



MEN COUNT FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is MEN Count?

- HIV intervention and prevention program for Black heterosexual men (BHM)
- Delivered by peer case manager
- Curriculum integrates risk reduction and gender-equity counseling with housing and employment case management
- Program is being evaluated in Washington, DC by George Washington University and the University of California, San Diego using a randomized control trial design

What does the MEN Count Program Entail?

- 3 one-on-one sessions with a peer case manager over the course of 60-90 days
- Each session lasts 45-60 minutes
- There may be check-in sessions via phone in between sessions if necessary
- 4 -6 weeks between each session

What do participants enrolled in the study have to do?

In addition to the 3 sessions with the peer case manager participants are asked:

- to complete a computerized survey on a tablet
- Provide samples for HIV and STI (Chlamydia and gonorrhea) testing (saliva for HIV and urine for STI).
- Surveys and HIV/STI testing happen at baseline, 6 month and 12 month follow-up
- 50 participants will have the opportunity to participate in a qualitative interview to give feedback on the program 6 months after enrolling in the study

MEN COUNT STUDY PARTICIPANT ACTIVITIES TIMELINE



What is the compensation?

Participants are compensated for the time after completing the survey and HIV/STI testing at the following amounts:

- Baseline Survey and HIV/STI testing - \$30
- 6 month Survey and HIV/STI testing - \$40
- 12 month Survey and HIV/STI testing - \$50
- 6 month Qualitative Interview - \$50

Participants have to opportunity to be compensated up to \$170 in total if they complete all of the research activities listed above.

Participants are also paid for referring other men to the program; \$10 per eligible referral up to 5 referrals (\$50)

Who is eligible?

Eligibility Criteria.

1. Self-identified Black or African American man, aged 18 – 44 years old and English fluent;
2. Report sex with 2+ women in the past 12 months AND unprotected vaginal sex in the past 12 months;
3. Reports housing instability in the past 6 months (i.e., at least one night in shelter or on the streets) OR current unemployment (currently having no legal employment for money);
4. Willing to participate in the MEN Count program, complete surveys, and be tested for HIV/STIs;
5. Can provide contact information for self and 2 other individuals through whom we could reach them.

Exclusion criteria

1. Currently participate in a similar program, or participated in a similar program in the past 2 years.
2. Plan to leave Washington D.C., Maryland, or Virginia area in the next 6 months;
3. Are cognitively impaired (based on Folstein Mini-Mental Exam 68) at recruitment or baseline testing; or
4. Have self-reported health status that prohibits them from participating in the program;

How many men will the study enroll?

504 men across 5 years

What's the difference between the MEN Count program curriculum and the Attention Comparison Curriculum?

MEN Count Curriculum – Each session includes:

- a) Personalized employment, housing stability and sexual risk assessments
- b) Guided examination of why identified risks (e.g., multiple sex partners, non-use of condoms) occur, with an eye toward theory-supported risk factors including traditional masculinity ideologies, substance use and mental health, and low HIV knowledge and risk perceptions,
- c) Identification of social or health service (e.g., substance abuse treatment and mental health services) referrals or known job opportunities to reduce concurrent sexual partnerships affected by these concerns
- d) Supporting maintenance in stable job or housing situations when frustrations in these occur
- e) Problem solving an action plan of concrete steps that the client can undertake to reduce unsafe sex practices including unprotected sex and multiple sex partners and to stabilize their housing and employment; recognition/positive reinforcement of enactment of action plans (Sessions 2 & 3).

Attention Comparison Curriculum – Each session includes:

- a) Stress reduction
- b) Discussion of general men's health and primary healthcare utilization
- c) Identification of social or health service (e.g., substance abuse treatment and mental health services) referrals or known job opportunities
- d) Supporting maintenance in stable job or housing situations when frustrations in these occur