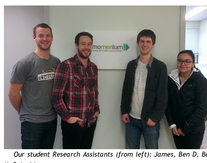
momentum
moving men's health research forward

WINTER 2015 NEWSLETTER

Welcomes

In October 2015, the Momentum Study team welcomed five new student research assistants to support interview coding and manuscript development: Colt Burrows, James Connell, Ben Donoghue, Ben Klassen, and Justin Sorge. We were also thrilled to welcome back Reinelda Sankey, who initially joined our study in fall 2013.



Our student Research Assistants (from left): James, Ben D, Ben K, Reinelda

Cohort Update

We began 8th study visits for our first wave of participants in late November. After nearly four years in the Momentum cohort, many of our original participants will soon be coming in for their 8th and final visit. Participants living with HIV will be given the option to continue in the cohort beyond eight visits. Now with 8th visits already underway, we have reached an average of 2.1 years of follow-up per cohort participant.

View of downtown from the participant computer station

CIHR Boy's & Men's Team Grant News

The CIHR Boys' and Men's Health Team study officially has a name! We're now Engage: A Canadian research and intervention team on gay and bisexual men's health. In Vancouver, we'll continue to use the Momentum name and branding we've built recognition in the community around, referring to the national study as Engage. The Engage team had a productive series of meetings this fall to prepare for beginning data collection in early 2016. The team has been hard at work on questionnaire development, establishing study site operations in Toronto and Montreal, and recruiting Community Engagement Committees (CEC) in each participating city.

Community Advisory Board

As Momentum transitions to its next phase joining the national Engage team, our Community Advisory Board (CAB) is shifting to a Community Engagement Committee (CEC) model. This model will be used in all three study sites: Vancouver, Toronto and Montreal. As part of this shift, the existing CAB met in October to discuss the application and recruitment process for bringing on additional members to the new CEC. We are now excited to announce the two newest members of the CEC: Chad Dickie and Colin Roberts.

Chad

Colin

New HIV Prevention Technologies Project

This fall we launched a qualitative sub-study focusing on participant experiences and perspectives regarding ARV-based prevention strategies (e.g. nPEP, PrEP, TasP informed). We interviewed 19 HIV-negative members of our cohort on their previous experiences with these prevention practices, decision-making around using them, and the influence that these prevention technologies have on substance use and sexual behaviours. Our new Research Assistants are currently coding data from these semi-structured interviews.

Publications

We are pleased to report three manuscripts have been accepted for publication or have been published by peer-reviewed journals since the last newsletter:

1. "Substance use, sexual behaviour and prevention strategies of Vancouver gay and bisexual men who recently attended group sex events" led by Ashleigh Rich and Eric Roth, to be published in Culture, Health & Sexuality.
2. "Awareness and Use of Non-occupational Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (nPEP) among Men Who Have Sex with Men (MSM) in Vancouver, Canada", has been accepted for publication in a peer-reviewed journal. The analysis, led by Sally Lin, to be published in HIV Medicine.
3. "HIV community viral load and factors associated with elevated viremia among a community-based sample of Men Who Have Sex With Men (MSM)", led by David Moore, to be published in the Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes.

The Momentum Study has submitted an additional five manuscripts that are currently under review at peer-reviewed journals:

1. "Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis awareness among gay and other Men Who Have Sex With Men in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada", led by Nathan Lachowsky and Sally Lin.
2. "Attitudinal & event-level predictors of condom use during anal intercourse among HIV-negative gay and bisexual men in a treatment as prevention environment", led by Nathan Lachowsky.
3. "Agreement between gay, bisexual and other Men Who Have Sex With Men (GBM)'s period prevalence and event-level recall of sexual behaviour", led by Nathan Lachowsky
4. "What is the effect of including seeds recruited online in a respondent-driven sample of Men Who Have Sex With Men?", led by Nathan Lachowsky and Allan Lal.
5. "Factors associated with productive recruiting in a respondent-driven sample of Men Who Have Sex With Men in Vancouver, Canada", led by Jaime Forrest.

As knowledge translation tools, we've also developed an infographic and short animation for the "Gay and bisexual men's awareness and knowledge of treatment as prevention: findings from the Momentum Health Study in Vancouver, Canada" paper led by Allison Carter and published in the Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes in August.

Conferences

This fall our research was presented at a number of conferences to research and community-based audiences.

CPATH Conference

In October, Ashleigh Rich presented findings from her mixed methods study, "Narratives of antiretroviral therapy (ART)-based HIV prevention acceptability and use: Findings from interviews with transgender gay and queer men in Vancouver, British Columbia", at the Canadian Professional Association for Transgender Health (CPATH) conference in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

APHA Conference

Nathan Lachowsky made two presentations at the American Public Health Association (APHA) Conference, held in Chicago from November 1-4: "Linking mental health and substance use, and their subsequent associations with HIV risk behaviour among gay, bisexual, and other Men Who Have Sex With Men (MSM) in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada" and "Agreement between gay, bisexual, and other Men Who Have Sex with Men (MSM)'s period prevalence and event-level recall of sexual behaviour: Implications for research & evidence".

CBRC Conference

The Momentum team was pleased to attend the recent 2015 Community-Based Research Centre (CBRC) BC Gay Men's Health Summit, hosted here in Vancouver from November 5-6. Two of our Research Assistants presented at the conference, including Kiffer Card who presented "Sero-adaptive strategy of gay and bisexual men with more frequent partner change in the Momentum Health Study", and Zachary Tanner who presented "HIV treatment response among HIV-positive gay, bisexual and other MSM in British Columbia, Ontario and Quebec".

CONNECT WITH US

- Friend us on Facebook
- Follow us on Twitter
- Read our website
- Forward this to a Friend

BRITISH COLUMBIA CENTRE for EXCELLENCE in HIV/AIDS

IN THIS ISSUE

- Welcomes
- Cohort Update
- CIHR Boy's & Men's Team Grant News
- Community Advisory Board
- New HIV Prevention Technologies Project
- Publications
- Conferences
- CROI 2016

CROI 2016

The Momentum team will be presenting 4 abstracts at the upcoming Conferences on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections (CROI) to be held in Boston from February 22-25.1.

Poster: Recent increases in virologic suppression among HIV-positive MSM in Vancouver, Canada

Poster: *Recent increases in virologic suppression among HIV-positive MSM in Vancouver, Canada*

Poster: *Incident Syphilis, Gonorrhea, and Chlamydia Infection Among a Cohort of MSM*

Poster: *Prevalence & Factors of HCV Infection Among HIV-Negative & HIV-Positive MSM*

Poster: *Does Size Really Matter? Sensitivity Analysis of Number of Seeds in an RDS Study*

Happy Holidays from the Momentum Team! We look forward to sharing our work with you as it continues to unfold in 2016!

Lights of Hope, St. Paul's Hospital

momentum
moving men's health research forward

CONTACT US

Momentum Health Study
505-1200 Burrard Street
Vancouver, BC V6Z 2C7
Canada

Add us to your address book

Copyright ©2015 Momentum Health Study, All rights reserved.
Our mailing address is:
505-1200 Burrard Street
Vancouver, BC V6Z 2C7