

**[WePeC6090] Risk factors for HIV among late-presenting pregnant women in Porto Alegre (POA), southern, and Rio de Janeiro (RJ), southeastern Brazil**

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**Background:** The South (SO) and southeastern (SE) regions of Brazil have demonstrated different profiles of the HIV epidemic since the mid-1990s. While the epidemic has reached a plateau in SE metropolitan cities, it has been escalating in the SO. Disadvantaged women and/or those injecting drugs have been particularly affected in this area

**Methods:** As part of a research project targeting pregnant women in the peripartum period who attended prenatal care in an irregular way & were unaware of their HIV status, 4,562 women were recruited from 6 maternities in the metropolitan area of RJ (n=3,458) and POA (n=979), counseled and tested for HIV using Determine® rapid test, and answered a brief questionnaire. Risk factors for those women testing positive for HIV (rapid test + WB) were assessed through contingency table statistics and logistic regression

**Results:** HIV prevalence was high in POA (6.1%), 4 times higher than in RJ (1.4%), approximately 4x (POA) and 2x (RJ) higher than surveillance data for pregnant women regularly attending prenatal care in these respective areas. The following risk factors were independently associated with HIV seroprevalence: in RJ: monthly family income less than US\$ 40.00 (AOR 2.96; 95%CI 1.30-6.78); history of miscarriages (AOR 1.96; 95%CI 1.09-3.55); less than 3 consults during prenatal care (AOR 2.76; 95%CI 1.46-5.18), being of younger age (<21 y) was negatively associated (AOR 0.31; 95%CI 0.13-0.74); in POA the major risk factors were monthly familiar income less than US\$40.00 (AOR 4.14; 95%CI 1.46-11.71) and being Afro-Brazilian (AOR 2.62; 95%CI 1.48-4.65)

**Conclusions:** While Brazilian efforts to curb HIV epidemic have been successful in different populations, high prevalence among women living in dire poverty is of particular concern, especially in the south, and all efforts must be made to enroll them in comprehensive prenatal care and to implement intervention strategies in vulnerable communities

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