

Club drug use, sexual behavior, and HIV seroconversion: A qualitative study of motivations

Author(s)

Jerome R, Halkitis P, Siconolfi D.

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Abstract

This qualitative study funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse examines phenomenological meanings surrounding motivations for club drug use in a sample of HIV seroconverted and seronegative gay and bisexual men. Grounded in the cognitive escape model (CEM), this study sought to clarify the synergistic relationship between club drug use, risky sexual behavior, and seroconversion. Sixteen seropositive participants were drawn from a large-scale ($n = 450$), longitudinal, mixed-method investigation of club drug use among gay and bisexual men in New York City from 2001-2004 and matched with 16 seronegative participants for race/ethnicity, most-frequently used substance, and educational level. Total sample size consisted of 32 participants. Sample size consisted of 13 (41%) Black/African-American, 12 (37.5%) White/Caucasian, 5 (15.5%) Hispanic/Latino, and 2 (6%) mixed/other race/ethnicity participants. Findings suggest behavioral outcomes of club drug use and HIV seroconversion result from complex interactions between physical, emotional, and social motivations.

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