

Using Media as a Training Tool to Enhance the Ability of Health Care Providers to Deliver Sexual Health Care to Adolescents

Gowri Nagendra MPH^{1,2}, Alwyn T. Cohall³, Bruce Armstrong³, April Canete^{1,2} and Eunmee Chun².

(1)Public Health Solutions (2)NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (3)Columbia University Joseph L. Mailman School of Public Health

BACKGROUND

New York City STD/HIV Prevention Training Center (NYC PTC)

- ❖ The New York City STD/HIV Prevention Training Center is funded by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and is part of a national network that provides training and resources for clinical providers in New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico, the US Virgin Islands, Michigan, Indiana and Ohio.

Harlem Health Promotion Center (HHPC) at Columbia University

- ❖ The Harlem Health Promotion Center is a not-for-profit public health organization serving Harlem and uses community partnerships, development, training, evaluation, information technology, and infrastructure to improve the health and well-being of Harlem residents across a broad spectrum of health issues.

Provider Training & Adolescent Health

- ❖ Health care providers can play an important role in helping to build an adolescent's motivation and capacity to prevent sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and adhere to treatment
- ❖ It can be difficult for providers to discuss sexual health with adolescents due to the lack of training or skills and to time constraints to attend live trainings.
- ❖ The NYC PTC in collaboration with the Joseph L. Mailman School of Public Health and HHPC at Columbia University developed a provider-focused DVD on working with adolescents to improve sexual health and is entitled "An Empowering Approach to Interviewing, Screening, Educating, and Counseling Adolescents At-Risk for Sexually Transmitted Infections".

OBJECTIVE

- ❖ To describe a provider-focused DVD on working with adolescents regarding sexual health.

METHODS

- ❖ The DVD describes a clinical encounter from a provider perspective and discusses how a provider can address an adolescent patient's sexual health.
- ❖ A guide accompanying the DVD was developed and describes methods of interviewing, screening, educating and counseling adolescents.
- ❖ An "Empowerment Approach" (strengths-based) is used which includes:
 - ❖ Identifying adolescents' competencies and assets
 - ❖ Helping to improve and increase adolescents' decision-making skills
 - ❖ Reinforcing adolescents' health promoting behaviors
 - ❖ Building adolescents' self-efficacy and avoiding the tendency to blame problems on individual deficits.
- ❖ The DVD and the guide aim to create a partnership between healthcare providers and adolescents so that both are actively involved in taking steps to protect and promote the adolescent's health.

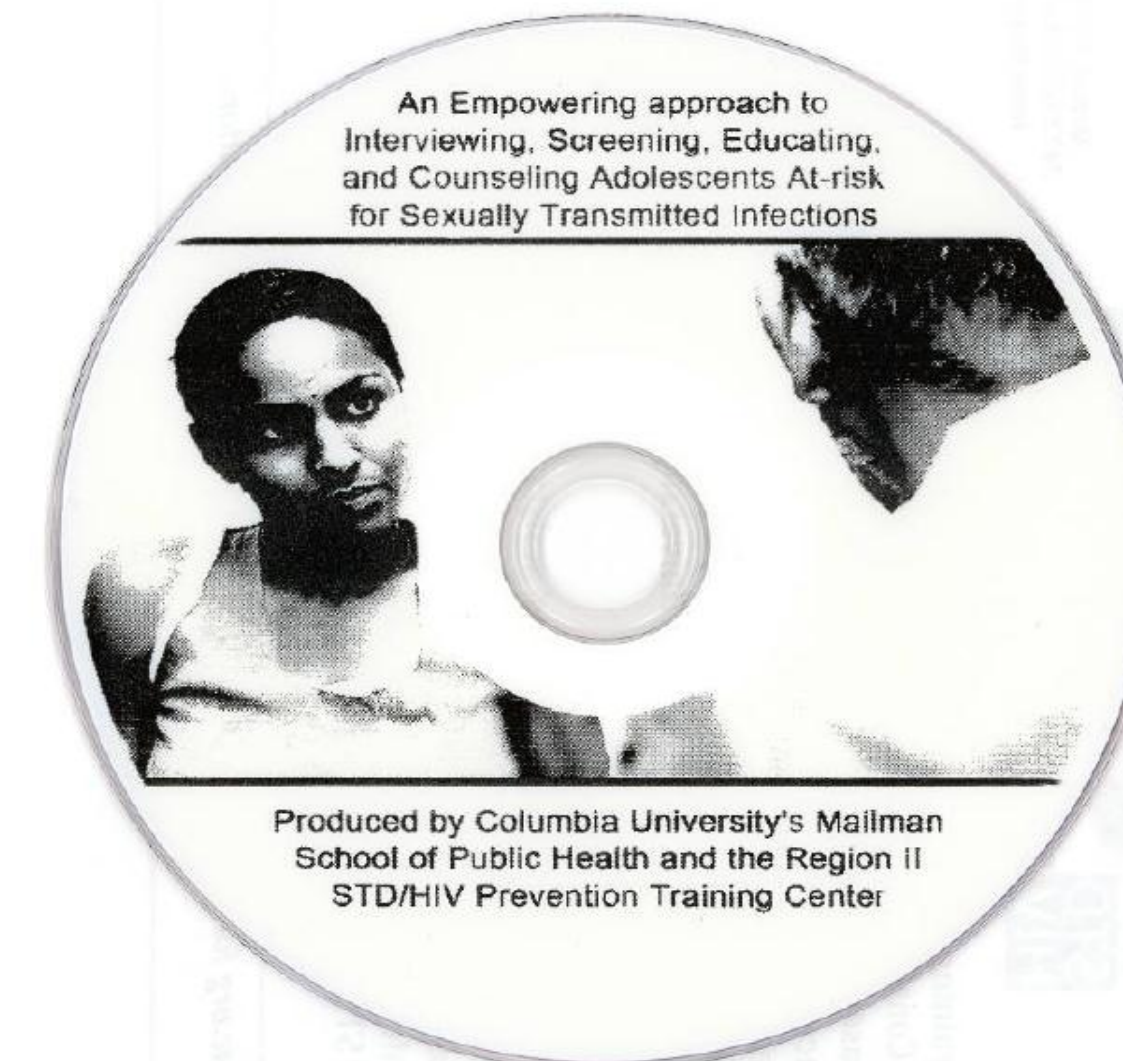
AN EMPOWERING APPROACH TO INTERVIEWING,
SCREENING, EDUCATING, AND COUNSELING
ADOLESCENTS AT-RISK FOR SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED
INFECTIONS

Bruce Armstrong DSW & Alwyn Cohall MD



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RESULTS

- ❖ The DVD was formally released in December 2010 at a conference provided by the NYC PTC and the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Bronx District Public Health Office.
 - ❖ The conference was targeted to adolescent providers working in a high STD morbidity area, the South Bronx in New York City.
- ❖ To date, 350 DVDs have been distributed through trainings and conferences, website requests and by word of mouth.
- ❖ Several participants who attended the December 2010 DVD release conference have subsequently attended the NYC PTC's Adolescent STD Intensive two day training.
- ❖ Next steps include obtaining continuing medical/nursing accreditation and evaluation to assess provider impact.

CONCLUSIONS

- ❖ Collaboration with a university brings together areas of expertise and can be a successful partnership.
- ❖ Provider-focused media materials are a useful and valuable tool for provider education and is another method for providers to access training at their convenience.

IMPLICATION

- ❖ Using media as a training tool to inform providers regarding adolescents and sexual health may benefit both healthcare providers and patients.

To obtain the DVD and for more information, please visit our website at www.nycptc.org