

Factors associated with accepting HIV tests in the United States: An integrative review

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BACKGROUND

- More than half of Americans have never had an HIV test.
- An estimated 161,000 Americans with unknown HIV status may be living with HIV.
- People with unknown HIV status account for 40% of new HIV diagnoses in the United States (U.S.).
- HIV testing is a gateway to prevent, diagnose and treat HIV.
- Unfortunately, not everyone offered HIV tests agrees to take the test.
- Only a few studies have investigated and reported factors associated with acceptance to test for HIV among individuals offered HIV testing in the U.S.

PURPOSE

To identify and synthesize peer-reviewed literature reporting factors associated with acceptance of HIV tests.

METHODS

The procedure used in this review followed Whittemore and Knafelz methodology for integrative reviews and was reported using the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) statement.

DATABASES

- Five databases were searched: Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health (CINAHL), PubMed, Embase, Scopus, and PsycINFO.

KEYWORDS

- Keywords searched (but not limited to): predictors, factors, counseling, test, screening, HIV, and United States.

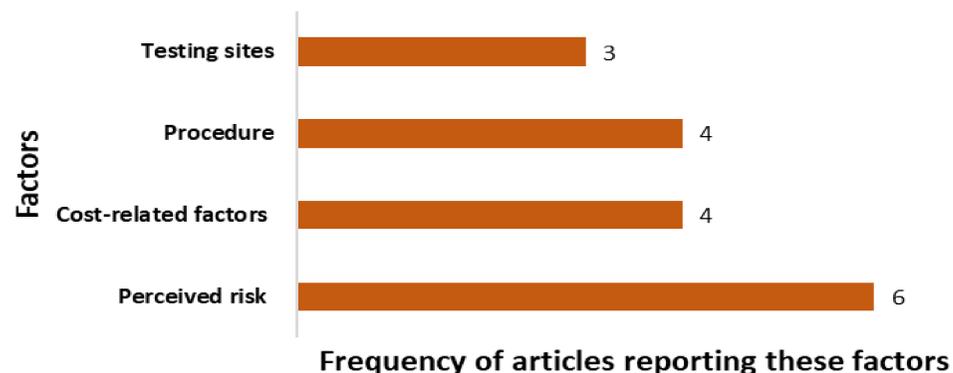
INCLUSION CRITERIA

- English, peer-reviewed, U.S. publications from 2010 to 2021. Study participants were ≥ 13 years, reported association between HIV testing and HIV testing offer or recommendations

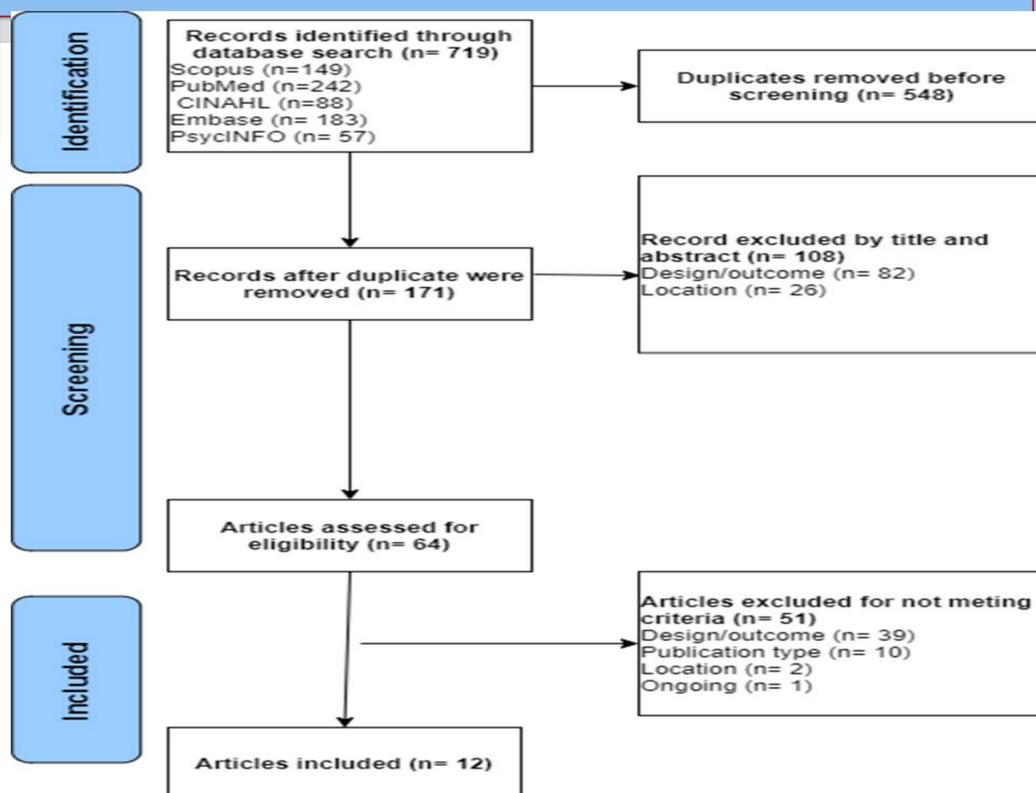
EXCLUSION CRITERIA

- Ongoing studies, has no information on participants' age.

Most commonly reported factors associated with acceptance of HIV tests



PRISMA MODEL



RESULTS n= 15

DESCRIPTION OF STUDIES

DESIGN

- Ten quantitative and two qualitative.

POPULATION

- All eligible men and women (n= 5)
- College students (n= 2)
- Gay and bisexual men (n=2)
 - Black gay and bisexual men (n= 1)
- Women (n= 2)
 - Latina women (n= 1)

SAMPLE SIZE

- Ranged from 24 to 42,550

FINDINGS

PERCEIVED RISK: knowledge of HIV, susceptibility, curiosity about HIV status, and risk to others.

COST-RELATED FACTORS: insurance coverage, and cost of test.

PROCEDURE: type of HIV test, counseling duration, time of the day tests were offered, and opt-out option.

TESTING SITES: clinic, community, or at home.

COMMON FINDINGS

MOST ARTICLES RECOMMEND THE FOLLOWING:

- Removal of written informed consent
- Removal of pre-HIV test or pre-test counseling
- Option to opt-out of HIV test

CONCLUSION

- Perceived HIV risk, financial constraints, testing procedures, and testing sites were the most common factors associated with acceptance to test for HIV.
- There is a paucity of qualitative data and information on rural U.S. regions.
- More qualitative and rural HIV studies are needed to understand factors associated with refusal and acceptance of HIV tests.
- Future studies should investigate the role of informed consent, pre-HIV counseling and opt-out option in HIV tests and preventive measures.