

Grinstead O, Faigles B, Comfort M, Seal D, Nealey-Moore J, Belcher L, Morrow K, and the Project Start Study Group. HIV, STD, and hepatitis risk to primary female partners of men being released from prison. *Women and Health* 2005;41(2):63-80.

Incarcerated men in the US are at increased risk for HIV, STDs and hepatitis, and many men leaving prison have unprotected sex with a primary female partner immediately following release from prison. This paper addresses risk to the primary female partners of men being released from prison (N=105) by examining the prevalence of men's concurrent unprotected sex with other partners or needle sharing prior to and following release from prison (concurrent risk). Rates of concurrent risk were 46% prior to incarceration, 18% 1 month postrelease, and 24% 3 months postrelease. Multivariate analysis showed concurrent risk significantly associated with having a female partner who had one or more HIV/STD risk factors. Findings demonstrate need for prevention programs for incarcerated men and their female partners.

Barriers to vaccination during incarceration were fear of needles and distrust of prison staff; additionally, after release, barriers were time and cost. These findings support the need for education and routine hepatitis B vaccination programs for inmates during incarceration.