

VOICES OF THE HIDDEN

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV STIGMA INDEX IN TAIWAN

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Background

Implementation of People Living with HIV Stigma Index in Taiwan

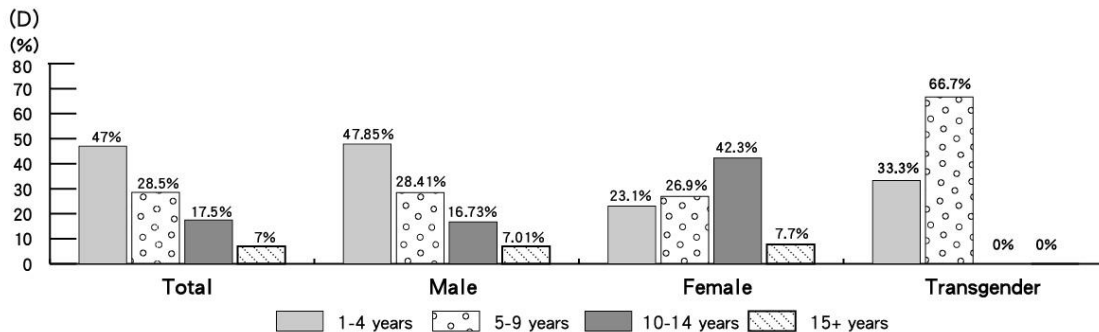
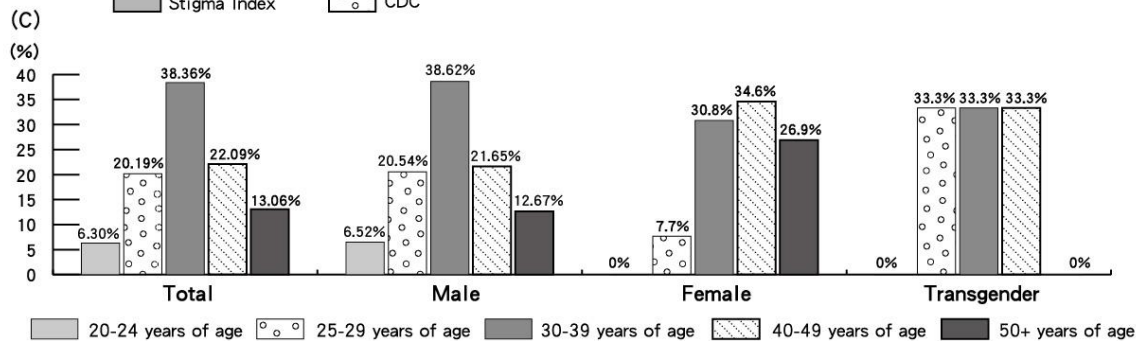
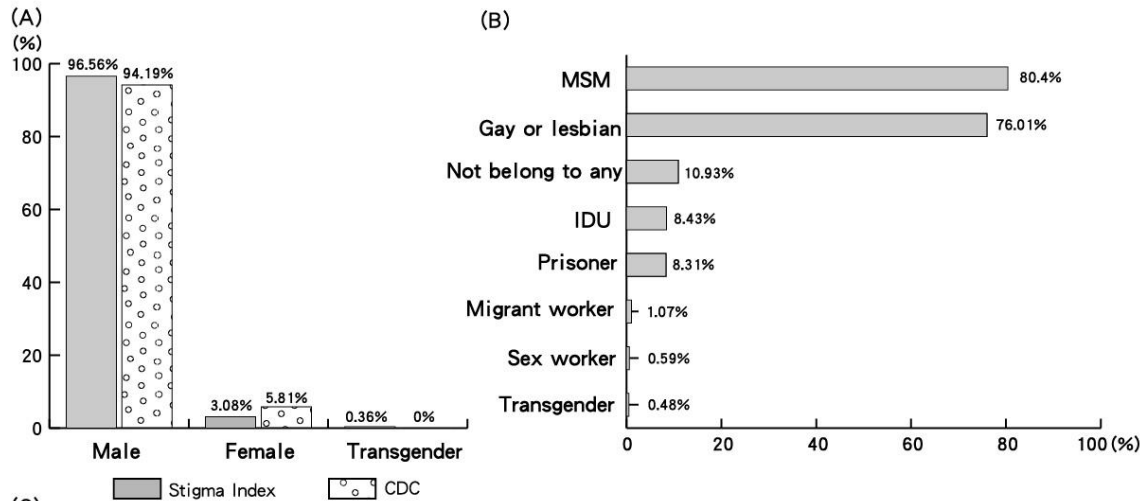
- Major barrier in ending the global HIV epidemic.
- Deter high risk populations to access equitable medical and psychosocial support.
- Estimate the HIV stigma in Taiwan by measuring the discrimination encountered by people living with HIV in the society.

Method

Implementation of People Living with HIV Stigma Index in Taiwan

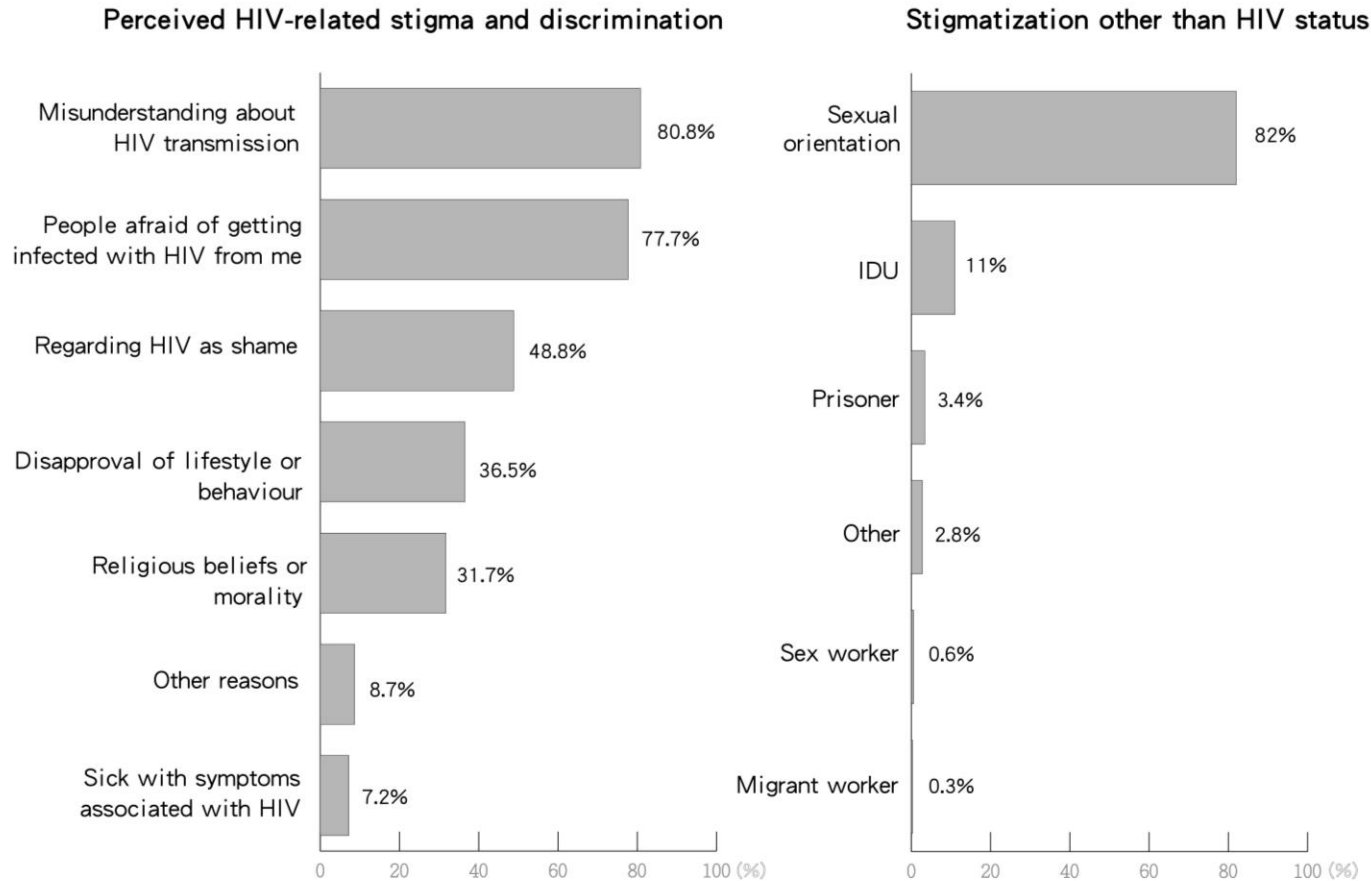
- April 2017 to December 2017, a nationwide survey enrolling 842 (3% total HIV positive population)
- The People Living with HIV Stigma Index questionnaire
 - GNP+ (The Global Network of People Living with HIV)
 - UNAIDS (The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS)
 - ICW (The International Community of Women Living with HIV/AIDS)
- 1 to 1 interviews using semi-structured questionnaire.

Result - Demographic Characteristics



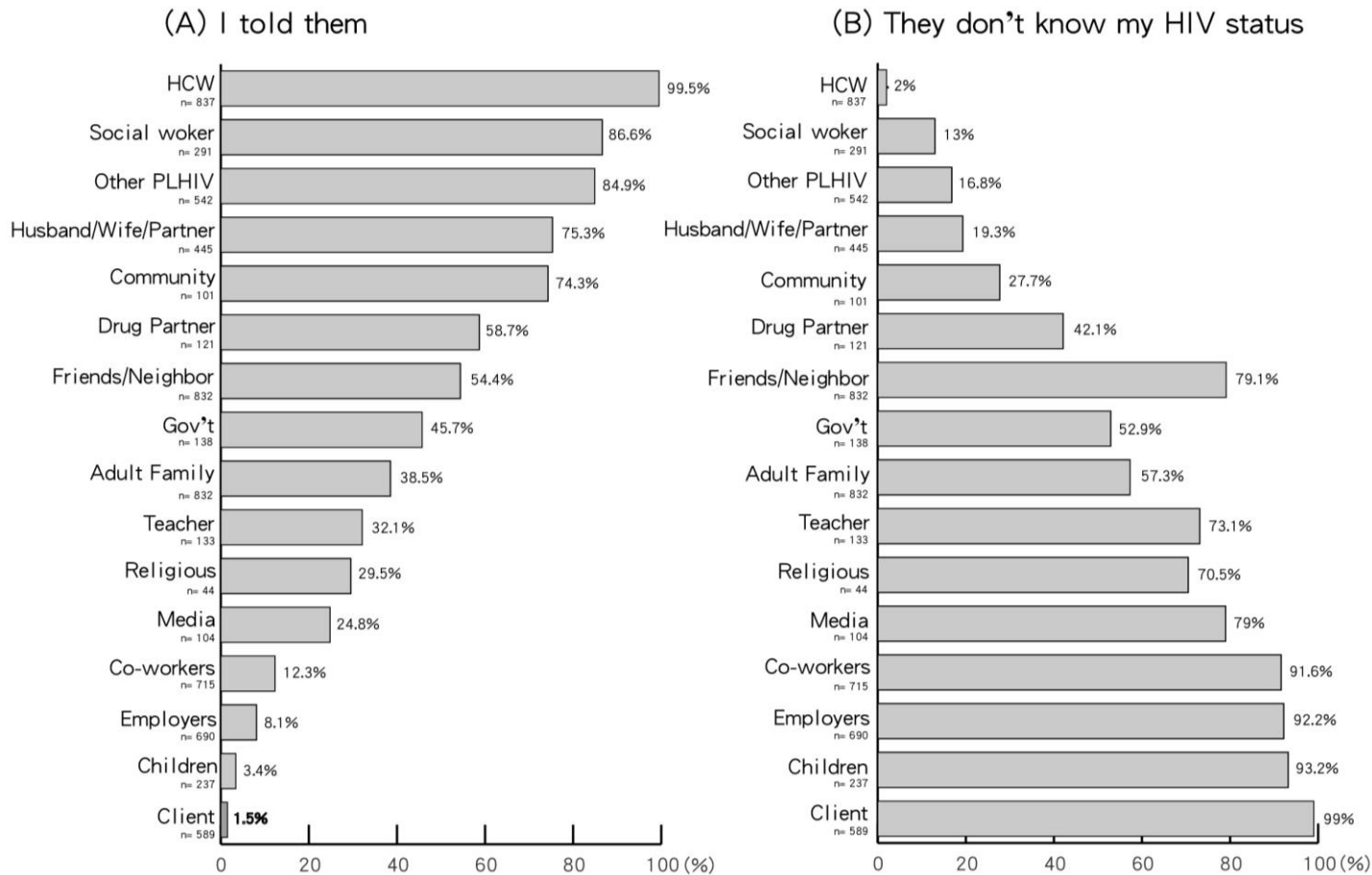
- Physiologic gender distribution: 96.6% male and 3.1% female
- Major key population: Men who have sex with men (MSM)
- About 65% of participants were younger than 40 year-old
- 47% of participants had been living with HIV for less than 5 years.

Result - Multiple Stigma



- Most stigmatized because of people's misunderstanding about HIV transmission and fear of getting infected.
- Stigma toward sexual orientation, intravenous drug usage was also found in interviews.

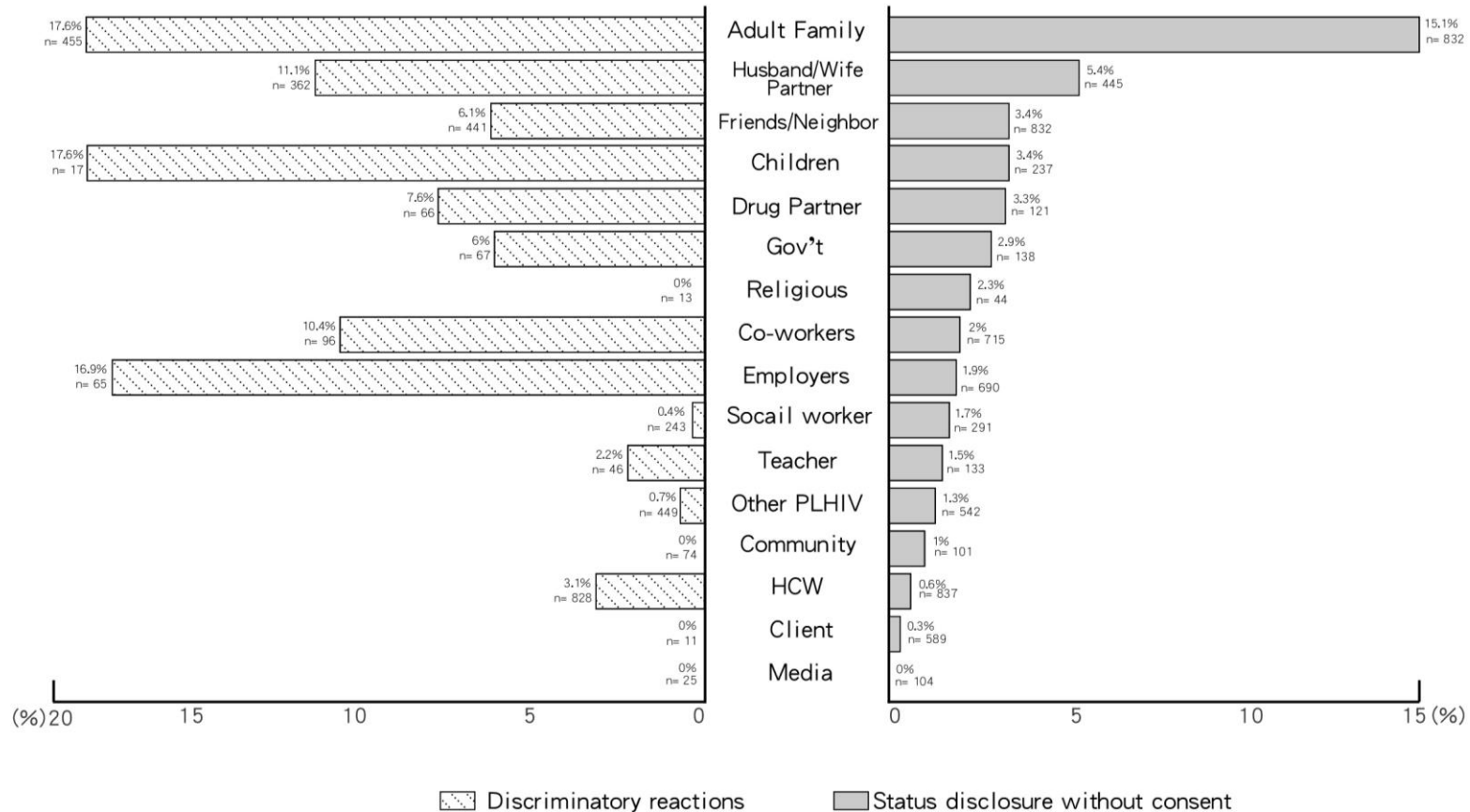
Result - Multiple Stigma



- Compare to medical professionals such as healthcare worker or social workers, participants were less willing to disclose their HIV status to family members.

Result - Disclosure and Discrimination

(C) Discriminatory reactions and status disclosure without consent



- The difference of status disclosure among different groups of people surrounding PLHIV may be related to the extent of discrimination perceived from these people.

Result - Disclosure and Discrimination

Comparison of discrimination faced by participants between self-disclosure and disclosure without consent.

	Discriminatory reactions after self-disclosure	Discriminatory reactions after disclosure without consent	P-value
Adult family	12.8%	36.3%	$p < 0.001$
Partner	9.4%	36.8%	$p < 0.001$
Friends	5.2%	32.1%	$p < 0.001$

- The occurrence of discriminatory reactions was more frequent when participant's HIV status was disclosed without his/her consent.
- Status disclosure without consent plays a critical role in the formation of HIV stigma/discrimination against PLHIV.

Thank You For Listening
