

Black MSM, HIV, and the Social Determinants of Health Imperative

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Overview

- ❑ **HIV infection disparities among MSM**
- ❑ **Social determinants of health**
 - Homophobia
 - Racism
 - Socioeconomic status
- ❑ **Recent meta-analysis of 194 published studies (Millet et al., 2012)**
- ❑ **Intervention strategies**

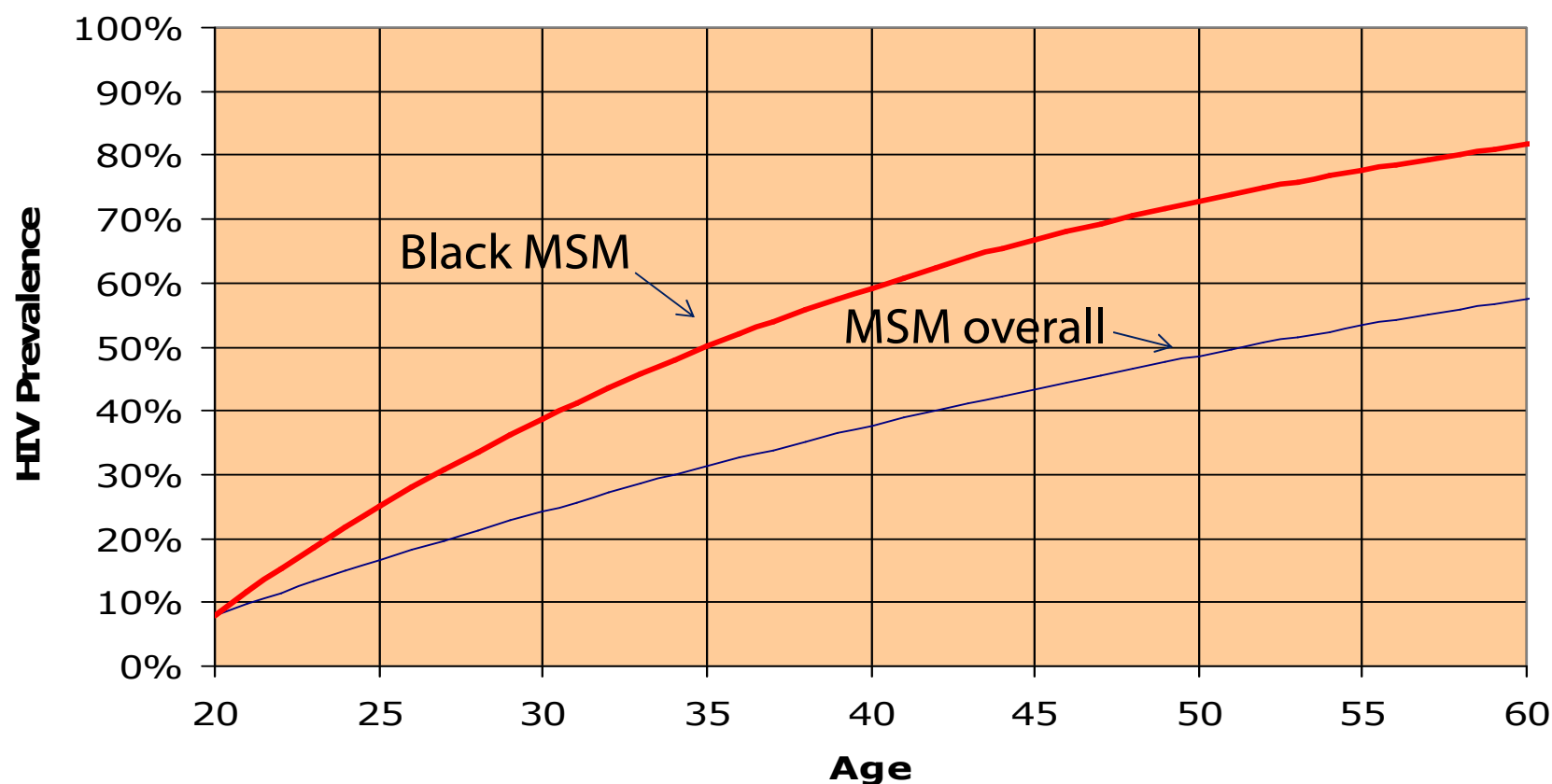
Racial Disparities in HIV Infection

- ❑ **Odds of HIV infection greater in black (vs. white) MSM**
 - Overall – 3.0 times greater
 - Young MSM – 5.0 times greater
- ❑ **Odds of undiagnosed HIV greater in black (vs. white) MSM**
 - Overall – 6.4 times greater
 - Young MSM – 7.1 times greater

Reference: Millett et al., 2012

Increasing HIV Infections Among Young MSM

Age-Specific HIV Prevalence



Source: Ron Stall, University of Pittsburgh

Why?

Racial Disparities Not Due to Risk Behaviors

❑ **Black MSM had greater likelihood of:**

- Condom use
- Few sex partners
- Avoidance of substance use
- Repeat HIV testing

Reference : Millett et al., 2012

Social Determinants of Health

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Adapted from Jones, 2000

Social Determinants of Health

- ❑ **Factors external to individuals shape health**
 - Fundamental causes are social
 - Oppressed groups (e.g., MSM, black Americans) suffer ill health due to unjust treatment
- ❑ **Homophobia, racism, low socioeconomic status relevant among black MSM**

Reference: Marmot, 2005

Homophobia

- ❑ **55% of Americans believe that homosexuality is “always wrong”**
- ❑ **Promotion of sexual risk behavior**
- ❑ **Inadequate public health response to HIV**

References: Glick & Golden, 2010; Jeffries et al., 2013

Racism

- ❑ **Race-based mistreatment prevalent in the United States (e.g., mass incarceration of black men)**
- ❑ **Promotion of adverse HIV-related outcomes**
 - Sexual risk behavior
 - Access to high-risk partner pools
 - Non-adherence to ART

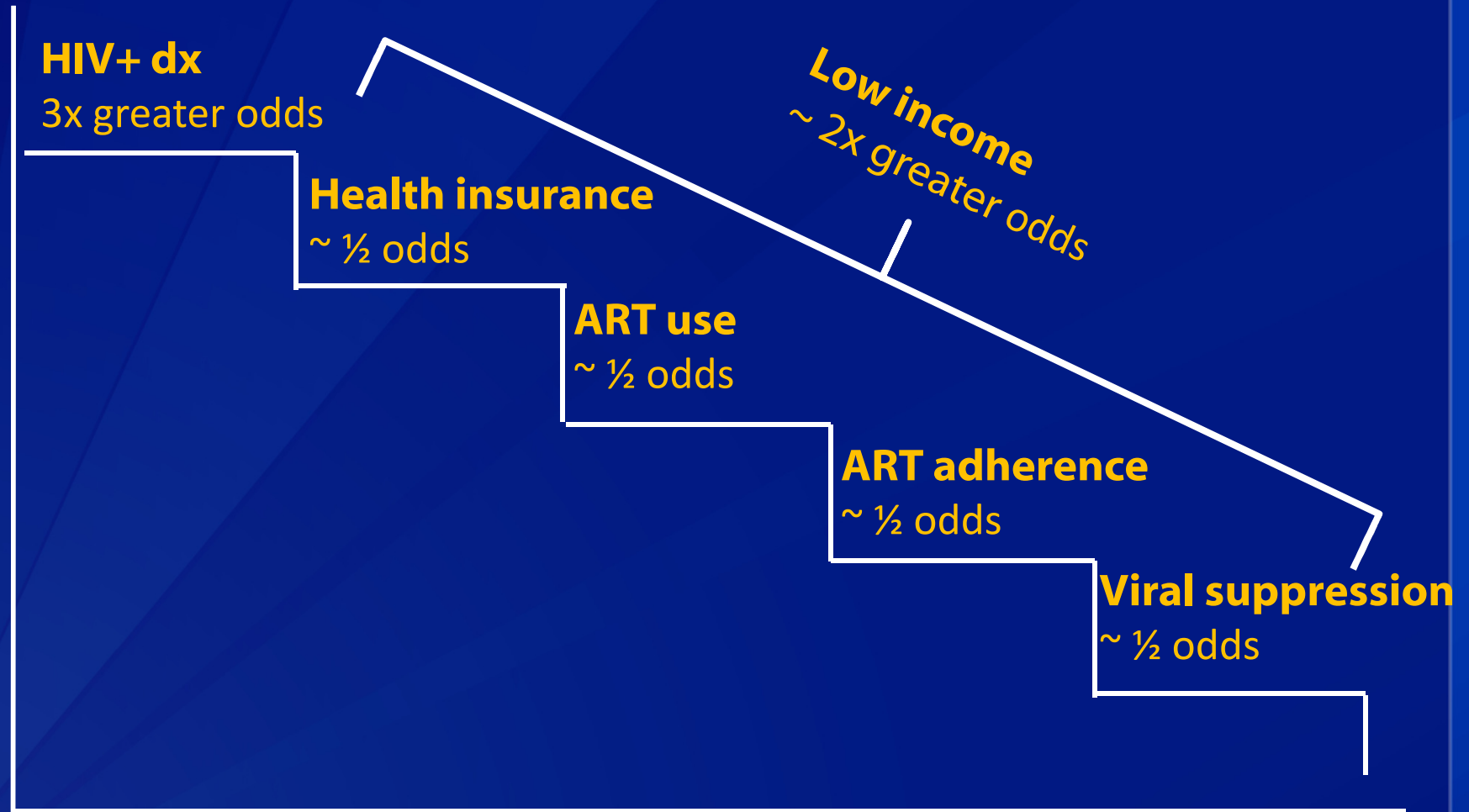
References: Alexander, 2010; Ayala et al., 2012; Bogart et al., 2010; Raymond 2009

Low Socioeconomic Status

- ❑ **Blacks nearly 3 times as likely to live in poverty as whites (35% vs. 13%)**
- ❑ **Black MSM had higher odds of:**
 - < HS education (3.5 times greater)
 - Low income (2.3 times greater)
 - Incarcerated (2.2 times greater)
 - Unemployed (1.5 times greater)

References: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2010; Millett et al., 2012

Low Income and the HIV Treatment Cascade (Black vs. White MSM)



Reference: Millett et al., 2012

Intervention Strategies

National Efforts

Shepard-
Byrd Hate
Crimes
Prevention
Act

ACA and
hospital
visitation for
same-sex
partners

Repeal of
DOMA

Repeal of
"Don't Ask,
Don't Tell"

Anti-
bullying
efforts

Local Anti-Homophobia Efforts



Acceptance Journeys

Who my son loves doesn't change my love for him.

Diverse & Resilient

Think Health Act Now!
CITY OF MILWAUKEE
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

journey2accept



i love my boo.

We're about trust, respect and commitment.

We're PROUD of who we are and how we LOVE.

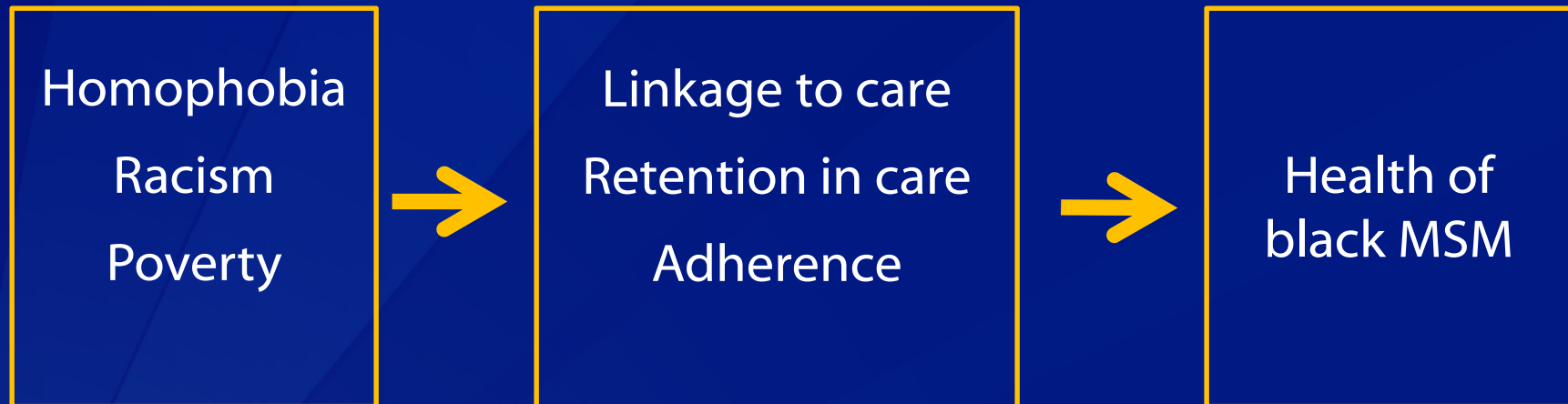
GMHC
FIGHT AIDS. LOVE LIFE.

Check us out on Facebook.com: [I Love My Boo](#)

DHHS's Care and Prevention in the United States (CAPUS) Demonstration Project

- ❑ Project period: September 2012 – September 2015**
- ❑ Approximate total project period funding: \$44.2 million**
- ❑ 8 state health departments must intervene on SDH**
 - Example: Illinois developing an initiative to promote access to care and provide vocational training

Ways to Move Forward



Reference: Maulsby et al., 2013

References

- ❑ Ayala et al. 2012. Modeling the impact of social discrimination... Latino and black MSM. *AJPH*.
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- ❑ Glick & Golden. 2010. Persistence of racial differences in attitudes toward homosexuality in the US. *JAIDS*.
- ❑ Jeffries et al. 2013. Homophobia is associated with sexual behavior that increases risk of acquiring and transmitting... *AIDS Behav*.
- ❑ Jones. 2000. Levels of racism: the gardener's tale. *AJPH*.
- ❑ Marmot 2005. Social determinants of health inequalities. *Lancet*.
- ❑ Maulsby et al. 2013. HIV among black MSM in the US. *AIDS & Behav*.
- ❑ Millett et al. 2012. Comparisons of disparities and risks of HIV infection in black and other MSM. *Lancet*.
- ❑ Raymond et al. 2009. Racial mixing and HIV risk among MSM. *AIDS Behav*.

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The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

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