

High HIV-1 incidence in Men who have sex with Men Mombasa, Kenya

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welcome trust



Collaborative Partnership

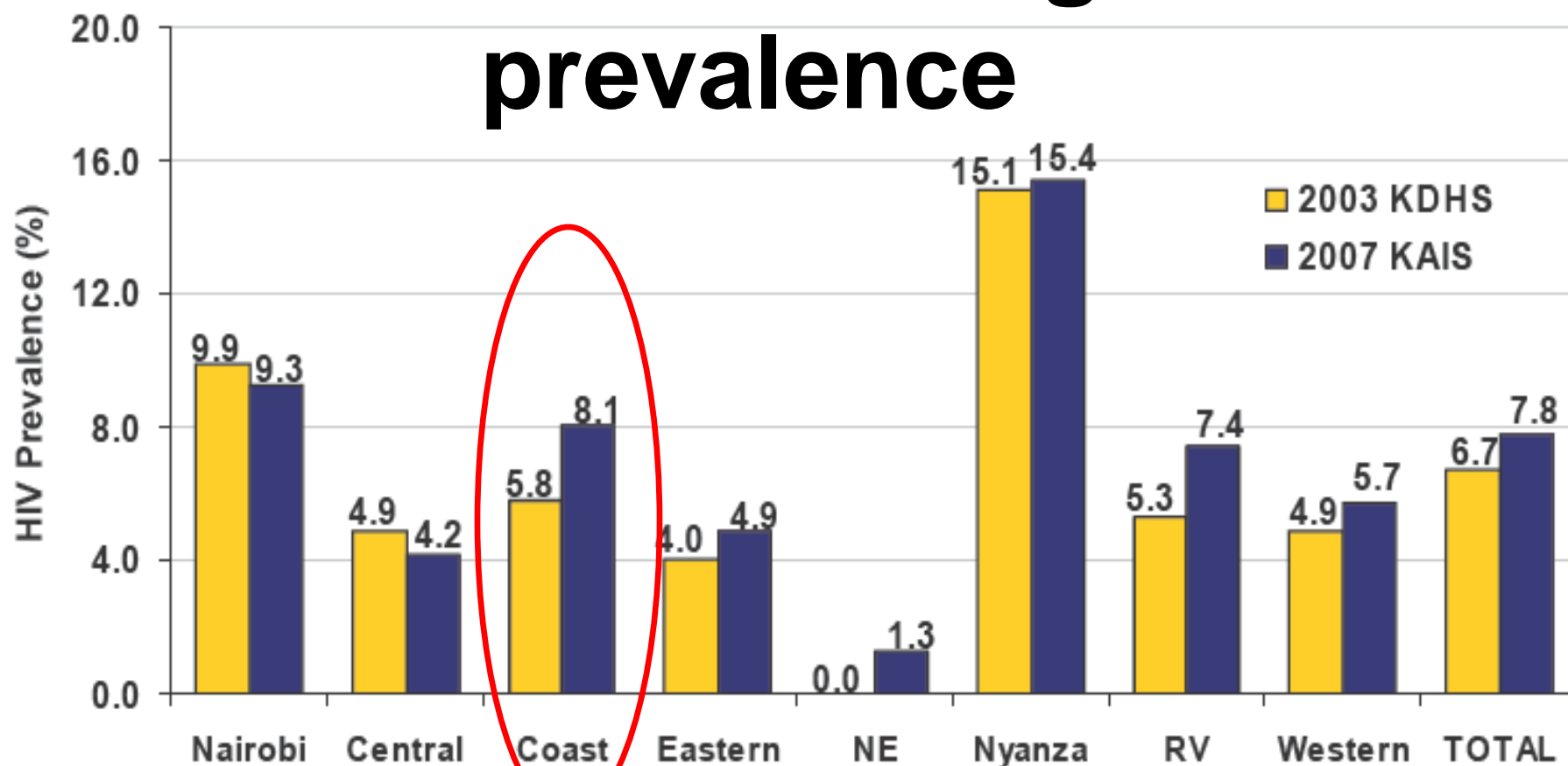


2003 KDHS and 2007 KAIS HIV Prevalence by Province



Ages 15-49

Coast 3rd highest prevalence



Project mission

- Prevent HIV in high risk communities
- Conduct HIV/STI studies in HIV negative and positive volunteers
- Prepare for intervention trials
 - PrEP – supported by IAVI
 - Behaviour – Oxford & Brown Universities

Two big taboos in HIV epidemic in Africa

- Male same sex behaviour
- But in Kenya
 - Since 2003: Behaviour surveys without HIV testing, Nairobi & Mombasa
- KEMRI in Mombasa
 - since 2005: counsel and test MSM and enrol in MSM cohort studies

The other TABOO = anal SEX

In Hetero-sexual couples



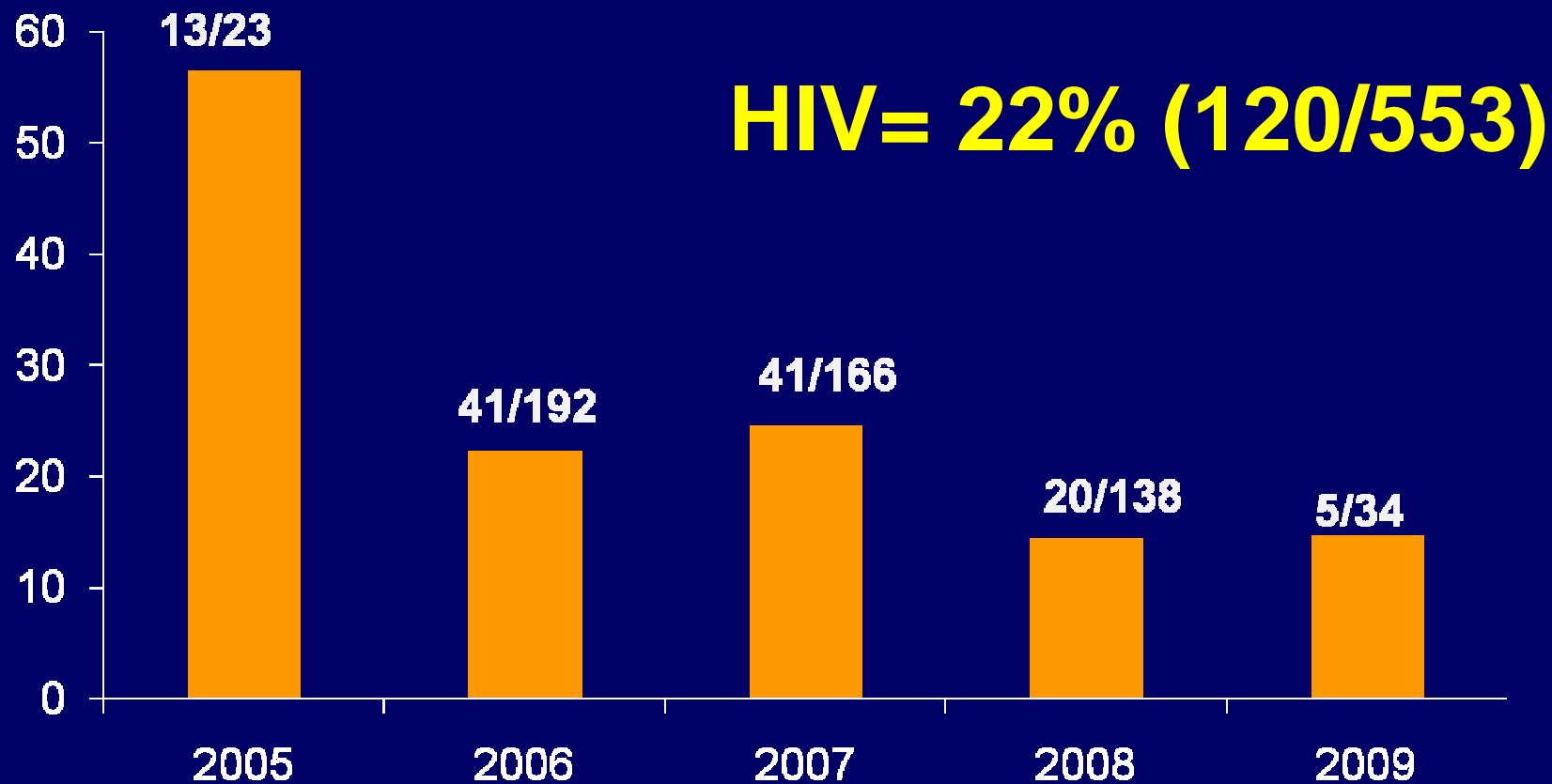
Cohort enrolment

- Both high risk men & women
 - Ongoing, Peer's & evening mobilisations
 - Support groups (e.g. 'Stay a live', 'Credible ladies')
- Criteria
 - Transactional sex
 - Anal sex
 - STI, HIV-1 pos partner

Monthly or 3-monthly FU procedures & services

- HIV neg & pos volunteers access 3-monthly STD screening and comprehensive care
- Sexual behaviour history, including:
 - Sex with men, women, or both
 - Use of condoms for anal sex, intra-venous drug use, type of clients served
 - 3-month recall of anal sex practise (insertive / receptive)

HIV (%) at screening of MSM, by year of enrolment, 2005-09



Socio-demo characteristics by sex partner preference of 285 MSM

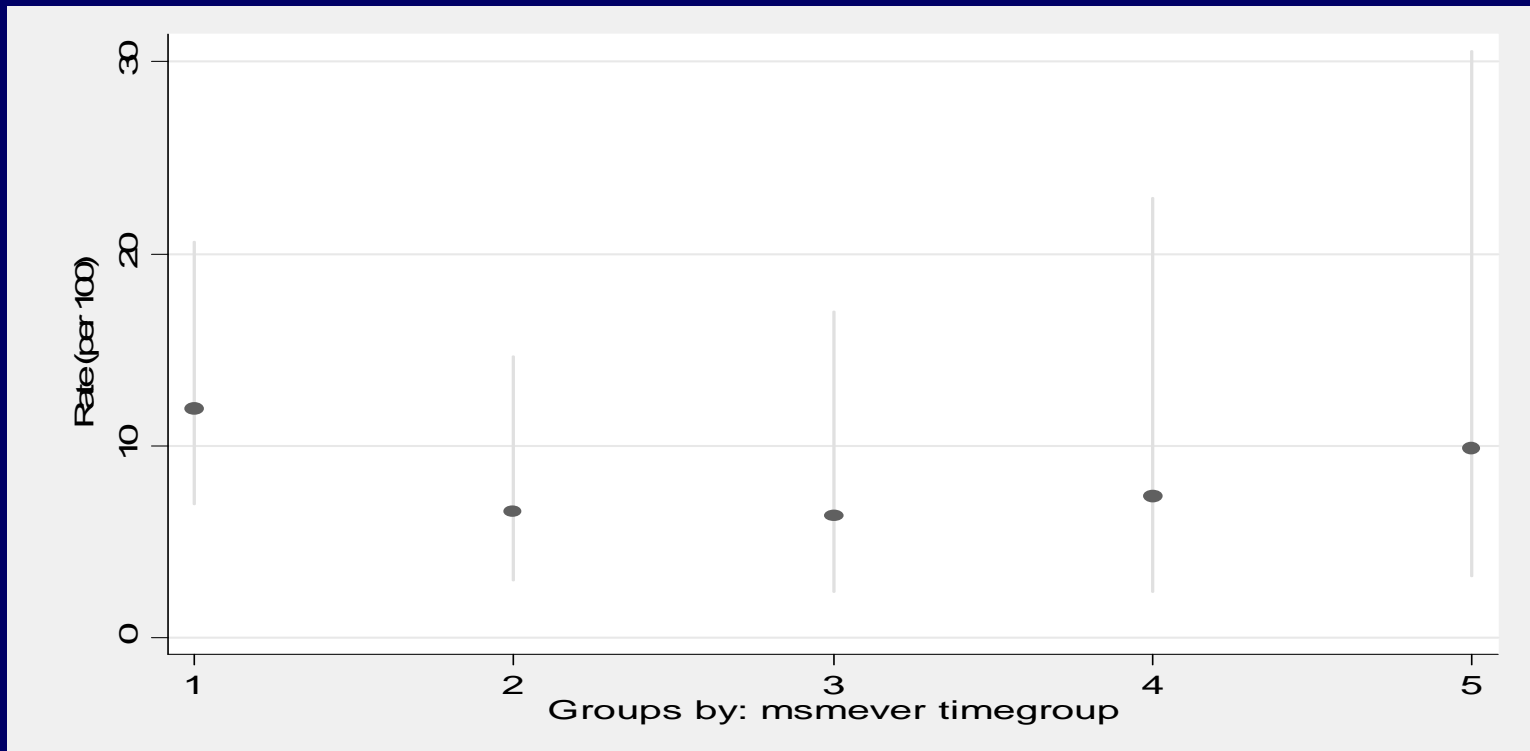
Characteristic		MSM-only n=114	MSM-both n =171
Age (yr)	Median (IQR)	27 (23-29)	28 (23-35)
Education	Median yrs	8 (7-11)	8 (6-11)
Employment	Formal	18%	18%
Marital status	Single	96%	77% *
Religion	None	7%	15%
Circumcision		90%	93%

* p<0.05

Comparison of risk factors by partner preference of MSM, and HIV-prevalence

	MSM-only N=114	MSM-both N=171	p
Payment for sex	75%	74%	0.8
No Condom use with anal sex	36%	38%	0.3
No Condom use with casual partner	46%	43%	0.4
IV drug use	1%	2%	0.5
Any insertive anal sex	46%	91%	<0.001
Any receptive anal sex	75%	40%	<0.001
Both ins. + recep. sex	25%	32%	0.17
HIV-1 positive	43%	12%	<0.001
Active syphilis	7%	1.2%	0.009

HIV incidence in MSM, by periods of 6 months follow up



Overall HIV inc = 8.7 (6.0-12.5) 100 person years

Conclusions

- MSM have become interested to participate in research in Kenya
- Community engagement & service provision go hand-in-hand
- Decline in HIV prevalence by recruitment year suggests a somewhat lower risk for HIV in newly enrolled MSM

Conclusions II

- High incidence over time suggests a continued exposure to HIV
- Preliminary speculations
 - Low condom use & use of lubricants
 - Low perception of risk despite counselling
 - Alcohol & substance use may be high
 - Sex worker client perception of risk of anal sex is low and clients do not use condoms

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