

Estimated Incidence of HIV Acquisition Due to Prison Rape in the U.S.

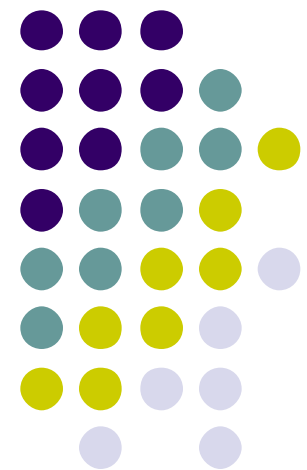
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Prison Population (2004)

- 2 million+ adults in US prisons and jails
 - 1.5 million in federal and state prisons
 - 93% men
- Prison inmates disproportionately affected by HIV
 - 1.9% of men and 2.8% of women *known* to have HIV
 - True prevalence likely higher
- Unknown transmission rates *within* prisons



Sexual Assault in Prisons

- 1.9% of inmates are raped or seriously assaulted (NIJ, 2004)
- Many inmates are raped repeatedly while incarcerated
- Often, incidents involve multiple perpetrators
- Rape causes physical and psychological trauma
 - Victims cannot “escape” from perpetrator(s)

Prison Rape Elimination Act



- Goal: To eliminate sexual violence in US prisons
- Funding for research and prevention
- PREA expresses concern over potential for HIV transmission:
“Prison rape undermines the public health by contributing to the spread of [HIV and other STIs]... often giving a potential death sentence to its victims”

HIV Transmission Due to Prison Rape



- Few reported cases
- Incidence unknown
- Scope of problem?
- Mathematical model of incarcerated men
 - Estimate: 1) Likelihood of acquiring HIV if raped
 - 2) Number of men who acquire HIV from prison rape



Mathematical Model

- Model focuses on male-male anal rape
- For a particular man, likelihood of acquiring HIV due to rape:

$$P(\text{HIV}) = P(\text{raped}) * P(\text{HIV if raped})$$

- P(HIV if raped) depends on
 - 1) # rape incidents
 - 2) # perps per rape incident
 - 3) perps' HIV status
 - 4) probability of transmission per rape act



Mathematical Model

- P_k = Prob of acquiring HIV from k^{th} assailant
= $\pi \cdot [1 - (1 - \alpha)^n]$

where: n = #times raped by assailant

π = prob assailant has HIV

α = prob of HIV transmission during single act of anal rape

- $P(\text{HIV if raped}) = 1 - (1 - P_1) \cdot (1 - P_2) \cdot \dots \cdot (1 - P_m)$

where: m = total number of assailants



Four Scenarios

- 1) Single incident / single perpetrator (1/6th of men)
 - 2) Single incident / multiple perpetrators (1/6th of men)
 - 3) Multiple incidents / single perpetrator (1/3rd of men)
 - 4) Multiple incidents / multiple perpetrators (1/3rd of men)
- **** 1 to 8 incidents involving 1 to 5 perps
- Scenario probabilities and numbers of incidents and perps derived from Struckman-Johnson et al. (1996)
 - 474 men in midwest prison surveyed
 - > 10% reported anal rape



Results: P(HIV if raped)

<u>Scenario</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>P(HIV if raped)</u>
Single incident / single perp	16.7	1 in 2381
Single incident / multiple perps	16.7	1 in 477
Multiple incidents / single perp	33.3	1 in 319
Multiple incidents / multiple perps	33.3	1 in 98
<i>Overall</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>1 in 206</i>

Assumes $\alpha = 0.02$, $\beta = 2.1\%$

Results: P(HIV) & #Infections



- If 1% of men are raped in prison:
 $P(\text{HIV}) = 0.0049\%$ (1 in 20,572)
==> An incarcerated man faces a 1 in 20,000 risk of acquiring HIV
- Of 1.4 million men incarcerated in US prisons, 68 already have, or will, acquire HIV as a result of being raped
 - Plausible range: 43 to 93



Limitations: Empirical Data

- Official records are unreliable
 - Rape is underreported
 - Fear of reprisal
 - Don't want to be a troublemaker
- Survey studies
 - Generally, small N
 - Methodological challenges
- NIJ has funded several new studies



Result Summary

- Single incident w/ 5 assailants ==> 1 in 500 risk of HIV
- Multiple incidents: risk as high as 1 in 100
- *Men who are raped in prison are at significant risk of acquiring HIV*
- 1 in 20,000 incarcerated men acquire HIV due to prison rape

Conclusions



- # of men who acquire HIV due to prison rape is “relatively small”
- 1 in 20,000 HIV risk is unacceptably high
- Consistent with Prison Rape Elimination Act:

1 HIV infection is too many

1 rape is too many