

Childhood Sexual Abuse and Association with HIV Risk in Female Adolescents and Youth in Greater Buenos Aires, Argentina:

Understanding Knowledge, Attitudes, Behaviors, and Self-Efficacy

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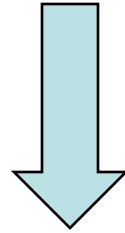


Issues to Address

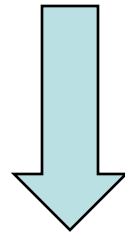
- Background on Childhood Sexual Abuse (CSA)
 - HIV epidemic in Argentina
 - Study Objectives and Methodology
 - Preliminary results and conclusions
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Childhood Sexual Abuse (CSA)

- 7%-36% of girls, 3%-69% of boys - WHO
- 2%-62% - prevalence other studies

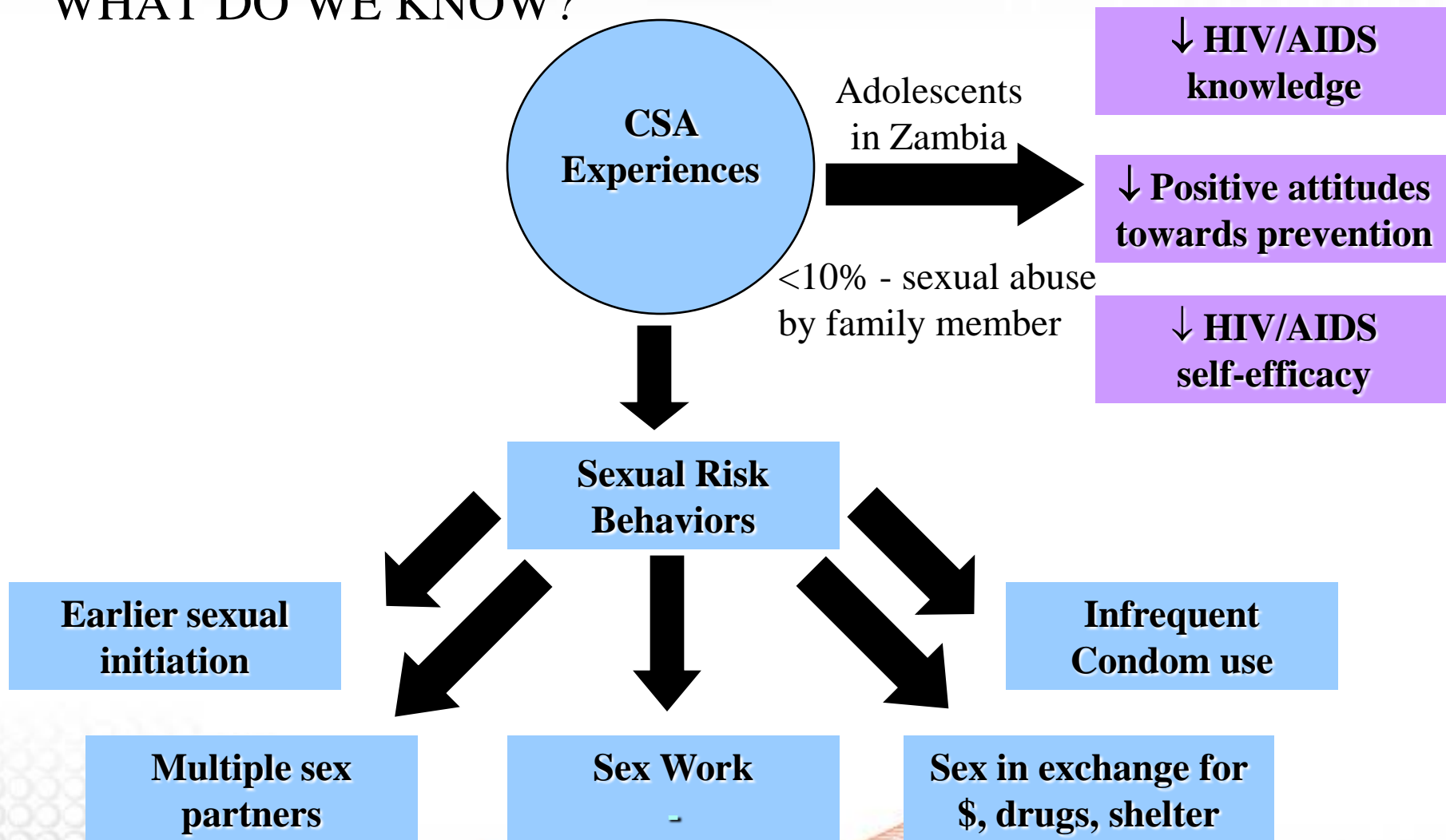


Large prevalence ranges



WHY IS IT SO DIFFICULT TO STUDY CSA?

Consequences of CSA: WHAT DO WE KNOW?



CSA - Latin America & Argentina

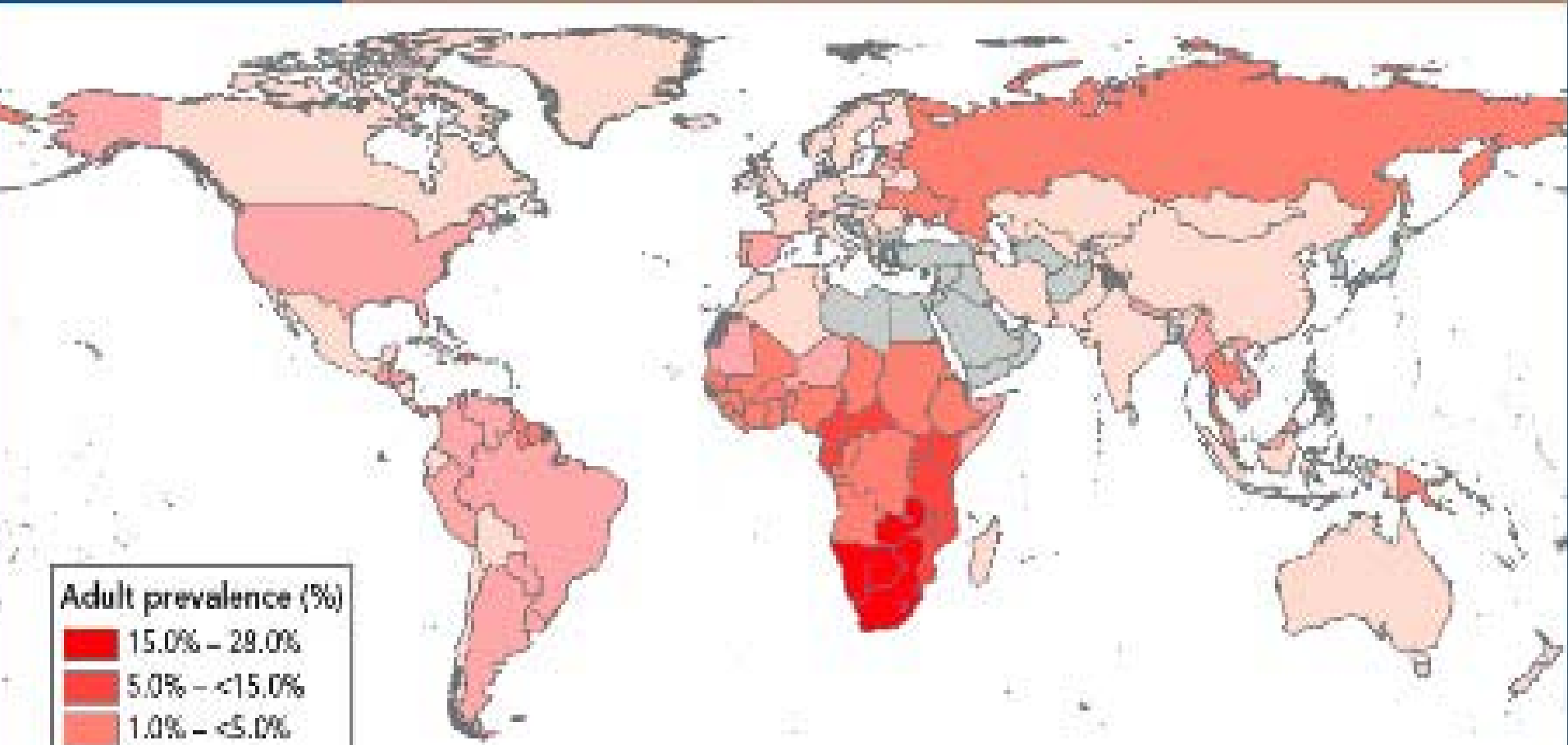
- Studies from 1990s: 17-32% of women
- Recent studies (2008): 4.6-7.8% of women
- No national statistics in Argentina
- Argentine women are susceptible to HIV and CSA



FIGURE 2.2

A global view of HIV infection, 2007

33 million people [30 – 36 million] living with HIV, 2007



Adult prevalence (%)	
Dark Red	15.0% – 29.0%
Red	5.0% – <15.0%
Light Red	1.0% – <5.0%
Pink	0.5% – <1.0%
Light Pink	0.1% – <0.5%
Grey	<0.1%
Dark Grey	No data available

1.5-2.1 million people living with HIV in Latin America

30 - 36 million people living with HIV worldwide (2007)

Young Women and HIV/AIDS in Argentina

- 130,000 people living with HIV
- Feminization of the epidemic
 - 1987: 92 men: 1 woman
 - 2006: 1.5 men: 1 woman
- Young women are more vulnerable to HIV



Feminization of epidemic



Assess factors that may increase risk behaviors and HIV vulnerability among women

Study of CSA and HIV risk among young women in Greater Buenos Aires



- ✓ **Objective:** Analyze CSA and HIV risk among female adolescents and youth residents of Greater Buenos Aires, Argentina
- ✓ **Methodology:** Exploratory, descriptive study
- ✓ **Sample:** **88 female adolescents and young women** (15-24 years), residents of low-income zones of Greater Buenos Aires
- ✓ **Questionnaire:** Administered using **ACASI** (Audio Computer-Assisted Self Interview) to increase reporting of sensitive issues



Effective in Argentina

Results: Sample Characteristics

N = 88 female adolescents and youth (15-24 yrs)

Age

- 15-19 years: 62.5%
- 20-24 years: 37.5%

Nationality

- Argentine: 86.4%
- Paraguayan: 8.0%
- Bolivian: 5.7%

Educational Level

- “Secondary” complete or more: 27%
- 15-19 year-olds “Secondary” incomplete: 58.2%
- 20-24 years-olds “Secondary” complete: 39.4%

Knowledge of HIV Transmission

- Vaginal Sex: 92.0%
- Anal Sex: 70.5%
- Oral Sex: 53.4%
- Sharing Needles: 90.9%
- Transfusions: 87.5%
- VT (preg.): 84.1%
- VT (birth): 71.6%
- VT (breastfeeding): 59.1%
- Tattoo needles: 86.4%
- Drinking mate: 87.5% (not a mode)
- Kissing: 85.2% (not a mode)

Discrimination

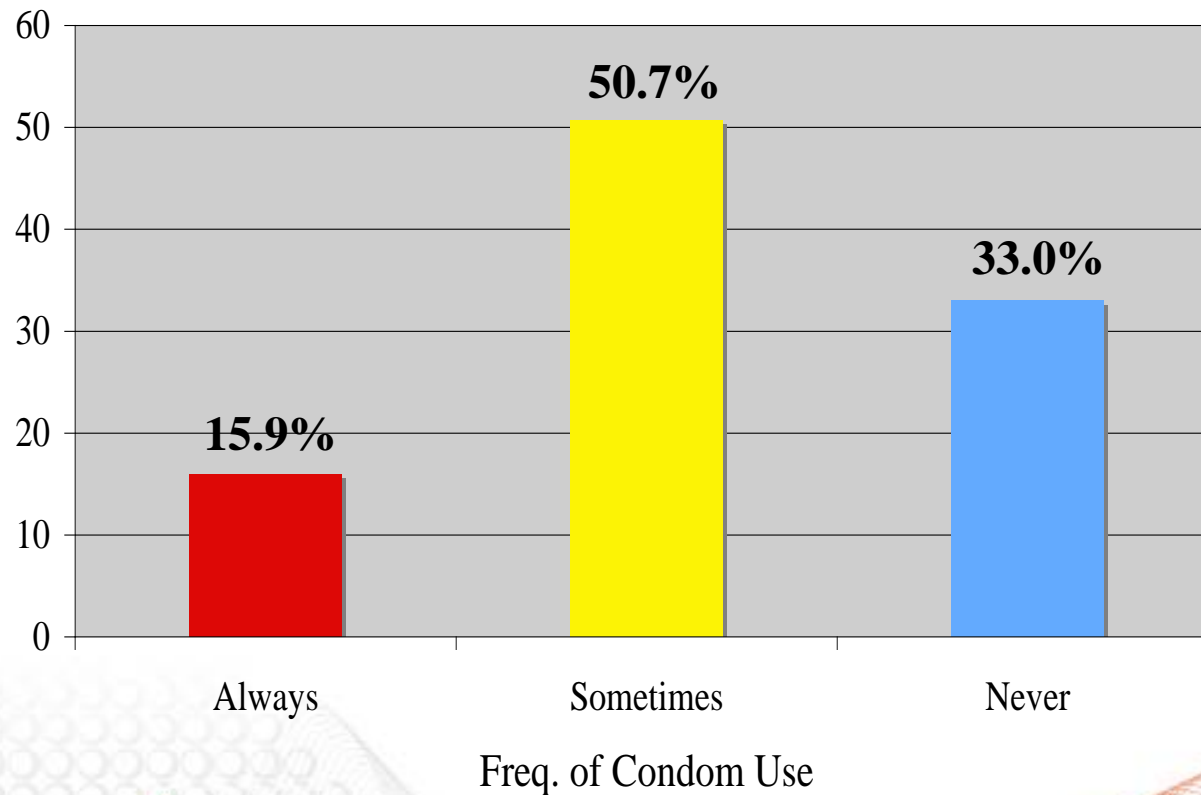
- High: 40.9%
- Medium: 30.7%
- Low: 28.4%

HIV Testing

- Tested at least once: 46.6%

Sample Characteristics: Sexual Risk Behaviors

Frequency of Condom Use, past year



- **Sexual Initiation between 14-16 years: 61%**
- **Condom Use during Sexual initiation: 58.7%**
- **Condom Use during last sexual intercourse, stable partner: 26.2%**

Sample Characteristics: CSA

Age

- 15-19 years: 76.9%
- 20-24 years: 23.1%

Nationality

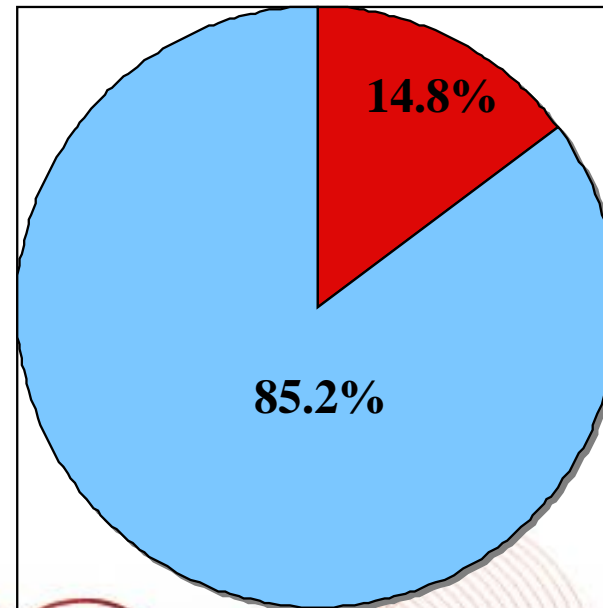
- Argentine: 86.4%
- Bolivian: 15.4%
- Paraguayan: 0%

Educational Level

- “Secondary” complete or more: 23.1%
- 15-19 year-olds “Secondary” incomplete: 70%
- 20-24 years-olds <“Secondary” complete: 100%

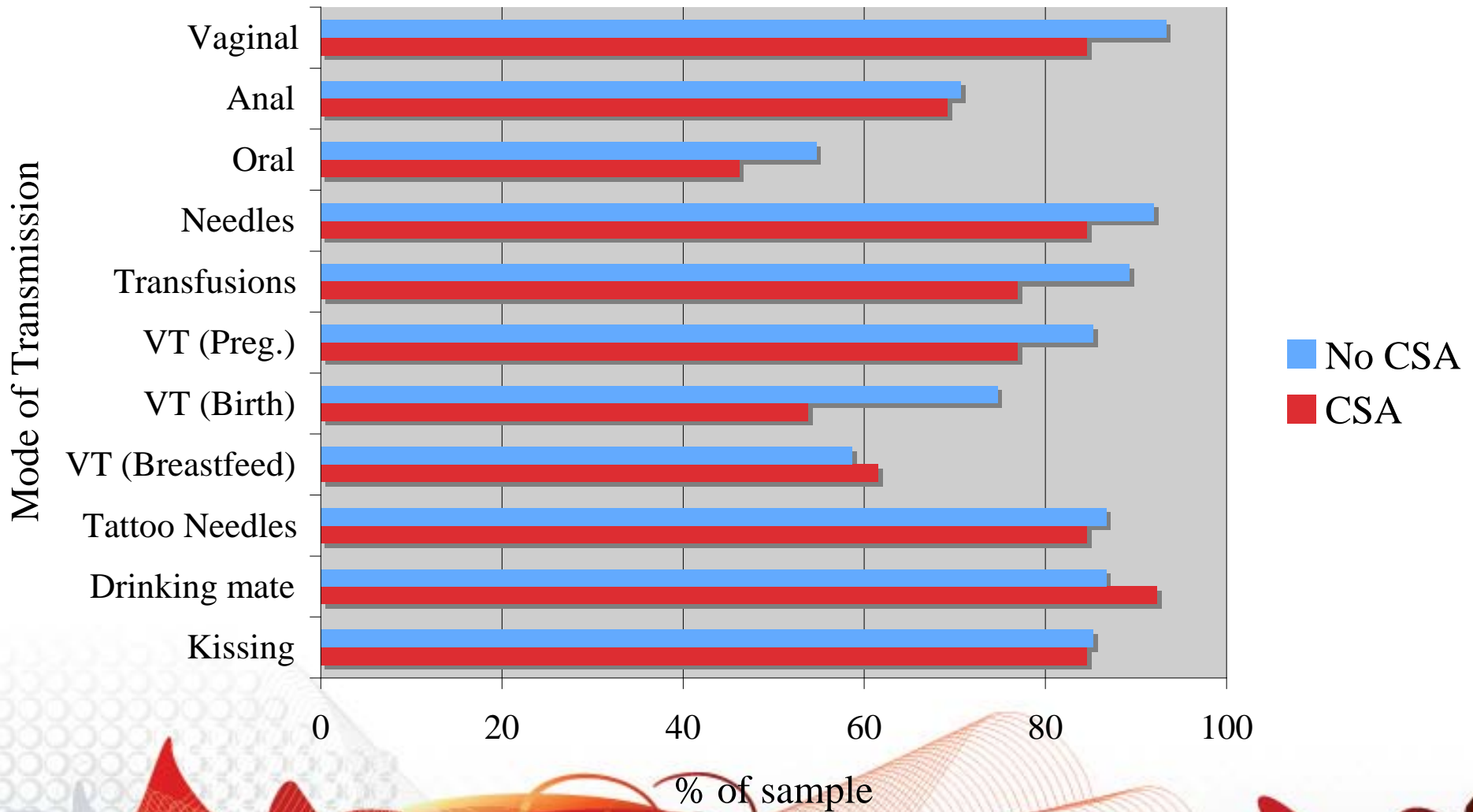
Results: CSA

- 13 cases, 14.8% of sample
- 69.2% - abuse occurred more than once
- 5 cases - abuse was sexual initiation

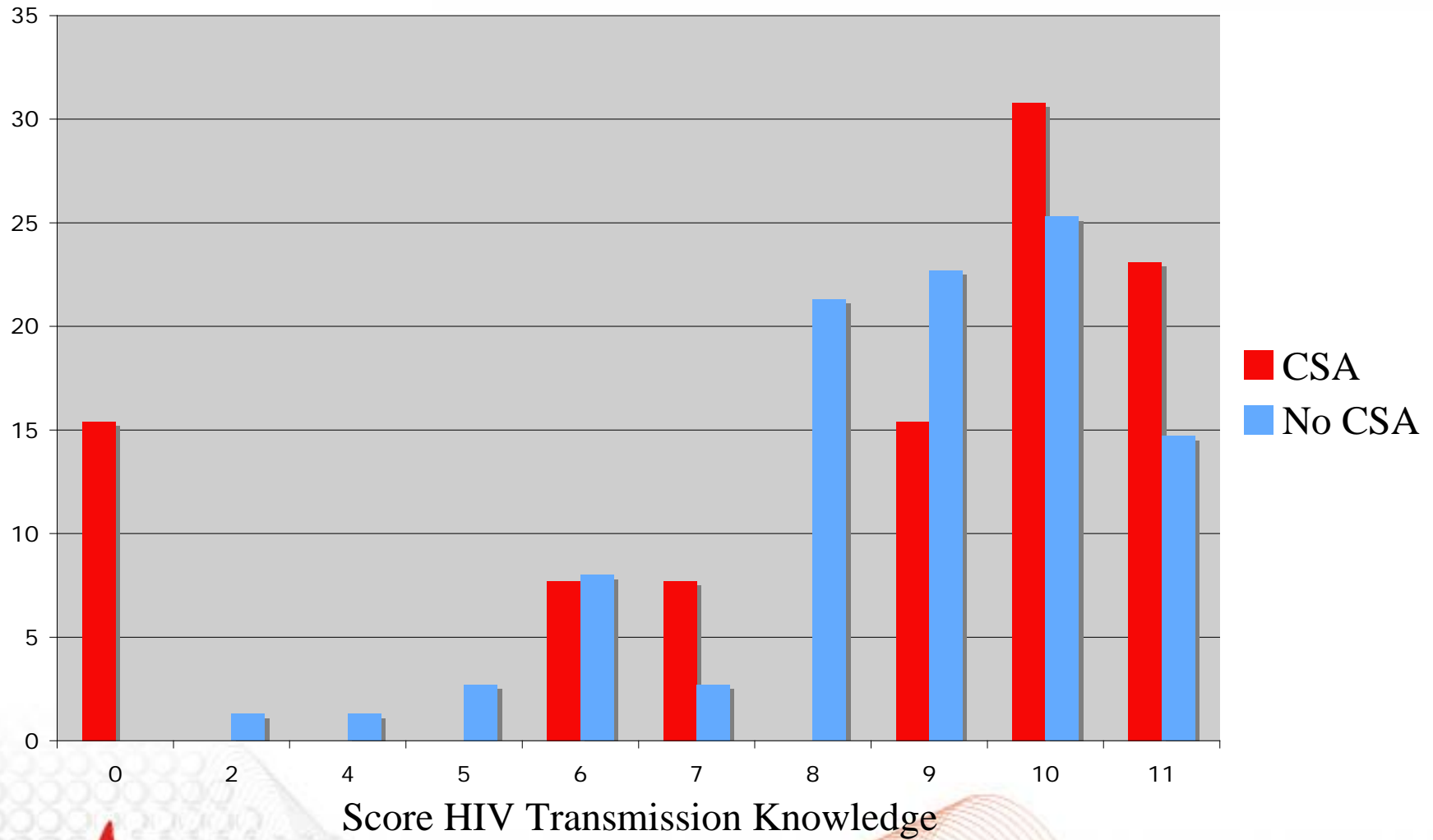


- CSA (<18 years)
- No CSA

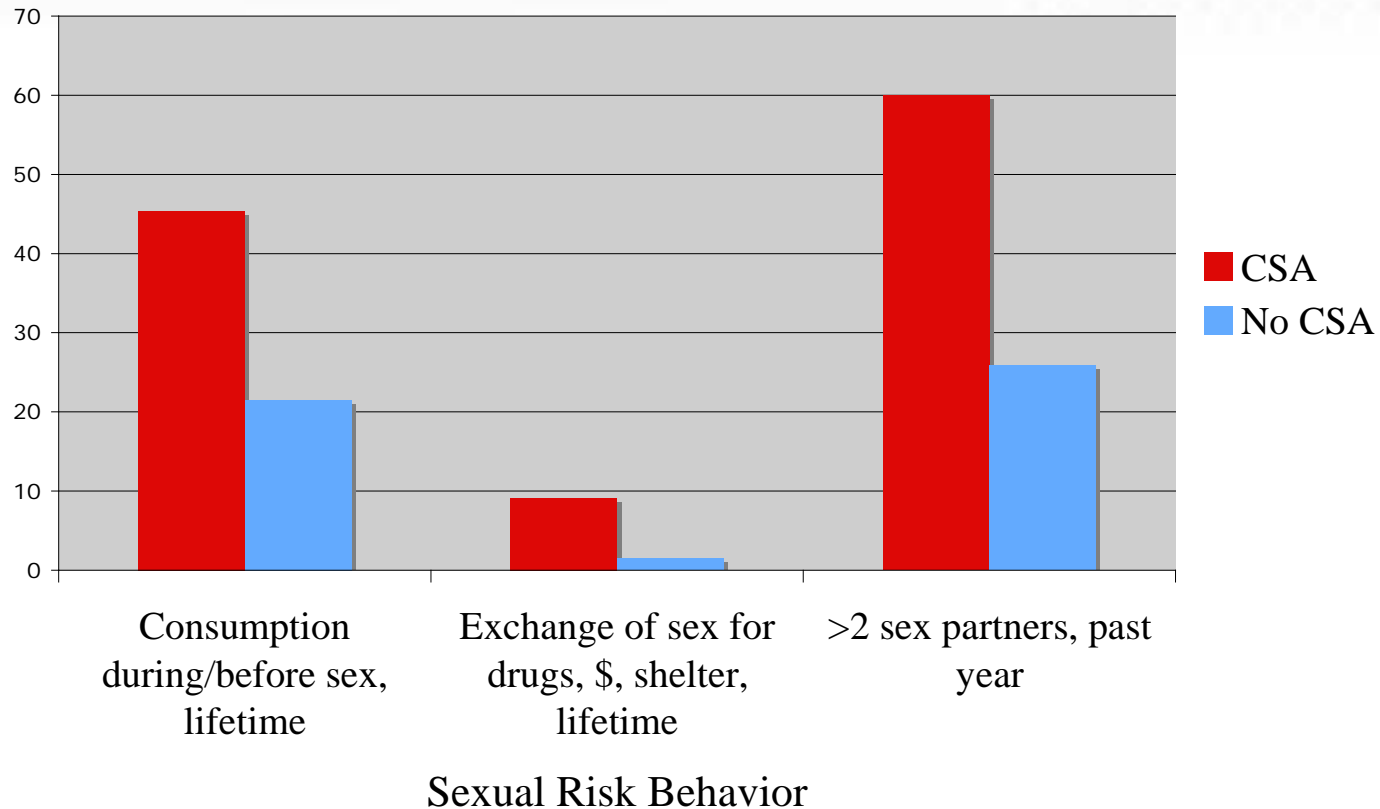
Correct HIV Transmission Knowledge, by mode CSA vs. No CSA



General Correct HIV Transmission Knowledge (CSA vs. No CSA)



Sexual Risk Behaviors (CSA vs. No CSA)

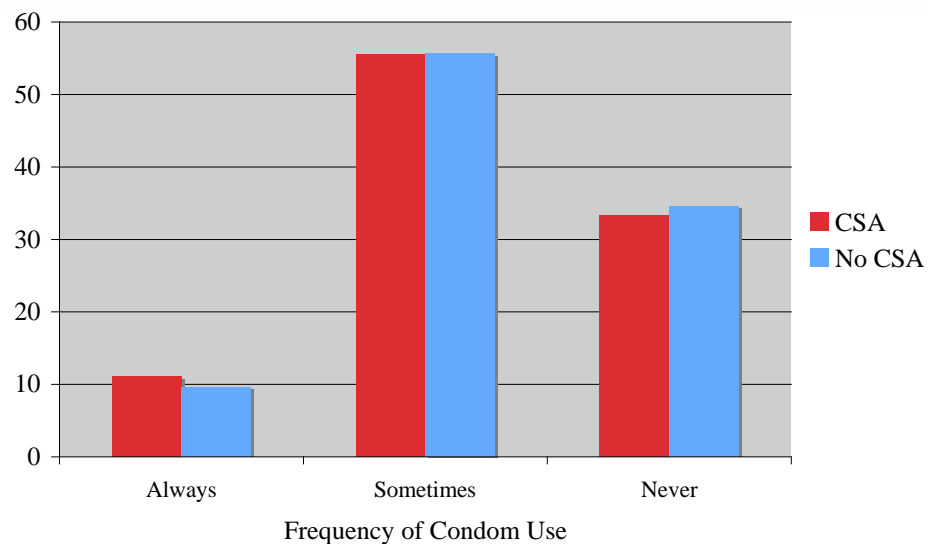


Condom Use at Sexual Initiation:

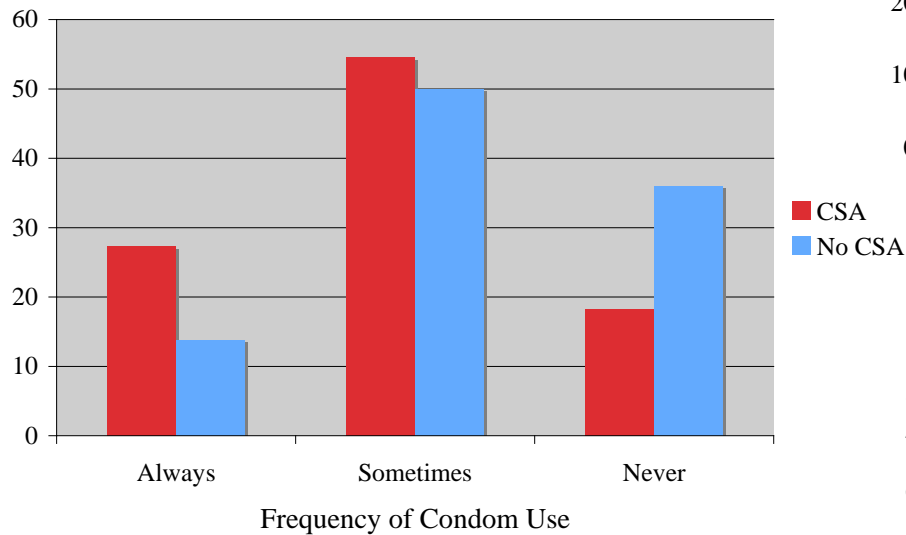
- 60% of sexually-active Non-CSA women used condoms during consented sexual initiation
- 45.5% of sexually-active CSA women used condoms during consented sexual initiation

Condom Use, CSA vs. No CSA

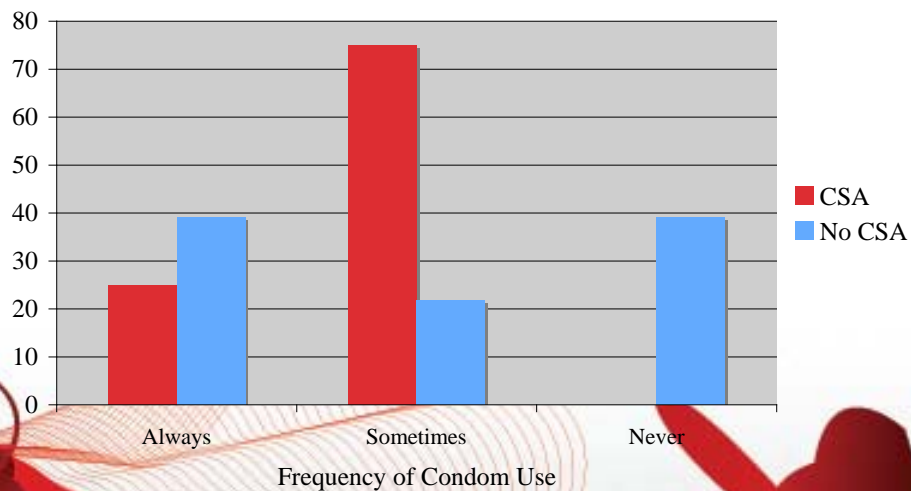
Frequency Condom Use, Stable Sex Partner



Frequency Condom Use, past year

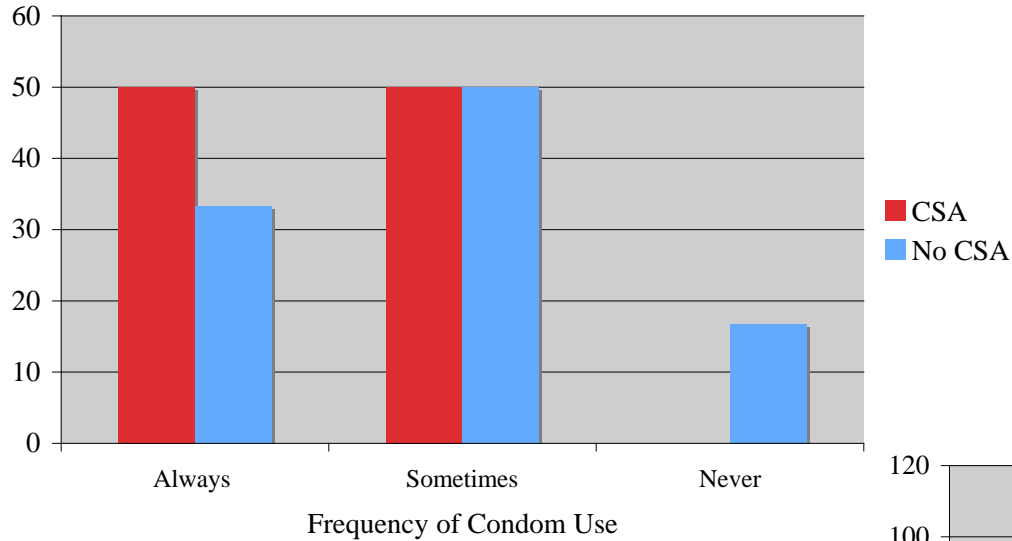


Frequency Condom Use, Occasional Known Sex Partner

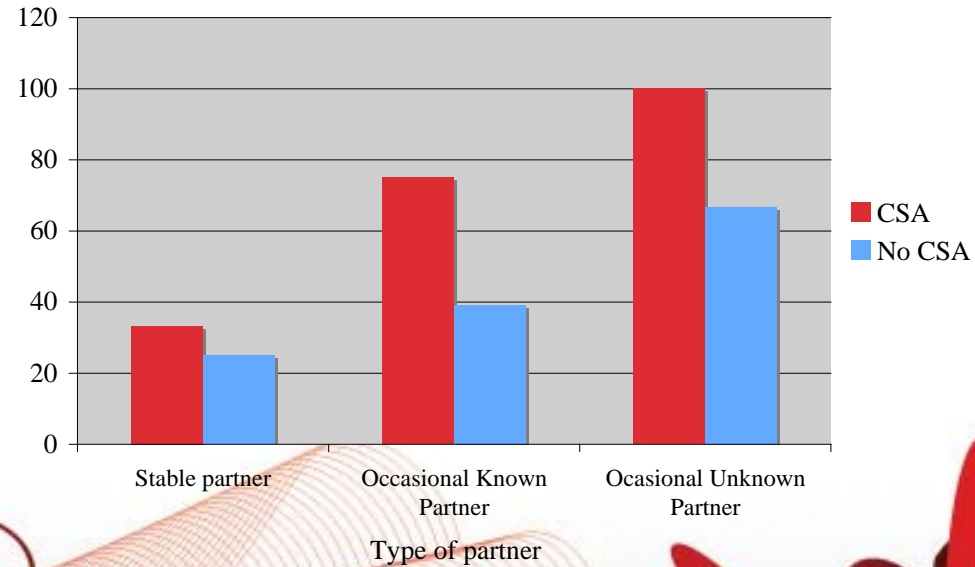


Condom Use, CSA vs. No CSA

Frequency Condom Use,
Occasional Unknown Sex Partner



Condom Use, Last Sexual Intercourse



Preliminary Conclusions

- Study confirms ACASI as an effective tool
- Rate of CSA/sexual violence in sample falls within range reported by international studies
- Female adolescents and youth w/ CSA history report higher rates of:
 - Consumption before/during sex
 - Exchange of sex
- Female adolescents and youth w/ CSA history report:
 - Lower overall HIV transmission knowledge
- Female adolescents and youth w/ CSA history are significantly more likely to:
 - Report multiple sexual partners
- Sample w/ CSA history: using condoms, higher rates of use than non-abused girls

- | | |
|---|------------------|
| ✓ | Lessons learned |
| ✓ | Limitations |
| ✓ | Further Research |

THANK YOU!

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