



National HIV Prevention Conference

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[TITLE:] PREVENTION WITH HIGH RISK YOUNG LATINO MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN IN URBAN SETTINGS

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ISSUE: Young Latino men (ages 18 to 25) who have sex with men (YLMSM) in urban settings account for a disproportionate number of new infections among youth. Factors contributing to the discrepancy include racial discrimination, HIV/AIDS stigma, sexual orientation, substance use, and lack of access to HIV testing.

KEY POINTS: In this roundtable, participants will hear about the successes and challenges of an innovative pilot project that combined rapid HIV testing, incentives (such as movie passes), late night operating hours, youth friendly staff, and targeted outreach at bars and nightclubs in an effort to reach high risk YLMSM. Participants will then discuss other effective outreach and intervention methods best suited for this high risk, hard-to-reach population. The discussion will address the following issues: effective outreach and intervention strategies for the YLMSM community, the effect of alcohol/drugs, sexual orientation, and racial discrimination as it relates to high risk behavior, and examples of innovative approaches to reduce HIV risk and promote early diagnosis of HIV infection.

IMPLICATIONS: Effective HIV prevention and health promotion efforts in urban young Latino MSM communities must reflect the special needs and preferences of these populations. Recognizing common barriers and sharing best practices will improve HIV program planning and delivery in urban settings.



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