



## Momentum Health Study Newsletter

### Spring 2015

#### Introductions & Welcomes

In early 2015, the Momentum Study team welcomed three new Research Assistants to support manuscript development during the spring semester: Angela Cullen, Joshun Dulai, and Sally Lin. They have been a productive addition to our team, working on planned papers to disseminate our findings related to mental health and substance use, sexual risk definitions, and PEP and PrEP awareness.

#### Recruitment Update

Momentum closed enrollment into our cohort early this year, on February 28, 2015. As of the close date the sample consisted of 696 participants including 495 HIV-negative and 201 HIV-positive men.

Follow-up visits have been running smoothly. Our 7<sup>th</sup> visit follow-up questionnaire went live in mid-March with our first set of guys already completing their 7<sup>th</sup> visits. On average, we have 1.6 years of follow-up per cohort participant.

	Enrollment to date	Target	% of Target
<b>Total Enrolled</b>	772		
<b>Cross-section*</b>	719	750	95.9%
<b>Cohort**</b>	696	650	102.4%
<b>HIV + cohort</b>	201	270	74.4%
<b>HIV - cohort</b>	495	410	120.7%

\*closed Feb 28, 2014

\*\*closed Feb 28, 2015

#### Publications

As analysis of early data from the initial cross-section is underway, we are pleased to report that we have submitted two manuscripts for peer-review at scientific journals since the last newsletter. These papers are currently under review at the following journals:

1. *Culture, Health & Sexuality*- "Subcultures, Substance Use, Sexual Behaviour, and Sero-Adaptive Strategies of Vancouver Gay and Bisexual Men who Recently Attended Group Sex Events"
2. *Global Public Health*- "Sexual HIV risk, health, and care for transgender men: Findings from a mixed methods study of MSM in Vancouver, Canada"

These are among our first papers, with several other manuscripts currently in development. With cohort enrolment now closed, the study team is beginning to work on planned longitudinal analyses.

#### Community Advisory Board

The Momentum Community Advisory Board met in March at the office of our community partner Health Initiative for Men (HIM) to advise the continuation of the study and provide feedback on our current and planned work. In particular, the Momentum CAB was engaged in discussion of potential qualitative projects with Momentum participants who have used PEP, are currently on PrEP, report using GHB, or seroconverted.



## Conferences

### CAHR 2015

The Momentum team will be presenting 8 abstracts at the upcoming Canadian Association of HIV Research (CAHR) conference to be held in Toronto April 30 - May 3:

1. Oral presentation on "Substance Use, Sexual Behaviour, and Sero-Adaptive Strategies of Vancouver Gay and Bisexual "Group Sex Event (GSE)" Attendees" by Dr. Roth
2. Oral presentation on "Condom Use During Anal Intercourse and Other Prevention Strategies Among HIV-Positive MSM in Vancouver, British Columbia" by Terry Howard and Dr. Lachowsky
3. Poster on "Estimating the Size of the MSM Population Using Multiple Methods and Data Sources in Vancouver, British Columbia" by Dr. Moore
4. Poster on "Characteristics and Rates of Newly Infected HIV-Positive Gay, Bisexual and other Men Who Have Sex With Men (MSM) in Vancouver, British Columbia: Preliminary Findings of the Momentum Health Study" by Dr. Lachowsky
5. Poster on "Awareness of Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) amongst Gay and Other Men Who Have Sex with Men (MSM) in Vancouver, BC" by Ashleigh Rich
6. Poster on "Making Sense of the Inclusion of Transgender Men and their HIV Risk Profile within a Bio-behavioural Population Study of Gay and other Men Who Have Sex with Men (MSM) in Vancouver, British Columbia" by Ashleigh Rich
7. Poster on "Psychosocial and Event-Level Predictors of Condom Use During Anal Intercourse Among Self-Identified HIV-Negative and Unknown Status Gay and Other MSM in Vancouver, British Columbia" led by Dr. Lachowsky
8. Poster on "Awareness and Knowledge of Treatment as Prevention (TasP) among HIV-positive and HIV-negative men who have sex with men in Vancouver, Canada" by Allison Carter

## Positive Deviance Project

The CIHR-funded "Positive Deviance" sub-study exploring harm reduction and pleasure maximization practices among planned private sex events/party attendees within the Momentum cohort has been busy developing and piloting the qualitative interview guide. Interviews will take place during spring and summer 2015.

## Team Grant News

The first national in-person meeting of the CIHR Team Grant in Boys' and Men's Health will take place at CAHR 2015 in Toronto. This project will compare cross-sectional data collected in Vancouver, Toronto, and Montreal. The current work is focused on preparing the questionnaires and finalizing recruitment methods, which will use respondent-driven sampling in each city. Jody Jollimore, our HIM representative on the Momentum CAB, leads the knowledge translation efforts nationally.

*View of Davie Street from computer station where participants complete the behavioural survey*

