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Biology 293

Personal Research Paper

December 12, 2018

My original thoughts for my research paper was on modified helper T cells and it’s potential to cure AIDS. Although my original interest was in AIDS, I realized that there was not enough adequate information in primary article for the helper T cells and too much on just AIDS. I have decided since my interest is AIDS to report about the beginning stages or HIV and how it pertains to adolescent boys. Due to the lack of conversation in my life I often forget that in parts of this world AIDS and HIV is still very pertinent including in our very own country and this disease has effects children. As my interest grew from a death of a very important person in my life, my mother, who was both HIV positive and AIDS I believe it is still important to talk about.

It is common knowledge that HIV is spread through bodily fluids. In this study, they examined HIV that was sexually transmitted. It takes up one to six months after exposure to HIV for your body to build up any “measurable quantities of antibodies” to this disease. By this time your immune system is already failing (HIV).

This research study was conducted because scientist was trying to prove that there would be benefits to providing prevention services for HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases among the community. What was learned was that just within the United States adolescent boy were contracting sexually transmitted diseases including HIV at high rates particularly among the gay community. The data that was analyzed for this research study was collecting over the course of years, 2005-2013. It is important to note that the acronym ASMM, is used a lot in the charts and data, represents adolescent sexual minority males. ASMM was defined as males in high school, grades 9-12, who identify as gay or bisexual having sex with only men or both sexes. Data from 26 youth risk behavior survey where used for its findings (Sharma). For this primary article the data was represented in six tables and one figure, I will discuss the tables one and two.

Table one simply looked at which states among the 26 had any available data according to year. This included variables for ASMM categorization and variables for outcome categorizations. “outcome” being a lifetime of HIV testing. According to this table the data was inconsistent. With the expectation of Massachusetts who provided all the years with all the data, no one location had all the years and some only had the most recent year, 2013, but not even all the data for that year. Table two is data that supports lifetime HIV testing behavior among ASMM. This table specifically arranged them by age and then grade. The results of this study showed that in a selected demographic there is 2596 ASMM overall with a higher rate of non-Hispanic black males have been tested for HIV. In the US there is still low levels of testing among the group and still a high rate of unprotected sex within. It was argued after this study that preventions would be a benefit (Sharma).

This pertains to cell biology because those adolescent boys or anyone who many contract HIV will go through serious biological changes. This virus starts by attaching itself to the dendritic cells upon arrival for transportation. Once it has reached the lymphoid tissue it produces an infection, multiples, and then disperses throughout the body. In a plan of defense against this virus your body accidently replicates the virus. Ultimately leading to the down fail of the immune system (HIV).

HIV and AIDS Tutorial. *Biology.arizona.edu* (2018). at <http://www.biology.arizona.edu/immunology/tutorials/AIDS/HIVimmune.html>

Sharma A, e. HIV and Sexually Transmitted Disease Testing Behavior Among Adolescent Sexual Minority Males: Analysis of Pooled Youth Risk Behavior Survey Data, 2... - PubMed - NCBI. *Ncbi.nlm.nih.gov* (2018). at <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/28145800>