<0.01) were depressed (Fig. 4).

• Females (69%) were less likely to have a suppressed viral load (VL) than males (82%) ($\chi 2=4.21$, p<0.05) (Fig. 5). Females were also less likely to have at least two VL tests conducted in the past 12 months (22% compared to 26% for males) and more likely to not have had a test in the past 12 months (14% compared to 6% for males) ($\chi 2=8.73$, p<0.05) (Fig. 6).

• Females were more likely than males to agree with statements indicating feelings of stigma: "...hiding HIV status (76% vs 57%) (χ2=20.76, p<0.0001), "...feeling dirty", (39% vs 26%) $(\chi 2=6.84, p<0.05)$ and "...feelings of worthlessness" (37% vs 22%) ($\chi 2=9.13, p<0.01$)

Conclusions

Acknowledgements

Clinical Outcomes Team, Behavioral and Clinical Surveillance Branch, Behavioral and Clinical Surveillance Branch, Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention,