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Georgia Southern Examines Healthcare-Associated Infections

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On any given day approximately 1 of every 25 inpatients in U.S. acute care hospitals has at least one healthcare-associated infection (HAI), adding up to about 722,000 infections in 2011. The most common healthcare-associated infections are pneumonia (22%), gastrointestinal infections (17%), urinary tract infections (13%), and bloodstream infections (10%). The article discusses current HAI issues with respect 1) vulnerable populations, 2) diverse healthcare sites and levels of healthcare workers, 3) increased pathogens and their resistance, and 4) responses by our national healthcare strategy to reduce HAI.

“Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAI): The Perfect Storm has Arrived!,” was published in Clinical Laboratory Science as the first of four in a FOCUS series about HAI.

Dr. Rodney E. Rhode, Professor and Chair at Texas State University was the lead author and Dr. Julie Reagan, Assistant Professor of Health Policy and Management at the Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health Georgia Southern University was one of the co-authors.
Georgia Southern Examines Internalized Homonegativity among AAMSM in Southeastern US

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Dr. Stacy Smallwood led a study that examined the psychometric properties of the Internalized Homonegativity Inventory (IHNI) among African American men who have sex with men (AAMSM) in the southeastern United States. Data from 261 AAMSM were analyzed using exploratory factor analysis. Results showed evidence of a two-factor solution: Personal and Moral Homonegativity, and Gay Affirmation. Internal consistencies were greater than .80, and correlations with other variables (e.g., sociodemographics, religiosity, masculinity) provided evidence of validity.

Findings suggesting a two- instead of three-factor solution may indicate that internalized homonegativity manifests differently for AAMSM in the Deep South than for predominantly-white MSM.

Further research should examine how incorporating new conceptions of internalized homonegativity into culturally-specific health promotion interventions for AAMSM might enhance effectiveness.


Dr. Stacy Smallwood, Assistant Professor of Community Health Behavior and Education at the Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health at Georgia Southern University, was the lead author.