

15<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the  
National HIV Nurses Association (NHIVNA)



National HIV Nurses Association

# John McLuskey

University of Nottingham

*27-28 June 2013- The International Convention Centre, Birmingham*



# The experience of a recent diagnosis of HIV in men who have sex with men: an interpretative phenomenological analysis

John McLuskey, Associate Professor/Doctoral Student

Supervisors: Dr Catrin Evans and Professor Patrick Callaghan



## Why do we need this research?

- Many studies explore HIV experience using quantitative approaches
- Reliance on recall with some studies undertaken as long as 23 years later.
- Meta-synthesis of qualitative papers revealed only 4 studies that report on first year of diagnosis
- To assist with providing more focused support to MSM in first year of their diagnosis
- To understand whether a new diagnosis of HIV in MSM is coherent with the changing discourse of HIV as a long term condition



## Data collection:

- Semi-structured interviews
- MSM diagnosed in previous 3 months
- Sample size
- Recruitment – voluntary and charitable organisations
- Ethical considerations

# NMP Research

John McLuskey



- About the researcher
- Research study
- Advice
- Enquiry
- Home

## The experience of a HIV diagnosis for men who have sex with men in the first year following diagnosis.

### Welcome to the study

This website will provide you with an overview to the study and hopefully answer any questions that you may have about it. The study is open to you if you are male, have sex with other men and have been diagnosed with HIV in the previous three months. The study will examine the experience of a HIV diagnosis in men who have sex with men in the first year following diagnosis. It will require you to agree to two interviews during the next twelve months.

The aim of the study is to gain a better understanding of the experience of a HIV diagnosis so that better care and support can be provided by health and social care professionals, particularly in the first year of diagnosis.

Your contribution to the study is confidential. All information which is collected about you during the course of the research will be kept on a password protected database and is strictly confidential. Any information about you which leaves the research unit will have your name removed so that you cannot be recognised from it.

- Download the participation poster (PDF)



### Men wanted to participate in a research study exploring their experience of HIV in the first year of diagnosis

- Are you a man who has had sex with another man?
- Have you been diagnosed with HIV in the last three months?
- Would you be willing to talk about what your diagnosis means to you?

If you have answered YES and



**Men wanted to participate in a research study exploring their experience of HIV in the first year of diagnosis**

- **Are you a man who has had sex with another man?**
- **Have you been diagnosed with HIV in the last three months?**
- **Would you be willing to talk about what your diagnosis means to you?**

**If you have answered **YES** and are interested in participating, please contact by text, telephone or email:**

**John McLuskey,  
University of Nottingham  
School of Nursing, Midwifery and Physiotherapy  
Text or Call: 07761 804039  
Email: [john.mcluskey@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:john.mcluskey@nottingham.ac.uk)  
**Confidentiality assured:  
Interviews undertaken locally****





## Participants

9 men who have sex with men

Age Range: 28 – 42 years of age

Time since diagnosis:  
4 weeks - 12 weeks

White British





- Reason to test

- Impact of diagnosis delivery

*“Right OK so you’ve rung me on a Friday when you’ve got 20 minutes until you close and now you’re refusing to tell me and you’re refusing to actually see me I don’t think that’s very good.” (Andy 38)*

- Disclosure

*“They know that I’m gay but when I did come out to them as gay it was very a rocky road and I think that this in some way what they probably said ... “Oh we knew you would get it eventually you know”, that kind of mentality, so no they don’t know and I don’t think they will know.” (Joe 28)*



- HIV Identity

*“Its changed the lack of, or the apparent lack of, support, if you like, in this city has made me determined to try and get out of it and go somewhere. Not where there's more support but where, where it's just not such a non issue where they acknowledge that it exists” (Rich 41)*

- Long Term Condition

*“I've been aware of friends that have been living with HIV for over 13, 20 years and so I knew that when I got my diagnosis that it wasn't a death sentence. It didn't make it any less shockable or made me panic but its still, once I'd got over the initial shock I was aware that it was a liveable condition.” (Alan 39)*



## Implications for healthcare

- The manner in which a diagnosis is given can have an impact on future care
- Men do not want to feel judged or patronised, especially by others with HIV
- Re-evaluation of their life
- Antiretroviral therapies



- Thank You
- Special Thanks to Jason Warriner, THT
- Contact details:  
Email – [john.mcluskey@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:john.mcluskey@nottingham.ac.uk)  
Twitter – @johnrmcluskey