

MENTAL HEALTH DIAGNOSES, SYMPTOMS, AND TREATMENT IN YOUTH WITH PERINATAL HIV (PHIV)

Adolescents with perinatal HIV (PHIV) or perinatal HIV exposure but uninfected (PHEU) may be at risk for behavioral or emotional challenges. But they may not receive treatment. In our study, we wanted to see how many youth in PHACS experienced these challenges and how many were getting treatment. We also wanted to find out if there were things in their lives that made it more likely for them to experience these problems.

WHO PARTICIPATED

335 youth had PHIV

196 were PHEU



551 youth from AMP participated. All youth were between the ages of 10 and 22.

WHAT WE DID



We looked at youth's medical charts and interviewed them and their caregivers to learn about their mental health diagnoses, mental health symptoms, and whether they got mental health treatment.

We also looked at what factors in their lives were linked to having mental health problems, and what factors were linked to getting treatment.

WHAT WE FOUND

YOUNGER CHILDREN



more ADHD

ADOLESCENTS



more behavior issues

YOUNG ADULTS



more depression & anxiety

About one-third of youth reported at least one mental health diagnosis. Only about 61% of these were getting mental health treatment.

Youth with PHIV and youth with PHEU had the same risk for having a mental health problem. But youth with PHIV were more likely to get treatment.

Lower income, stressful events, and caregiver's health concerns -- especially mental health -- were linked to a higher risk for mental health problems.

WHAT WE LEARNED



Youth in our study had more mental health problems than youth not affected by HIV. But they had fewer than other youth affected by HIV. Stressful things in their lives may make them more likely to have mental health problems than other youth. Family plays an important role in a youth's risk for mental health problems and ability to get treatment.