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Prevalence and factors associated with correct and consistent male condom use among people on antiretroviral treatment in Hawassa town, Ethiopia

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Background: Despite the promotion of consistent and correct male condom use as one of the strategies for "positive living", it is common to see pregnancies among people living with HIV who are taking ART in Hawassa town. However; the magnitude and factors associated with inconsistent male condom use among people living with HIV who are on ART has not been studied in Hawassa.

Methods: A facility based cross-sectional quantitative study was conducted from March-April, 2011 on 1028 people living with HIV on ART Government clinics. Study participants were identified using probability systematic sampling technique. The data were collected using structured and pretested questionnaire by trained data collectors. The data was double entered, compared, cleaned using EPI.info 3.5.1 and analyzed using SPSS 17.0 for windows.

Results: The prevalence of consistent male condom use was 77.1% (95% CI: 72.0, 82.1). Never married people are more likely to use condom consistently (AOR=7.12; 95%CI: 2.89-17.54) while those with negative attitude (thinking as promiscuous, break trust between married couples) about condom are less likely to use condom consistently (AOR=0.51; 95%CI: 0.33-0.81). Factors like, lack of skill on correct use of condom, alcohol drink, fertility desire; don't like to use condom showed strong relationship to not use condom consistently and correctly (P-0.001)

Conclusion: The multiple logistic regressions showed that never married people are more likely to use condom consistently; based on composite measure of attitude, those respondents who had above median value of attitude score had negative attitude about condom and are less likely to use condom consistently. It is therefore recommended that interventions should focus on addressing all the findings before people are counseled to use it.

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