Partner Communication for HIV Prevention Among Refugee Hispanic Women in South Florida

Rosina Cianelli¹, PhD, Natalia Villegas¹, PhD, Brian E. McCabe¹, PhD, Lila de Tantillo¹, PhDc, Nilda (Nena) Peragallo Montano², DrPH

¹University of Miami School of Nursing and Health Studies
²University of North Carolina School of Nursing

### Background
- Increasing refugees worldwide
- Over 69,000 refugees into US (2013)
  - Florida leads US
- Refugees who are Hispanic Women have increased risk for HIV
- Communication with partners protects against HIV

### Purpose
To assess whether age, years living in the US, insurance, self-esteem, number of partners, having a stable relationship with a male partner are related to partner communication for HIV prevention among RHW in Florida

### Methods
- 99 refugees were interviewed in Spanish or English w/ standardized protocol
- Baseline data from RCT
  - SEPA (Health, Education, Prevention, Self-Care)
- Eligibility criteria:
  - Woman
  - Self identified as Hispanic
  - 18 to 50 years old
  - Sexual activity in the last 3 months
  - Refugee in US no more than 7 years
- Partner communication dichotomized: high or low
- Logistic regression in SPSS 22

### Results
- Communication with partner about HIV: M = 3.31, SD = 3.25, range 0–10
  - 32% had **NO communication with their partners about HIV**
    - Only 25% had 6 or above (on a 10-point scale)
- Multiple partners was positively related to partner communication,
  \[ B = 1.52, \ SE = .68, \ p = .026, \ OR = 4.59. \]
- Stable relationship with a male partner was negatively related to partner communication,
  \[ B = -1.26, \ SE = 0.44, \ p = .004, \ OR = .28. \]

### Conclusions
- Very low communication with partners about HIV.
- Culturally competent sexual health education interventions address low communication.
  - Increase or facilitate communication
  - Adapt interventions for people based on level of communication between partners
- This study expands of knowledge about Hispanic refugee women in the US

### References:

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