

DETERMINANTS OF HAVING NEVER BEEN TESTED FOR HIV AMONGST MIGRANT MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN IN SPAIN

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OBJECTIVE

To analyse factors associated with never get tested for HIV among migrant men who have sex with men (MSM) in Spain.

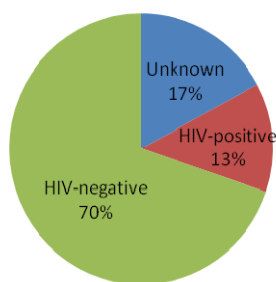
METHODS

The European MSM Internet Survey (EMIS) was implemented in 2010 in 38 European countries on websites for MSM and collected data on socio-demographics, sexual behaviour, and other sexual health variables. Migrants were defined as men who were not born in Spain. A logistic regression analysis was conducted to assess variables associated with never testing for HIV. Final model was adjusted for region of origin, settlement size, age, and educational level.

RESULTS

In total, 13,111 men residents in Spain completed the survey. Twenty two percent were migrants (n=2869). Most migrants were from Latin-America (54%) and Western Europe (15%). Amongst migrant MSM, 17% (n=489) had never been tested for HIV. The distribution of migrant respondents according to HIV status is shown in the Figure 1.

Figure 1: Percentage of migrant respondents according to HIV status



Compared with testers, never testers were significantly ($p < 0.05$) more likely to:

- live in a city with less than 100,000 inhabitants (24% vs 20%),
- have been born in Eastern Europe (7% vs 5%),
- be less than 25 years old (37% vs 12%),
- have a low (12% vs 7%) or middle (37% vs 27%) educational level,
- be a student (24% vs 10%),
- identify themselves as bisexual (17% vs 10%).

Table 1 shows the multivariate analysis results:

Table 1: Factor associated with having never been tested for HIV

	OR	95%CI
Being less than 25 years old.	1.99	1.31 - 3.04
Being out to no-one or only few people.	1.81	1.35 - 2.44
Not having a steady partner.	2.00	1.47 - 2.72
Having had UAI with a steady partner of unknown or discordant HIV serostatus in last 12 months	8.35	5.84 - 11.93
Not having been diagnosed with any STI in the last 12 months.	1.78	1.05 - 3.02
Never tested for STIs other than HIV	7.34	5.45 - 9.88
Having less than 3 non-steady partners in last 12 months:		
None	2.18	1.10 - 4.30
1 -2 non-steady partners	2.21	1.09 - 4.48

CONCLUSIONS

The profile of the migrant MSM who had never been tested for HIV indicates that they are men hard to reach (young, "being in the closet") and they expose high-risk for HIV infection by having UAI with a steady partner of unknown or discordant HIV serostatus. Interventions should promote *negotiated security* strategies amongst men couples.

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