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Sexual risk-taking during travel abroad -a cross-sectional survey among youth in Sweden

Mats Sundbeck, Anders Emmelin, Louise Mannheimer, Håkan Miörner, Anette Agardh

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## ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

Abstract of TMAID-D-15-00117

Sexual risk-taking during travel abroad - a cross-sectional survey among youth in Sweden. (198 words)

Background: The aim was to assess sexual risk-taking behaviour in a sample of Swedish youth who were sexually active while travelling abroad and to examine possible associations with sexual risk-taking behaviour during such travel. Methods: From a population-based sample of 2189 Swedes 18-29 years 768 who were sexually active while abroad, were assessed by a questionnaire concerning socio-demographic background, life-style, travel duration, sexuality, mental health, heavy episodic drinking (HED) and drug-use. Results:

Approximately 1/4 reported intercourse with a casual partner abroad. Casual sex was associated with HED, 18-24 years, and drug use in both sexes, and for women, also with ≥one month of travel. Among youth with casual partners, 48% reported non-condom use. Noncondom use with a casual partner was associated with 18-24 years, ≥one month of travel for women, and poor self-rated mental health for men. About 10% had ≥2 partners abroad. Having ≥2 partners abroad was associated with ≥one month of travel, and for men also with HED.

*Conclusion:* Male sex, 18-24 years of age, ≥1 month of travel, HED, and drug use were significantly associated with sexual risk-taking during travel abroad. Poor self-rated mental health and foreign-born parentage might also constitute risk factors for men.

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