

Second generation HIV surveillance in people asking for HIV testing for preventive reason in Slovakia

Staneková D, Jaščurová Z, Wimmerová S, Hábeková M, Mojzesová M, Krahulcová M
NRC for HIV/AIDS, Slovak Medical University, Bratislava, Slovakia

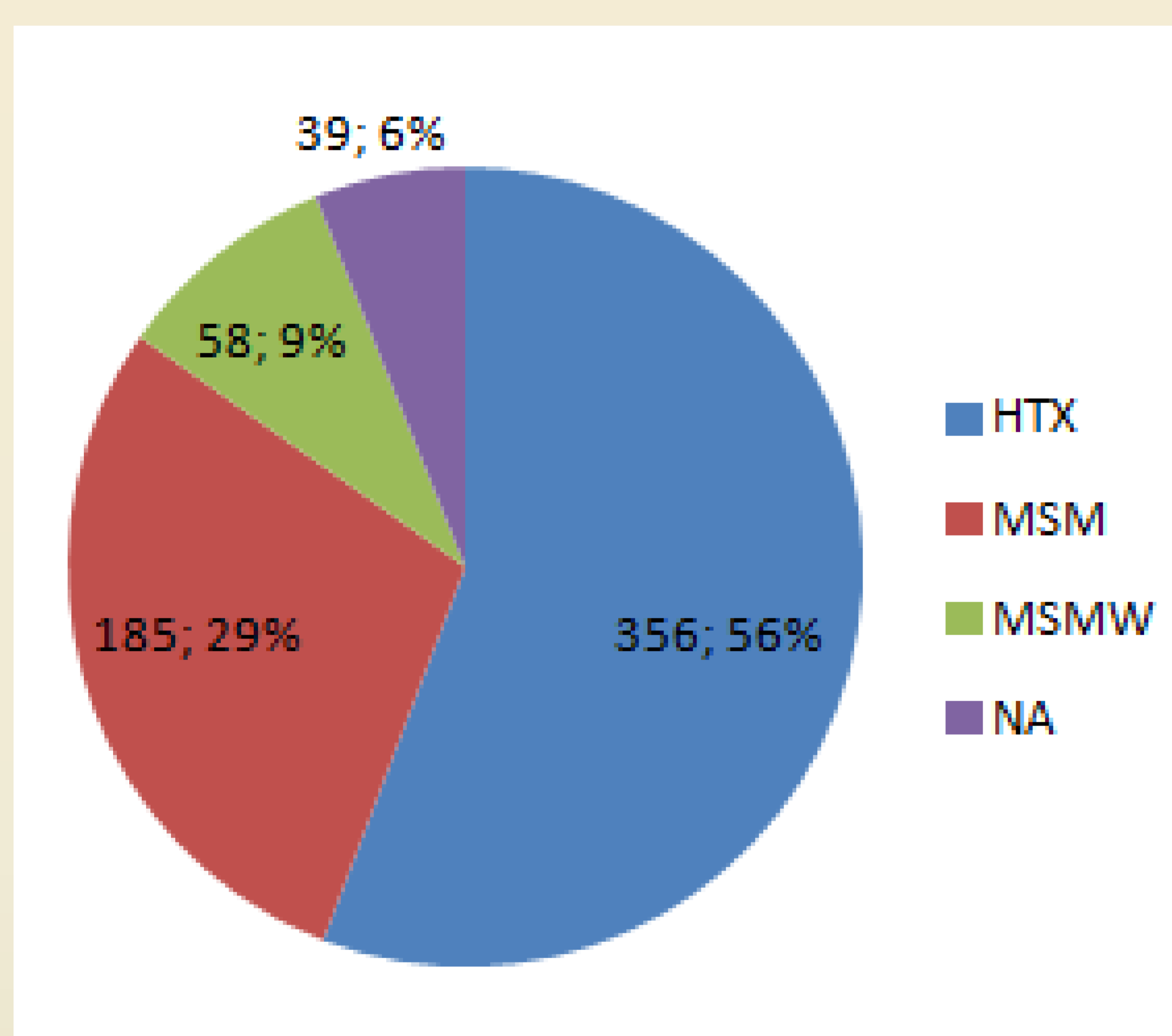
Introduction: HIV/AIDS infection remains one of the major public health problems in the world. 2nd generation HIV surveillance is an important tool for understanding HIV epidemic, including its influencing factors.

Objectives: Goal of the study was to describe HIV prevalence in the relationship to risk behaviour in clients asking for HIV testing in NRC for HIV/AIDS in Bratislava in 2017.

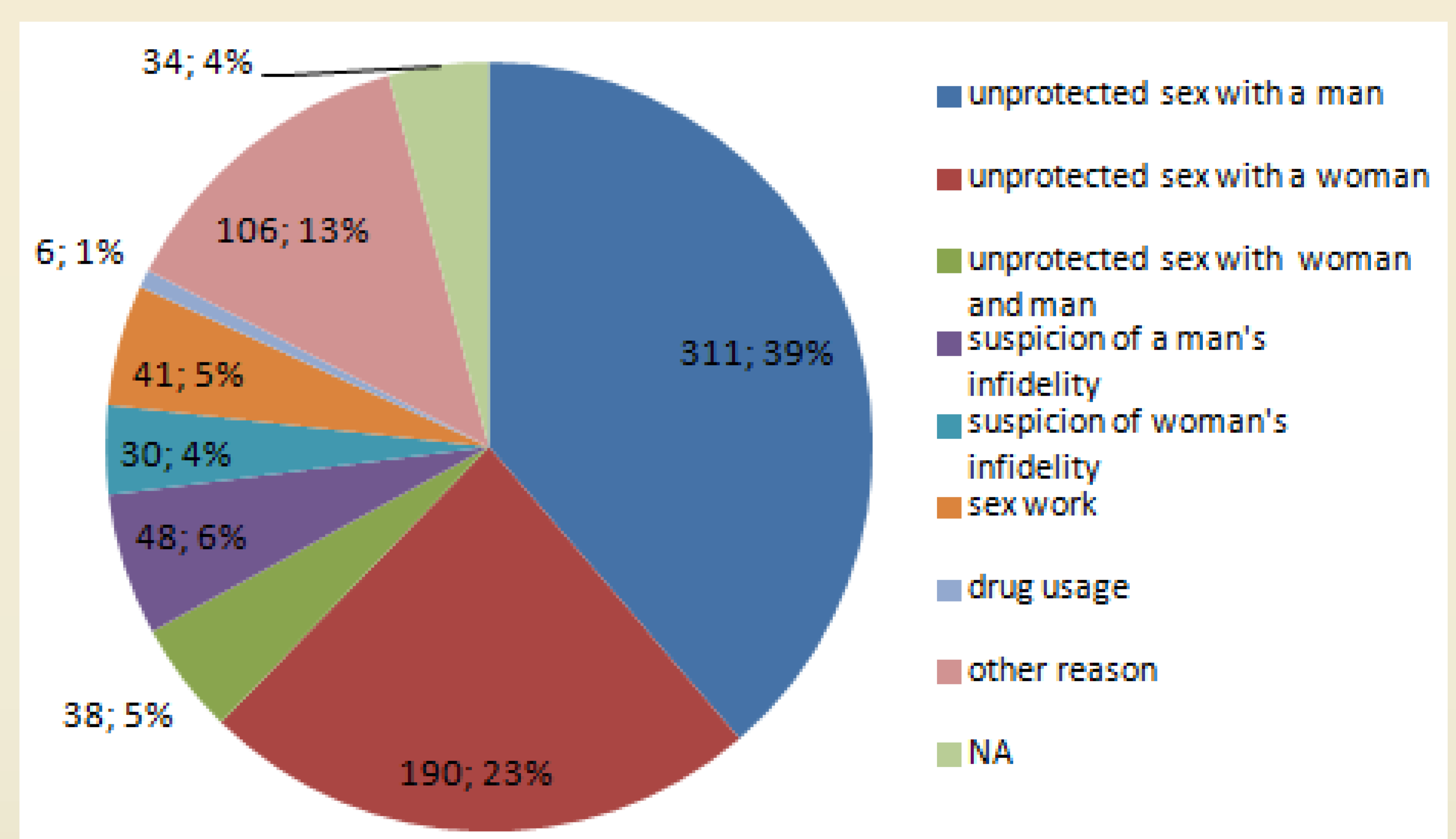
Methods: From 1.1.17 to 31.12.17 638 people, (75% men, 25% women), have asked for HIV testing for preventive reason in NRC. Simultaneously they have filled an anonymous questionnaire concerning their potential risk behaviour. HIV testing was provided by ELISA Ag/Ab test, all reactive samples were confirmed by western blot, alternatively by PCR. All obtained data were analyzed by SPSS 19 with the chi-square test.

Results: HIV infection was confirmed in 16 (2.2%) persons. Most of responders were in the age of 27-36 years (39,0%), single (81,5%) and living in Bratislava (69,4%).

Graph 1: Sexual orientation of responders



Graph 2: Client's reason for HIV testing



Explanations: MSM – men having sex with men, MSW – men having sex with women, MSMW: men having sex with both men and women, HTX - heterosexuals, NA – not answered

Men were tested significantly more often anonymously than women (37.1% vs, 27.3%, respectively), $p=0.024$. MSMW asked for anonymous HIV testing more often than MSM and MSW (44.2% vs. 29.0% vs. 41.2%, respectively). Significantly more MSMW declared more sexual partners over 12 months comparing to MSM and MSW (84.6% vs 72.8% vs 60.5%, respectively), $p = 0,019$. Significantly less MSMW did not use condom during their last sexual intercourse comparing to MSM and MSW (38.5% vs 60.1% vs 46.3%, respectively), $p < 0,05$.

Conclusion: Results of the study highlight the need to focus HIV prevention to MSMW which represent a hidden population with a high risk behaviour in Slovakia.

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