

## **Executive Summary for Project MSS 240R**

### **Prevalence, perceptions, and intention related to various forms of HIV testing among male clients of female sex workers in Hong Kong**

**Objectives:** The study investigates prevalence, perceptions and intention for usage related to various forms of HIV testing (e.g. facility-based testing and self-testing) among male clients of female sex workers (CFSW) in Hong Kong. Factors associated with life-time HIV testing, testing in the last 12 months and intention for any form of testing and HIV self-testing (HIVST) in the next 12 months will be investigated.

**Design:** A cross-sectional survey.

**Participants:** Inclusion criteria were: 1) Hong Kong Chinese males aged  $\geq 18$  years, 2) self-reported having patronized at least one FSW in the last six months, and 3) had visited websites/Apps to access information about FSW. A total of 303 participants recruited online (n=160) or through outreach in venues (n=143) completed the anonymous self-administered questionnaire.

**Main outcome measures:** 1) HIV testing experience (life time and last 12 months), 2) intention to take up HIV testing in the next 12 months, 3) type of HIV testing and counseling involved in the last testing, 4) perceptions related to self-testing.

**Results:** The prevalence of taking up any forms of HIV testing and HIVST in lifetime was 49.2% and 2.6%, respectively. Among those who had taken up any HIV testing in the last year (n=72, 23.8% of all participants), most of them performed the last HIV testing in NGOs (69.4%) and 70.8% of their last HIV testing involved counseling. Only 16.5% intended to take up any forms of HIV testing in the next 12 months.

In adjusted analysis, perceived benefit, perceived psychological barriers or logistic barriers, and perceived self-efficacy related to HIV testing were significantly associated with uptake of HIV testing in lifetime and in the last year. In addition, Emotional Representation Scale and perceived risk of HIV infection via unprotected sex with FSW were significantly associated with uptake of any HIV testing in lifetime but not in the last year, while perceived severity of HIV infection was associated with uptake of any HIV testing in the last year.

In adjusted analysis, perceived overall risk of HIV infection, perceived benefit, perceived psychological barriers, perceived logistic barriers, and perceived self-efficacy related to HIV testing were significantly associated with behavioral intention to take up any forms of HIV

testing.

Regarding HIVST, 26.1% had ever heard of HIVST, 19.1-36.0% had some misconceptions about HIVST, and 23.8% intended to use HIVST in the next year. Among those with behavioral intention to use HIVST, 44.4% would prefer HIVST with telephone or online counseling services. Adjusted analysis showed that perceived risk of HIV infection via unprotected sex with FSW, positive attitudes toward HIVST, perceived significant others would support their use of HIVST, and perceived behavioral control of using HIVST were significantly associated with behavioral intention to use HIVST.

**Conclusion:** The prevalence of HIV testing and behavioral intention to take up HIV testing in future was very low among local CFSW. Health promotion is urgently needed. The results of this study provided some insights for developing such promotion. The potential of HIVST in increasing testing rate among CFSW may also be considered.

## 香港嫖客對不同類型愛滋病測試的使用情況，認知及使用意願

### 目的：

1. 研究香港嫖客對不同類型的愛滋病測試（如在機構進行的愛滋病測試和自助愛滋病測試）的使用情況，認知和使用意願。
2. 分析與一生中及過去一年中使用過愛滋病測試相關的因素。
3. 分析與使用任何形式的愛滋病測試和自助愛滋病測試意願相關的因素。

### 研究設計：橫斷面調查

**參加者：**參加者為年滿 18 周歲的香港男性，自我報告過去六個月內曾與至少一名女性性工作者發生過性行為，並且曾經通過網頁或者手機應用程式搜索與女性性工作者相關的信息。共有 303 名參加者填寫了不記名的問卷（網上招募：160 人，場所招募：143 人）。

### 主要研究指標：

1. 一生中及過去一年中愛滋病測試的使用率
2. 未來一年內接受任何一種愛滋病測試的意願
3. 最近一次愛滋病測試的形式，以及是否包括諮詢
4. 有關愛滋病自助測試的認知

### 結果：

有 49.2% 的參加者在一生中使用過任何形式的愛滋病測試，有 2.6% 使用過自助愛滋病測試。在過去一年中接受過愛滋病測試的 72 名參加者中，有 69.4% 最近一次測試是在香港的非政府組織中進行的，有 70.8% 在最近一次愛滋病測試中接受了諮詢。所有參加者中只有 16.5% 有意願在未來一年內接受任何形式的愛滋病測試。

感知與愛滋病測試有關的好處，心理障礙（例如擔心受到服務提供者的歧視），現實障礙（做測試的地方對你來說不方便），以及自我效能（是否去做測試完全在自己掌握之中）與一生中或過去一年中使用過愛滋病測試，或者未來一年使用愛滋病測試的意願顯著相關。

有 26.1% 的參加者曾經聽說過自助愛滋病測試，19.1-36.0% 對自助測試存在不同的誤解，23.8% 有意願在未來一年內使用自助測試。在有意願使用自助測試的參加者中，44.4% 傾向於使用有電話或網上諮詢服務的自助測試。與使用自助測試意願顯著相關的因素包括感知患上愛滋病的風險，對自助測試的積極態度，認為對自己重要的人會支持自己使用自助測試，以及認為做愛滋病自助測試完全在自己的掌握之中。

**結論：**

雖然普遍存在高危行為，香港嫖客的愛滋病測試使用率和使用意願都很低。本研究的結果為設計亟需的健康促進提供了參考。愛滋病自助測試有可能作為提高他們測試率的方式。