



Sciences Economiques et Sociales de la Santé
& Traitement de l'Information Médicale

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**Prevalence and Correlates of Violence against Female Sex Workers in Zambia:
a Cross-sectional Study.**

Janvier 2019



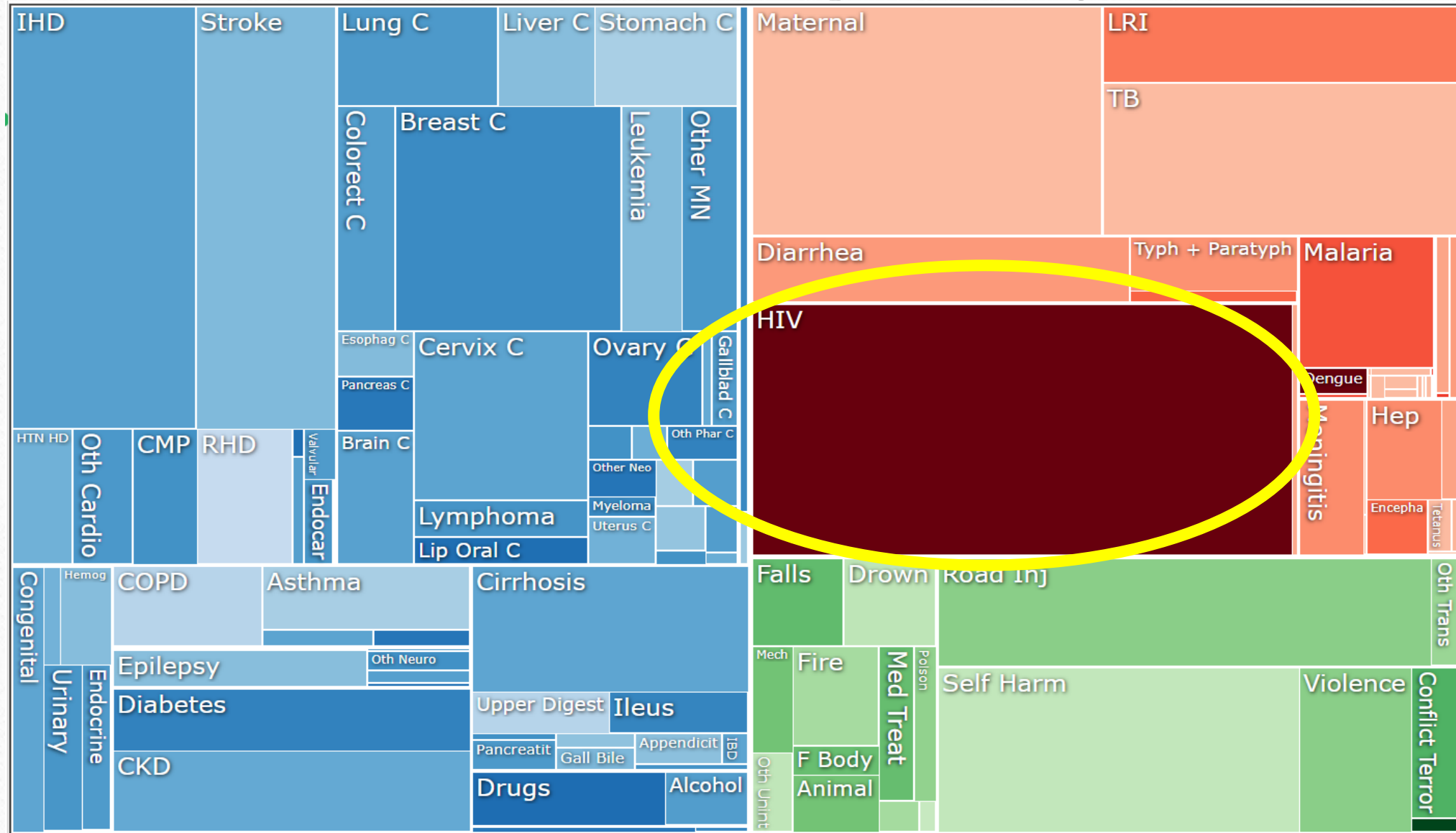
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Prevalence and Correlates of Violence against Female Sex Workers in Zambia

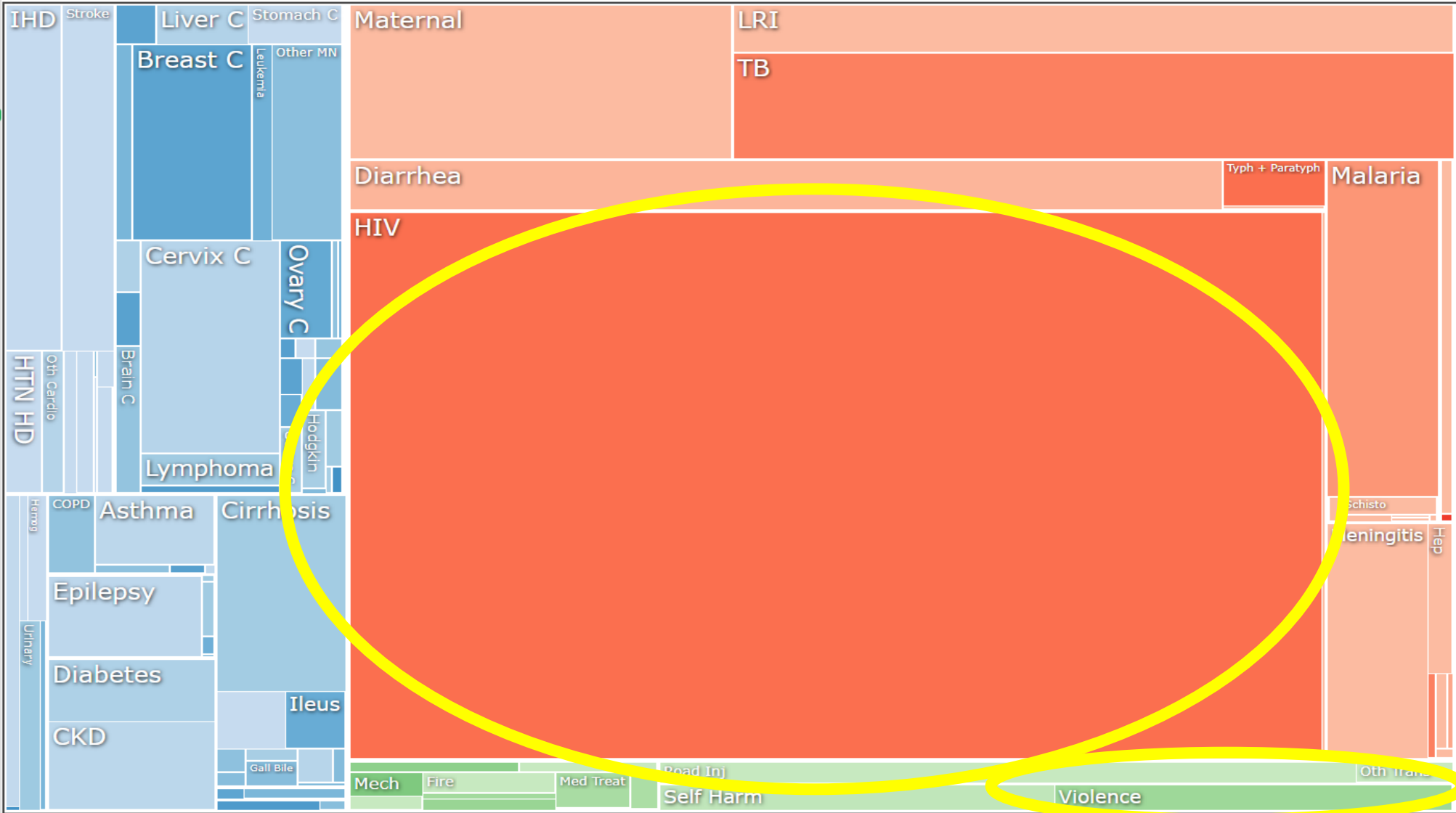
Kalonde Malama

CONTEXT

Global Burden of Disease in Women of Reproductive Age (15-45), 2017



Burden of Disease in Zambian Women of Reproductive Age (15-45), 2017



Zambia



- HIV prevalence:
 - General population- 11.5%
 - Female sex workers (FSW)- 56%
- Prevalence of physical violence:
 - Women aged 15 to 45- 43%
- Sex work “legal”

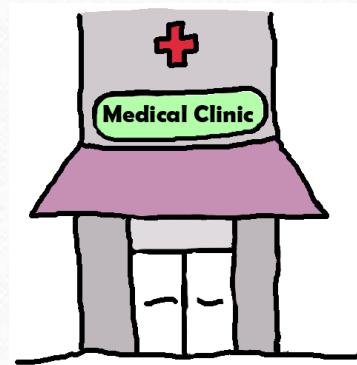


Sex work and client violence

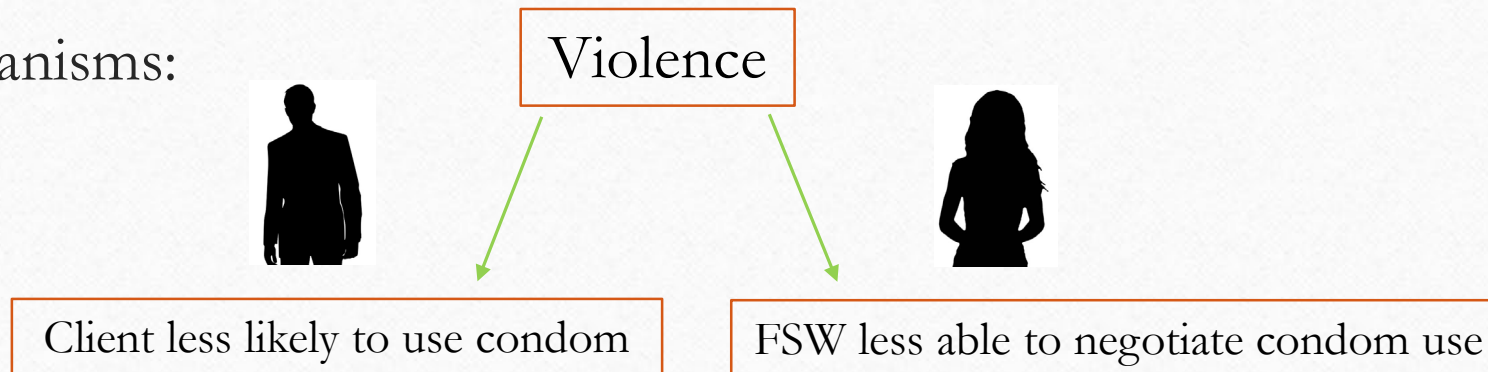
- Literature in Zambia shows:
 - Male clients of FSW: favour gender-based violence
 - FSW: physical, sexual and psychological violence from male clients
- Criminalisation + stigmatisation
- Increased risk of violence from male clients
- Mental and reproductive health consequences

Is there a relationship between violence and HIV?

- Indirect mechanisms:



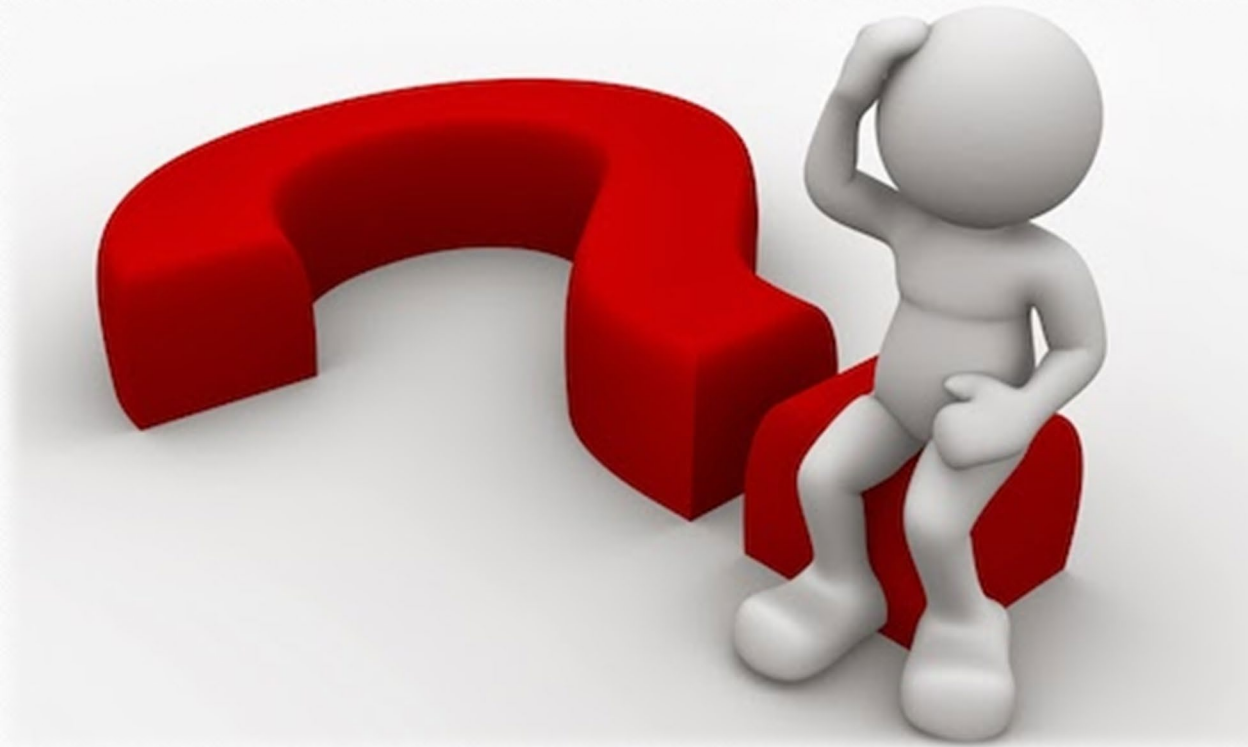
- Direct mechanisms:



Research questions

What is the prevalence of client-initiated violence against FSW?

What are the factors associated with client-initiated violence?

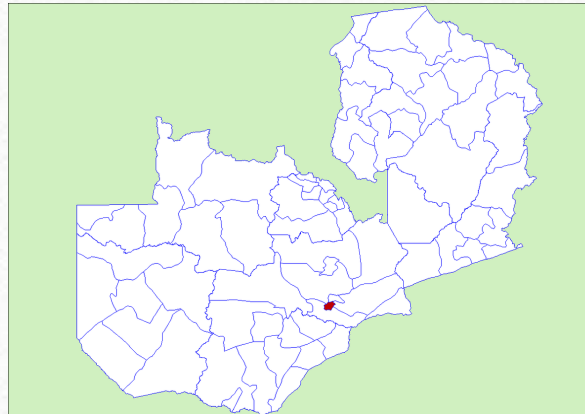


METHODS

Setting

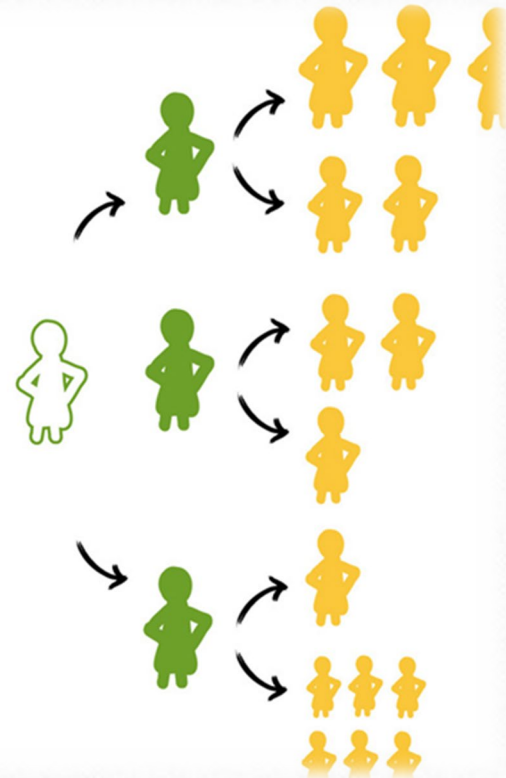
Zambia-Emory HIV Research Project (ZEHRP)

- Lusaka
 - Capital city
 - 2,500,000 inhabitants
- Ndola
 - Copperbelt province
 - 500,000 inhabitants



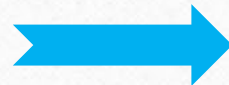
Study sample

- 419 women recruited by peers
- Age: 18-45
- Exchange sex for money



Data collection

- Sep 2012-May 2015
- Face-to-face interviews
- Trained nurse counsellors
- Cross-sectional



ZAMBIA BASELINE FSW QUESTIONNAIRE, NYANJA

SWID : Date (DD-MMM-YYYY) :

(SWID)

City Code (CITY): Lusaka Ndola

Nurse/Doctor filling out form (HNURSE):

Counselor filling out form (HCOUNS) : (may be left blank if entire form is completed by nurse)

Director/Intern QC (QCIDENT)

SOCIO DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

1. How many years have you been living in (Lusaka/Ndola)? (DLCITY) ____ years
(Mwakhala zaka zingati mu Lusaka/Ndola / Mwaikala imyaka inga muLusaka/Ndola)

2. What is the highest formal school education you completed? (Kodi ndi kilasi bwanji yapamwamba maning munaphunzira kusiliza?) (DEDUCATE)

Primary

Outcome

« Have you ever been physically struck by any of your male clients? »

Y/N



Analysis

- Multiple logistic regression
- Adjusted odds ratios (AOR)
- 95% confidence intervals (CI)

Variables tested

Demographics

- Age
- Education

Sexual History

- Age at sexual debut
- Age at entry into sex work

Behaviour

- Alcohol consumption
- STI results
- Number of clients
- Condom use with clients

Environment

- City of residence
- Venues for recruitment
- Venues for sex

RESULTS

Sex worker profile

Demographics

24 years old (IQR: 18-45)

Primary school (56%)

Sexual History

17 at entry into sex work (IQR: 16-20)

5 years in sex work (IQR: 3-8)

Behaviour

10 clients per month (IQR: 7-21)

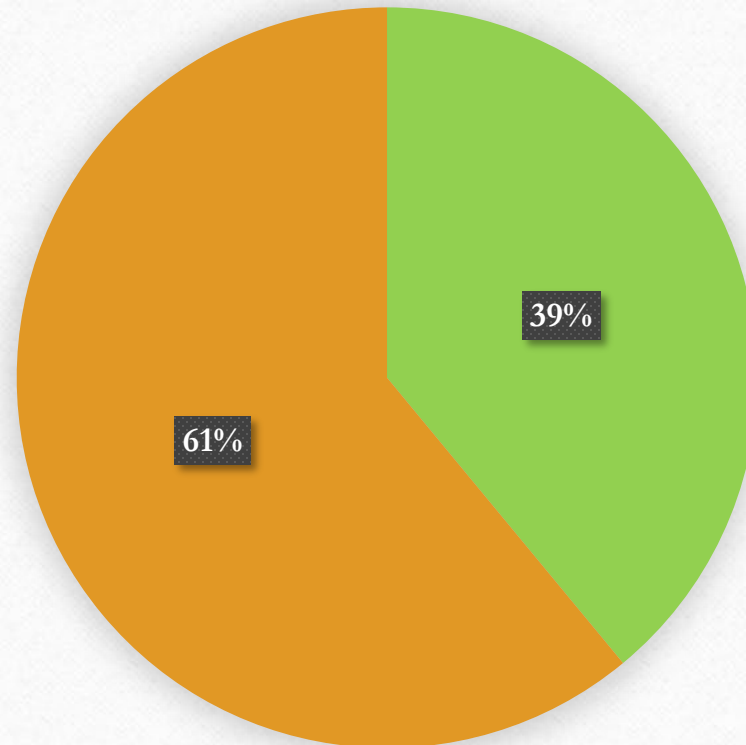
Always use condoms (20%)

Environment

Recruit clients from bars (95%) and street (51%)

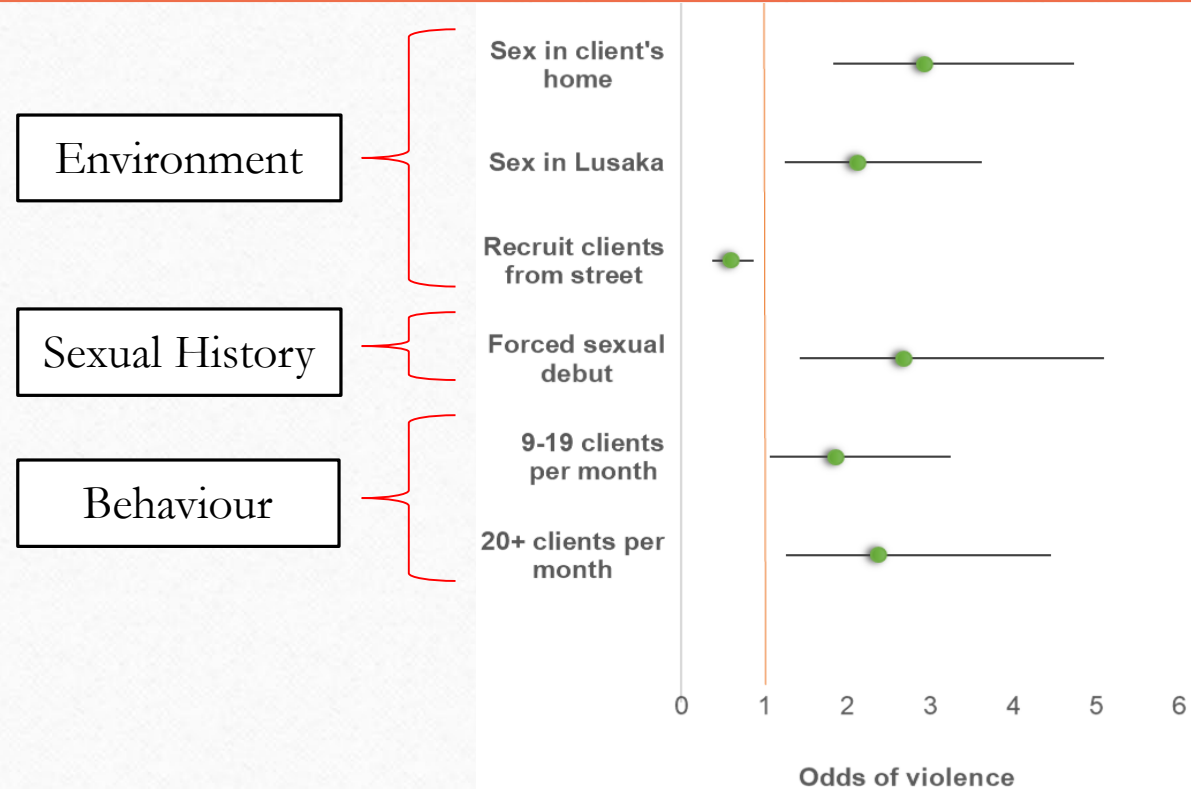
Service clients in lodges (75%) and clients home (42%)

Prevalence of violence



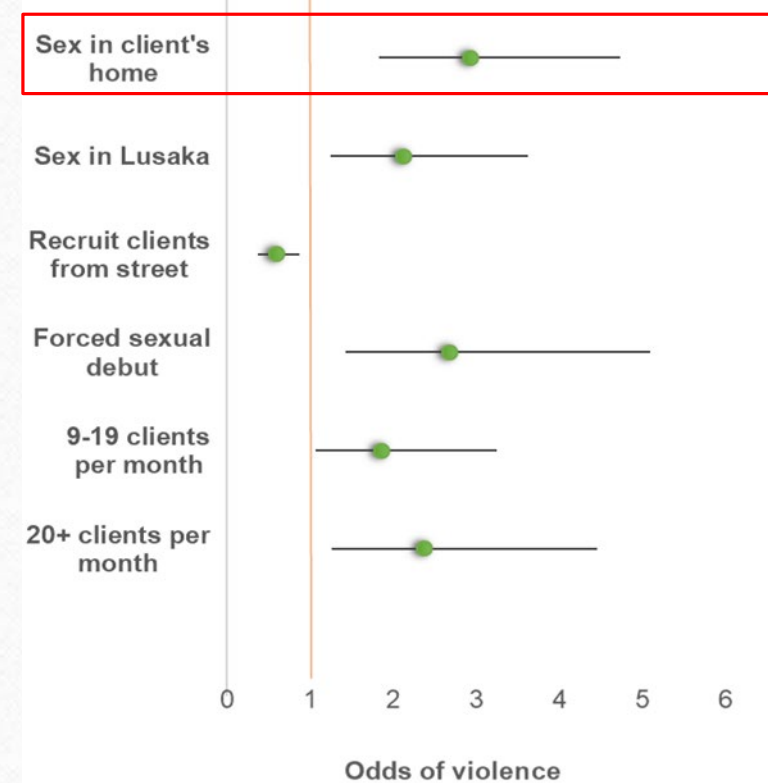
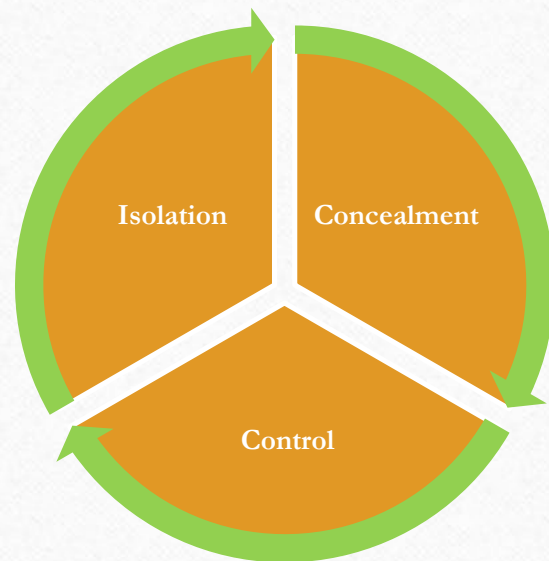
- Ever experienced violence
- Never experienced violence

Factors associated with violence



Having sex in client's home

- Violence ↑
- AOR: 2.94, 95%CI: 1.84-4.74



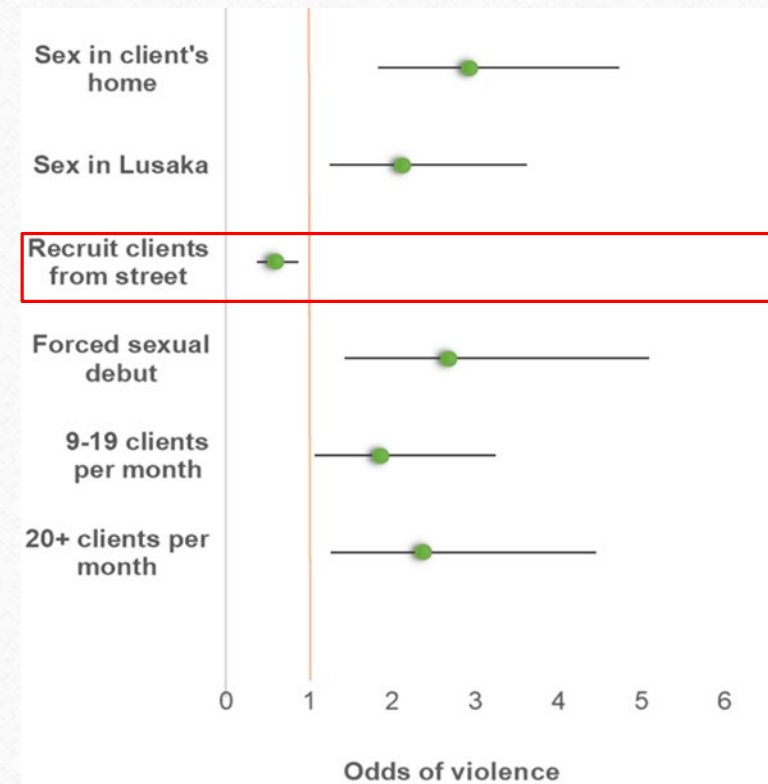
Sex work in Lusaka

- Violence ↑
- AOR: 2,13, 95%CI: 1.25-3.62



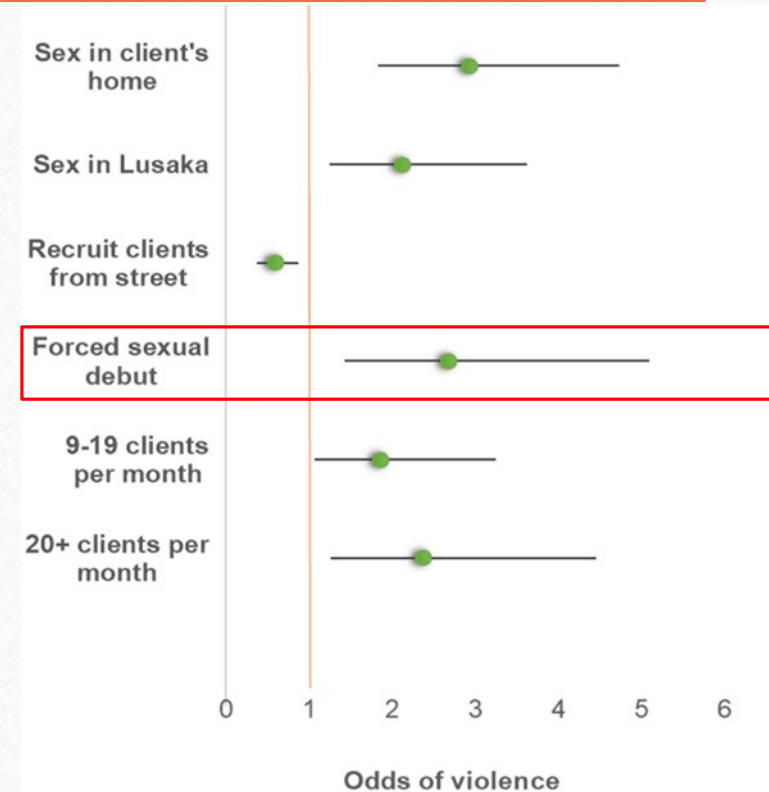
Recruiting clients from the street

- Violence ↓
- AOR 0.60, 95%CI: 0.38-0.97



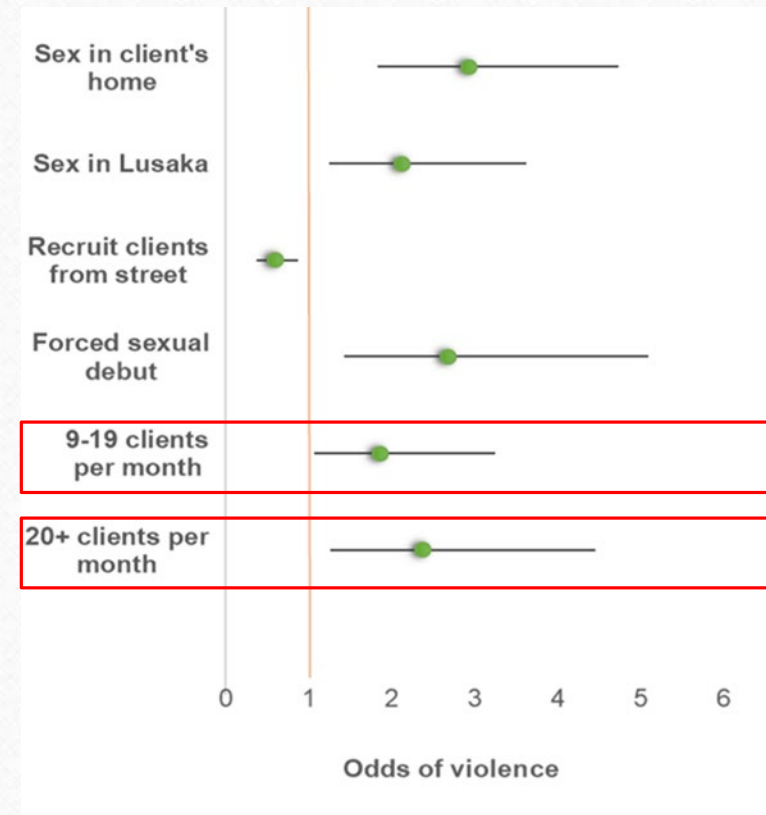
Physically forced sexual debut

- Violence ↑
- AOR: 2.69, 95%CI: 1.43-5.10



Number of clients seen

- Violence ↑
- 9-19 clients per month:
 - AOR: 1.87, 95%CI: 1.07-3.25
- 20+ clients per month
 - AOR: 2.38, 95%CI: 1.27-4.46



Limitations

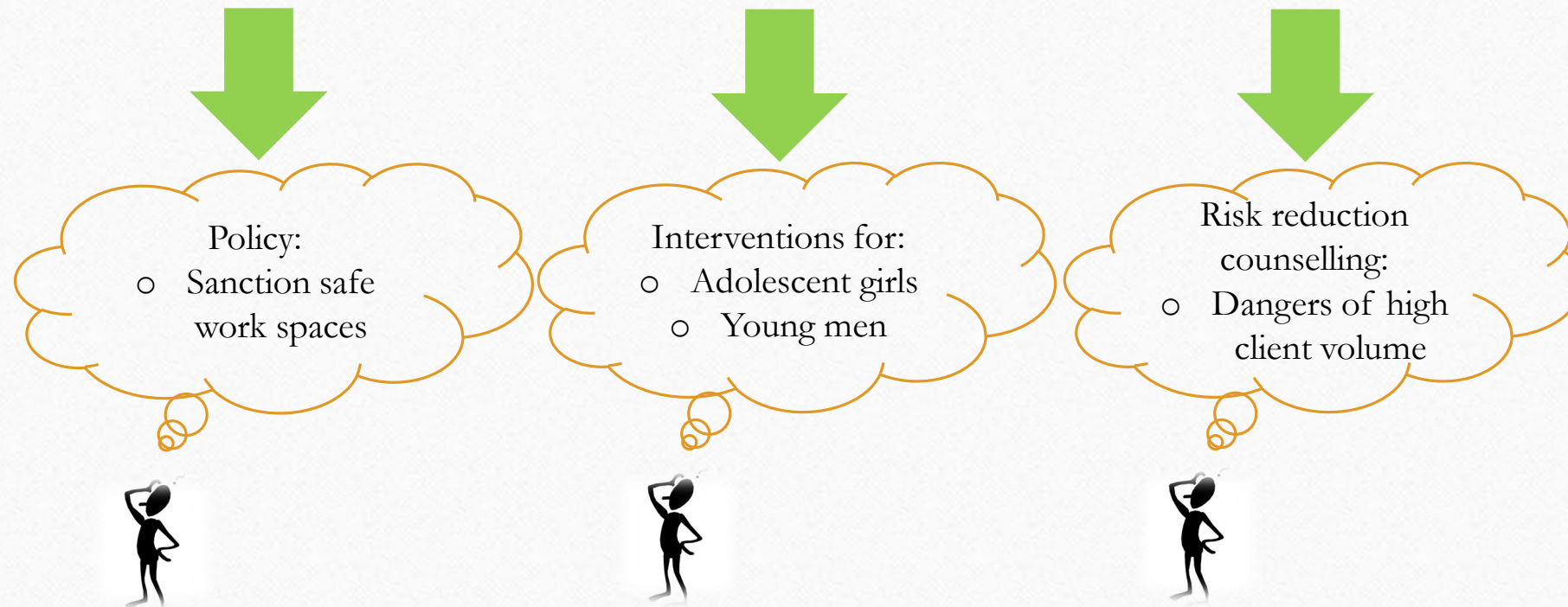
- Cannot infer causality
- Social desirability bias
- Other forms of violence:
 - Sexual violence?
 - Psychological violence?
- Other perpetrators:
 - Intimate partners?
 - Police?



CONCLUSIONS

Take home messages

- Sexual environment, sexual history and sexual behaviour = important factors



Next steps...

- On-going discussions with:
 - International AIDS Vaccine Initiative & Zambia-Emory HIV Research Project
- Goal:
 - Create a guideline document for preventing violence against FSW
- Target audience:
 - Communities
 - Law enforcement



Acknowledgements



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And many other generous individuals from around the world

As of January 2017



“Considering [sex work] a crime is a large part of the reason it leads to abuse of women. Since it's the 'oldest profession,' I don't believe we'll eliminate it, and therefore ought to make it safe for the people involved.”

- Carol McGuire