

Determinants of gender and racial inequality in HIV in South Africa: results from the 2012 population-based national survey

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BACKGROUND

- South Africa carries the largest share of the global HIV burden; the epidemic disproportionately affecting women than men, and is highest among Black Africans compared to other race groups.
- Much attention has been paid to seeking to explain the gendered nature of the HIV epidemic within sexual relationships in the absence of the racial dimension.
- More evidence is needed to advance the understanding of factors that continue to contribute to gender-based racial inequalities in HIV especially given the changing epidemiology of the epidemic in the country.

AIM

- To investigate socio-demographic and behavioural factors that perpetuate gender and racial inequalities in HIV using the 2012 population-based national household survey.

METHOD

Study design

- The study is based on a large multi-stage cross-sectional sampling design from national representative household-based survey conducted in 2012.
- **Primary outcome:** HIV prevalence Stratified by gender and race.
- **Explanatory variables:** Socio-demographic factors, sexual risk behaviours, alcohol use, self-perceived risk of HIV, ever test for HIV and awareness of HIV status.

Statistical analysis

- Bivariate and multivariate logistic regressions analysis were used to determine socio-demographic and HIV related risk factors associated gender and racial inequalities in HIV prevalence.

CONCLUSION

- Gender and racial inequalities premised on structural and contextual inequalities remain important factors in the maintenance of the generalized HIV epidemics in the country.
- HIV prevention interventions needs to cut across all strata of the South African society and target identified risk factors salient for specific groups.
- Improvements in gender and racial inequality should also be viewed as part of a broader public health strategy.

For further discussions:

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RESULTS

Figure 1: Multivariate logistic regression models of factors associated with HIV among Black African males and males from other race groups including White, Coloured, and Indians/Asians.

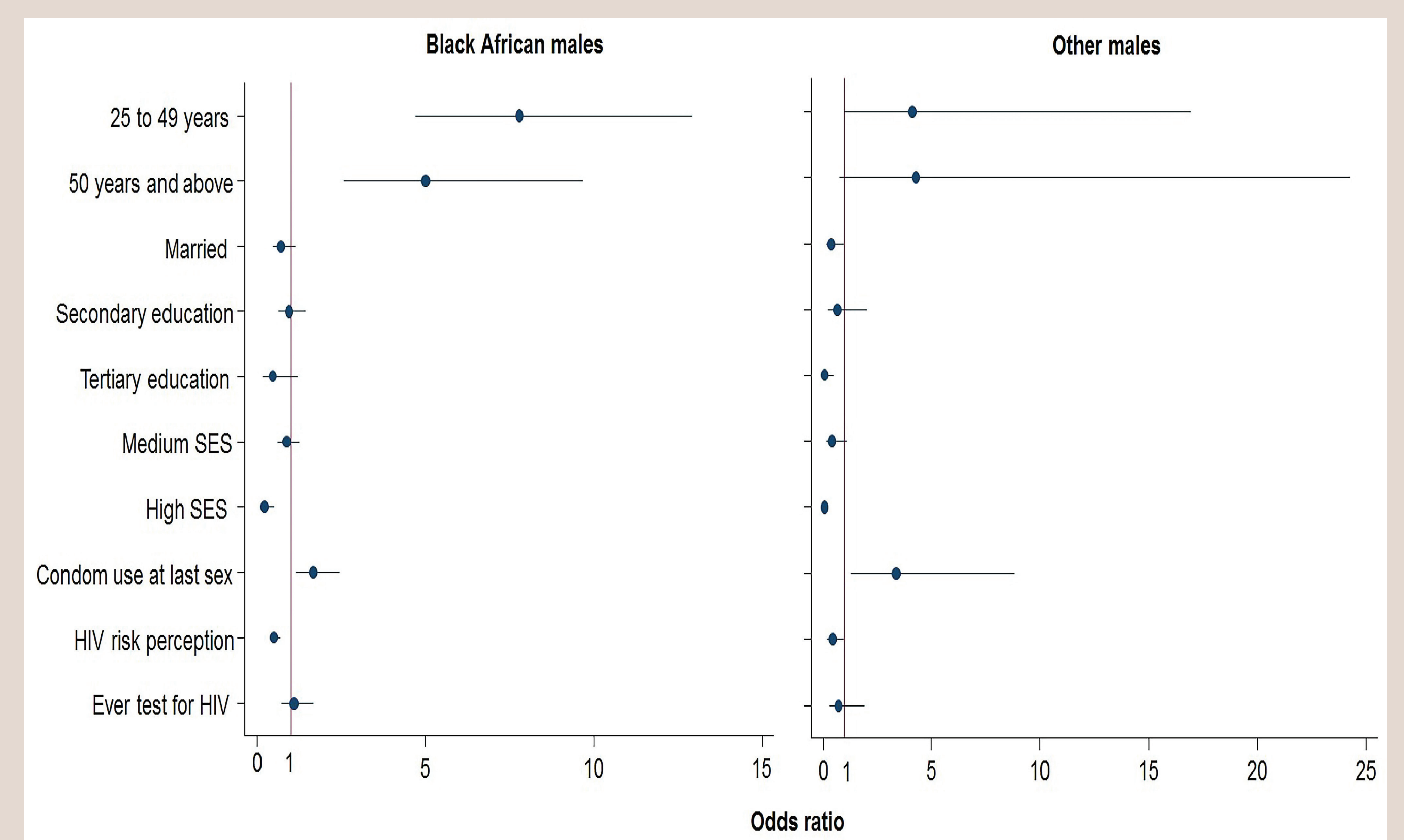


Figure 2: Multivariate logistic regression models of the determinants of factors associated with HIV among Black African females and females from other race groups including White, Coloured, and Indians/Asians.

