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Top, bottom, or versatile? Sexual role, sexual risk behaviors, and prevalence of HIV and syphilis among men who have sex with men seeking HIV testing in Changsha, China

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The HIV infection rate in China among men who have sex with men (MSM) is high due to the high prevalence of high-risk sexual behaviors. This study aims to explore the association of high-risk sexual behaviors and the prevalence of HIV and syphilis among MSM with different sexual roles in Changsha, China. A convenience sample of 601 MSM, who came to a gay organization for voluntary counseling and testing has completed a pencil-and-paper survey from April to December, 2014. At the same time they also accepted for HIV and syphilis testing. Results showed that 27.3% (164/601) of the participants self-identified as "top", 15.3% (92/601) as "bottom", and 57.4% (345/601) as "versatile". The overall prevalence was 13.3% (80/601) for HIV and 7.3% (44/601) for syphilis. HIV prevalence was significantly greater for MSM identified as bottom (16.3%, 15/92), and versatile (15.9%, 55/345) than top (6.1%, 10/164). Prevalence for syphilis infection was not significantly different among different roles. Multivariate analyses indicated that MSM who were married (OR=2.125, 95% CI 1.004~4.500), with a receptive role (OR=5.289, 95% CI 1.821~15.362) and a dual role (OR=3.551, 95% CI 1.371~9.200), had no oral sex in recent 6 months (OR=0.065, 95% CI 0.010~0.420), did not have sex with woman in recent 6 months (OR=0.218, 95% CI 0.058~0.817) were more likely to be HIV positive. MSM of different sexual roles had different characteristics of high-risk sexual behaviors and different HIV infection rates. Targeted interventions should consider their characteristics of the sexual roles in future.

## Biography

Jia Chen, is an Associate Professor and Vice Dean for undergraduate education in Xiangya Nursing School of Central South University. She is now pursuing her PhD program on HIV prevention among men who have sex with men in China. She is the PI of 5 projects founded by Chinese different resources, and has published more than 10 papers in reputed journals in China and abroad.

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