STIs in MSAW Communities: Examining Challenges, Impacts & Strategies

NCFH & Valley AIDS Council

January 24th, 2024
The **National Center for Farmworker Health** is a private, not-for-profit organization located in Buda, Texas, whose mission is “To improve the health of farmworker families”.

- Population specific data resources and technical assistance
- Workforce development and training
- Health education resources and program development
- Board Governance training
- Program Management
Ag Worker Access Campaign

AG WORKER ACCESS CAMPAIGN
Increasing Access to Quality Healthcare for America's Agricultural Workers

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Today’s Speakers

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STIs in MSAW Communities: Examining Challenges, Impacts & Strategies

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Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement

- Armando Molina has nothing to disclose
- Pedro Coronado has the following to disclose:
  Has been a paid presenter for Gilead Sciences

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▪ SCAETC recognizes that language is constantly evolving, and while we make every effort to avoid bias and stigmatizing terms, we acknowledge that unintentional lapses may occur in our presentations.

▪ We value your feedback and encourage you to share any concerns related to language, images, or concepts that may be offensive or stigmatizing.

▪ Your input will help us refine and improve our presentations, ensuring they remain inclusive and respectful to participants.
Learning Objectives

1. Define common risk factors in agricultural communities that make individuals more susceptible to STIs,
2. Recognize basic signs and symptoms of common STIs to promote early detection and treatment.
3. Promote effective preventive measures, including safe sexual practices and awareness of available resources, to reduce the risk of STIs within MSAW.
Overview of Sexually Transmitted Infections
A Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) is an infection that is spread by sexual contact. STIs don’t discriminate – they infect sexually active people from all races, social classes and religions. If not treated, many STIs can cause health problems such as Pelvic Inflammatory Disease (PID), infertility, ectopic pregnancy, and an increased risk for HIV transmission.
ANYONE WHO HAS SEX COULD GET AN STD, BUT SOME GROUPS ARE MORE AFFECTED:

YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 15-24, GAY & BISEXUAL MEN, PREGNANT PEOPLE, RACIAL & ETHNIC MINORITY GROUPS.
1.6 million cases of Chlamydia
3.8% decrease since 2017
710,151

710,151 cases of gonorrhea
28% increase since 2017
176,713

176,713 cases of syphilis
74% increase since 2017
2,855

2,855 cases of syphilis among newborns
203% increase since 2017

https://www.cdc.gov/std/statistics/info graphic.htm
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bacteria or Virus</th>
<th>Bacterial STIs</th>
<th>Viral STIs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>An STI that is caused by bacteria can be treated with antibiotic pills or injections. Bacterial STIs can be cured, but they can also be re-acquired if safer sex practices are not followed.</td>
<td></td>
<td>An STI that is caused by a virus cannot be cured. This means that the infection – and the risk of spreading the virus – lasts a lifetime.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Common Risk Factors for STIs
STI Common Risk Factors

- Unprotected Sex
- Lack of Access to Care
- Absence of Sexual Health Literacy
- Drug and Alcohol Use
- Multiple Sexual Partners
- Lack of Regular Testing
- Inconsistent or Incorrect Condom Use
- Lack of Access to Care
- Absence of Sexual Health Literacy
- Drug and Alcohol Use
- Multiple Sexual Partners
- Lack of Regular Testing
- Inconsistent or Incorrect Condom Use
- Unprotected Sex
Research shows that there are higher rates of STDs among some racial or ethnic minority groups. It is important to understand that these higher rates are not caused by ethnicity or heritage, but by social conditions that are more likely to affect minority groups. Factors such as poverty, large gaps between the rich and the poor, fewer jobs, and low education levels can make it more difficult for people to stay sexually healthy.
Farmworkers in the US are disproportionately affected by the intersecting epidemics of HIV and sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

HIV prevalence has been reported between 2.6% [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC),] and 13% [Jones, et al.,] among farmworkers in the eastern US, whereas within the general US population, the HIV prevalence is estimated to be 0.6% [CDC,].

Rates for STIs are frequently two to four times higher among Hispanics/Latinos than among whites.
STI Risk Factors

People who cannot afford basic needs may have trouble accessing quality sexual health services.

In communities with higher STI rates, sexually active people may be more likely to get an STI because they have greater odds of selecting a partner who has an STI.
Over two million farmworkers labor in the United States (US) each year. These farmworkers are overwhelmingly Hispanic/Latino, with most being natives of Mexico [Carroll, et al.].

Data describing current STI infection rates among farmworkers in the US are extremely limited.
According to the 2018 U.S. Census report, the year 2030 marks a demographic turning point for the United States. The nation's population is projected to age considerably and become more racially and ethnically diverse. The population of people who are more than one race is projected to be the fastest growing racial or ethnic group over the next several decades, followed by Asian Americans and Hispanic/Latino Americans.

With the growing diversity – many will witness its impact in our workforce, schools, environments, and social settings. Though health indicators such as life expectancy and infant mortality have improved for most Americans, some people from racial and ethnic minority groups experience a disproportionate burden of preventable disease, death, and disability compared with non-Hispanic White people.
In addition to being among the states with the largest numbers of farmworkers, North Carolina has high rates of AIDS and STDs.

- North Carolina ranks tenth in the nation in reported cases of AIDS and sixth for reported cases of gonorrhea.
- About 36% of the US population lives in the South, but the region has 40% of all people living with AIDS and 46% of newly-identified cases.
STI Early Detection & Treatment
Signs of STIs

- Discharge from your vagina or penis
- Sores or bumps on and around your genitals, thighs, or butt cheeks
- Burning when you pee and/or having to pee a lot
- Itching, pain, irritation and/or swelling in your penis, vagina, vulva, or anus
- Flu-like symptoms like fever, body aches, swollen glands, and feeling tired.
CDC Guidelines For STI Testing

- All adults and adolescents from ages 13 to 64
- Sexually active women
- Everyone who is pregnant
- Gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men
- Anyone who shares injection drug equipment
- People who have had oral or anal sex

https://www.cdc.gov/std/prevention/screeningreccs.htm
https://gettested.cdc.gov/
PREVENT THE SPREAD OF STIs WITH THREE SIMPLE STEPS:

LEFT UNTREATED, STDS CAN CAUSE:

- INCREASED RISK OF GIVING OR GETTING HIV
- LONG-TERM PELVIC/ABDOMINAL PAIN
- INABILITY TO GET PREGNANT OR PREGNANCY COMPLICATIONS

Talk  Test  Treat
Effective Preventative Measures
Prevention Methods

- Sexual Health Literacy
- Abstinence
- Substance use Prevention
- Assertive Communication
- Don’t Share Needles
- Use Lube
- Use a **Condom Consistently**
- & **Correctly**.
- **Use Water Based Lube With Condoms**
External Condom Demo

https://youtu.be/jPUCr
Internal Condom Demo

https://youtu.be/qt4J57SYrGg
Innovated Engagement: Sin Vergüenza
¡LISTO! AltaMed PrEP Campaign

https://youtu.be/2pJs_u2i8
Valley AIDS Council Services

- Primary outpatient care to anyone who is infected or affected by HIV/AIDS in South Texas.
- Only HIV/AIDS comprehensive continuum of care in the RGV.
- Offers medical services, labs, substance use treatment, mental & behavioral health, pharmacy, dental care, case management services and housing assistance.
- Offers free education presentations on HIV/STI and Hepatitis
- Offers free HIV/STI and Hepatitis C testing
References

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
  https://www.cdc.gov/std/health-disparities/default.htm#ftn2
  https://www.cdc.gov/minorityhealth/
  https://www.cdc.gov/std/prevention/screeningreccs.htm
  https://gettested.cdc.gov/
- NIH, National Library of Medicine
  https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3668338
- Tulane University
  campushealth.tulane.edu
- AltaMed
  https://www.altamed.org/svseries
Resources

- National Clinician Consultation Center
  [http://nccc.ucsf.edu/](http://nccc.ucsf.edu/)
  - HIV Management
  - Perinatal HIV
  - HIV PrEP
  - HIV PEP line
  - HCV Management
  - Substance Use Management

- Present on ECHO
  - [https://hsc.unm.edu/scaetc/programs-services/echo.html](https://hsc.unm.edu/scaetc/programs-services/echo.html)

- AETC National HIV Curriculum
  [https://aidsetc.org/nhc](https://aidsetc.org/nhc)

- AETC National Coordinating Resource Center

- HIVMA Resource Directory

- Additional trainings
  [scaetcecho@salud.unm.edu](mailto:scaetcecho@salud.unm.edu)

- [www.scaetc.org](http://www.scaetc.org)
PLEASE FOLLOW THE SCAETC ON SOCIAL MEDIA

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NCFH Additional Resources

Helpline for Farmworkers and their families

- Connects Farmworkers to healthcare and social services
- Assists with limited financial resources for health services

Una Voz Para La Salud
Call for Health

1 (800) 377-9968
1 (737) 414-5121 WhatsApp
http://www.ncfh.org/callforhealth.html

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The Farmworker Health Network works cooperatively with HRSA to provide training and technical assistance to over a thousand Community & Migrant Health Centers throughout the U.S.
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