

Clinical Sciences - Poster Abstracts / Sciences cliniques - Abrégés affiches

Abstract #11

Receipt of mpox vaccine among gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men living with HIV: Findings from the Ontario HIV Treatment Network Cohort Study

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Background: Gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men (GBMSM) have experienced a disproportionate burden of the mpox outbreak that started in 2022. GBMSM who meet the eligibility criteria (i.e., sexually transmitted infection [STI] in the past year, have two or more sexual partners, and attend venues for sexual contact, or have anonymous sex) were prioritized for publicly funded mpox vaccination (two-dose series). We identified factors associated with receipt of mpox vaccine among GBMSM living with HIV and receiving HIV care in Ontario.

Methods: Using annual questionnaires (2023-2024) from the Ontario HIV Treatment Network Cohort Study (OCS), we measured self-reported receipt of mpox vaccine. We used a modified Poisson regression to calculate prevalence ratios and 95% confidence intervals adjusted for age, education, and OCS site in the entire sample and a subset who were eligible for publicly funded vaccination.

Results: Of the 1518 GBMSM included in the sample (median age: 58 years; 72% white; 66% born in Canada; 73% in Toronto area), 607 (40.0%) had received ≥ 1 dose; among one-dose recipients, 330 (54.4%) completed the two-dose series. There was higher receipt of mpox vaccine (≥ 1 dose) among GBMSM who were born in Canada, received care in Toronto or Ottawa, had CD4 cells count of ≥ 500 cells/mm³, had higher income, used recreational drugs, were concerned about mpox, had been diagnosed with a STI, had multiple sexual partners, sought sexual partners from sex venues or using dating apps/websites, and had received other vaccines. Findings were similar among the 576 GBMSM who were eligible for publicly funded vaccination although receipt of ≥ 1 dose was higher (58.9%) than the entire sample.

Discussion: Tailored strategies that address low risk perceptions, promote equitable vaccine access and uptake, and ensure completion of the two-dose series are needed given the ongoing mpox virus transmission in Ontario.