Background

Men who have sex with men (MSM) who have a single serodiscordant partner have a relatively low risk of HIV transmission if that partner’s HIV viral load is suppressed, however, these same individuals still seek pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) with tenofovir/emtricitabine (TDF/FTC) however, these same individuals still seek pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) with tenofovir/emtricitabine (TDF/FTC).

Objective

• To explore the behavioral risk factors of MSM in single serodiscordant partnerships compared to other MSM that started PrEP.

Methods

• Subjects were sexually active HIV-uninfected MSM enrolled at four Southern California sites to receive pre-exposure prophylaxis.
• Subjects are in study that is randomized (1:1) to either TDF/FTC with routine prevention services and TDF/FTC/ prevention services and text message reminders for prophylaxis.
• Subjects were sexually active HIV-uninfected MSM enrolled at four Southern California sites to receive pre-exposure prophylaxis.
• Subjects are in study that is randomized (1:1) to either TDF/FTC with routine prevention services and TDF/FTC/ prevention services and text message reminders for prophylaxis.
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Results

Baseline Characteristics

• There were 399 individuals in analysis.
• Baseline characteristics (table 1) found that 49% had at least one regular HIV+ partner, and 12% had only a single serodiscordant partner as their risk for HIV.
• Baseline characteristics (table 1) found that 49% had at least one regular HIV+ partner, and 12% had only a single serodiscordant partner as their risk for HIV. Among that group 91% reported that their single partner was on antiretroviral medication and all but two of them were confident their partners were suppressed on there medication.

Results

Comparison of PrEP users with Single Serodiscordant Partner with those with multiple partners (median partner number past three months) ≥ 7, IQR 4-12

Those with a single serodiscordant partner:
• Were more likely to be Hispanic (51.1% vs. 27.2%, p=0.002)
• Less likely to have an STI (10.6% vs. 27.9%, p=0.01)
• Had lower sexual compulsivity scores (1.4 vs. 1.7, p<0.001).
• Less than half the rate of any reported methamphetamine use (6.3% compared to 17.3%, p=0.057)
• Higher median condomless anal sex acts in past month (median of 2, IQR 0-8.5, versus 1, IQR 0.4, p=0.162).

Conclusions

• Individuals who have a single serodiscordant partner usually suppressed on ARVs still seek HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis.
• Sexual behavior and STI data support that these individuals are lower risk for HIV acquisition.
• These findings suggest that despite possible low risk of transmission there are perceived benefits of PrEP for individuals with a single serodiscordant partner.

Further longitudinal data are needed to study changes in sexual behaviors of PrEP users in serodiscordant partnerships for change in partner number and practices.

Acknowledgments

This work was supported by the California HIV/AIDS Research Program RN07-50372, MOB5-50372, and 5-1H1N50372. The funders had no role in study design, data collection and analysis, decision to publish, or preparation of the manuscript.