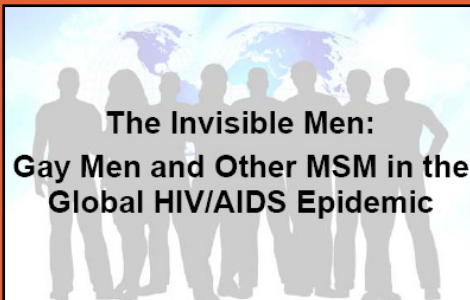


Mexico City

August 1, 2008



Making Anal Sex Safer for MSM in the Developing World



Presented by

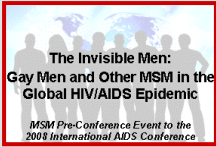
International Rectal Microbicide Advocates

**Dr. Javier Lama, Jeremy Kwan,
Lanre Onigbogi, and Jim Pickett**

In this talk...

- Overview of need
- What is a microbicide?
- A bit on anal intercourse
- Research
- Advocacy and IRMA
 - IRMA ALC
 - IRMA Lagos
 - Nigeria
 - Malaysia
- IRMA Goals
- **Get involved!**





After calling for a universal embrace of the homosexual movement, Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula de Silva affirmed that *"homophobia"* is perhaps *"the most perverse disease impregnated in the human head."*

[June 5, Brasilia]



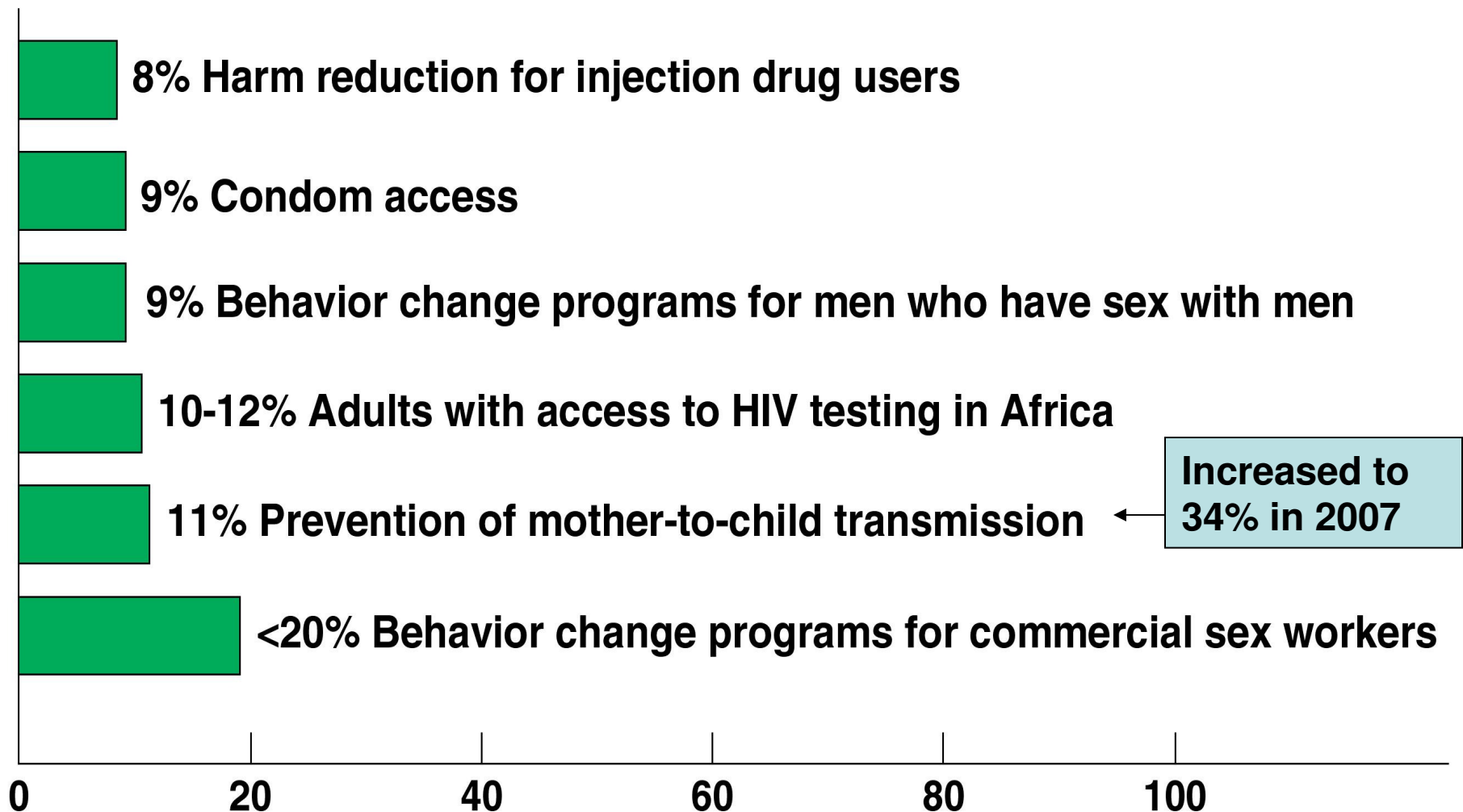
Global HIV/AIDS Picture



- **33.2 million people living with HIV/AIDS**
- **2.5 million new infections each year**
- **Women account for about half of all new infections (globally)**
- **Over 25 million people have died**
- **About 95% live in developing countries**
- **About 90% do not know their status**



Percentage of Individuals at Risk with Access to HIV Prevention



Source: Global HIV Prevention Working Group, 2007; WHO/UNAIDS/UNICEF, 2007



What if we had a Complete HIV toolkit?



- Rights-focused behaviour change
- Voluntary counselling and testing
- STI screening and treatment
- Preventive Vaccines**
- Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PREP)**
- Male circumcision**

- Male and female condoms and lube
- ART to prevent perinatal transmission
- Clean injecting equipment
- Post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP)
- Vaginal and rectal microbicides**
- Cervical barriers**

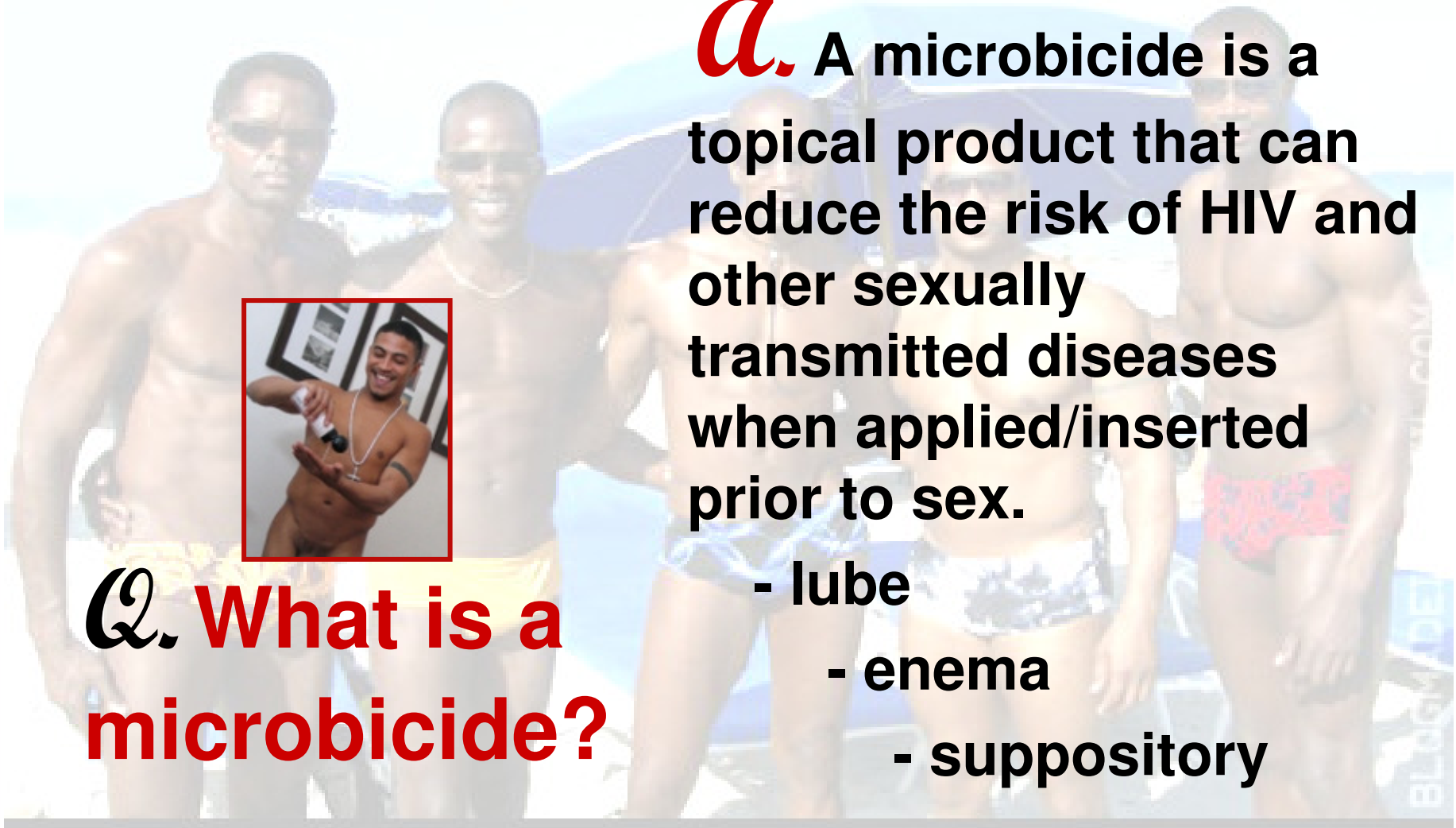
- Improved antiretroviral therapy
- Treatment for opportunistic infections
- Basic care/nutrition
- Prevention for positives
- Education and behavior change
- Therapeutic vaccines**



a. A microbicide is a topical product that can reduce the risk of HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases when applied/inserted prior to sex.

- lube
- enema
- suppository

Q. What is a microbicide?



Who needs a rectal microbicide?



All kinds of people are **having anal intercourse...**





Anal intercourse A human behavior



An act of unprotected, receptive anal intercourse is 5 – 80 times more likely to result in HIV transmission than an act of unprotected vaginal intercourse.



MAGNUM PHOTOS



Why so tender?

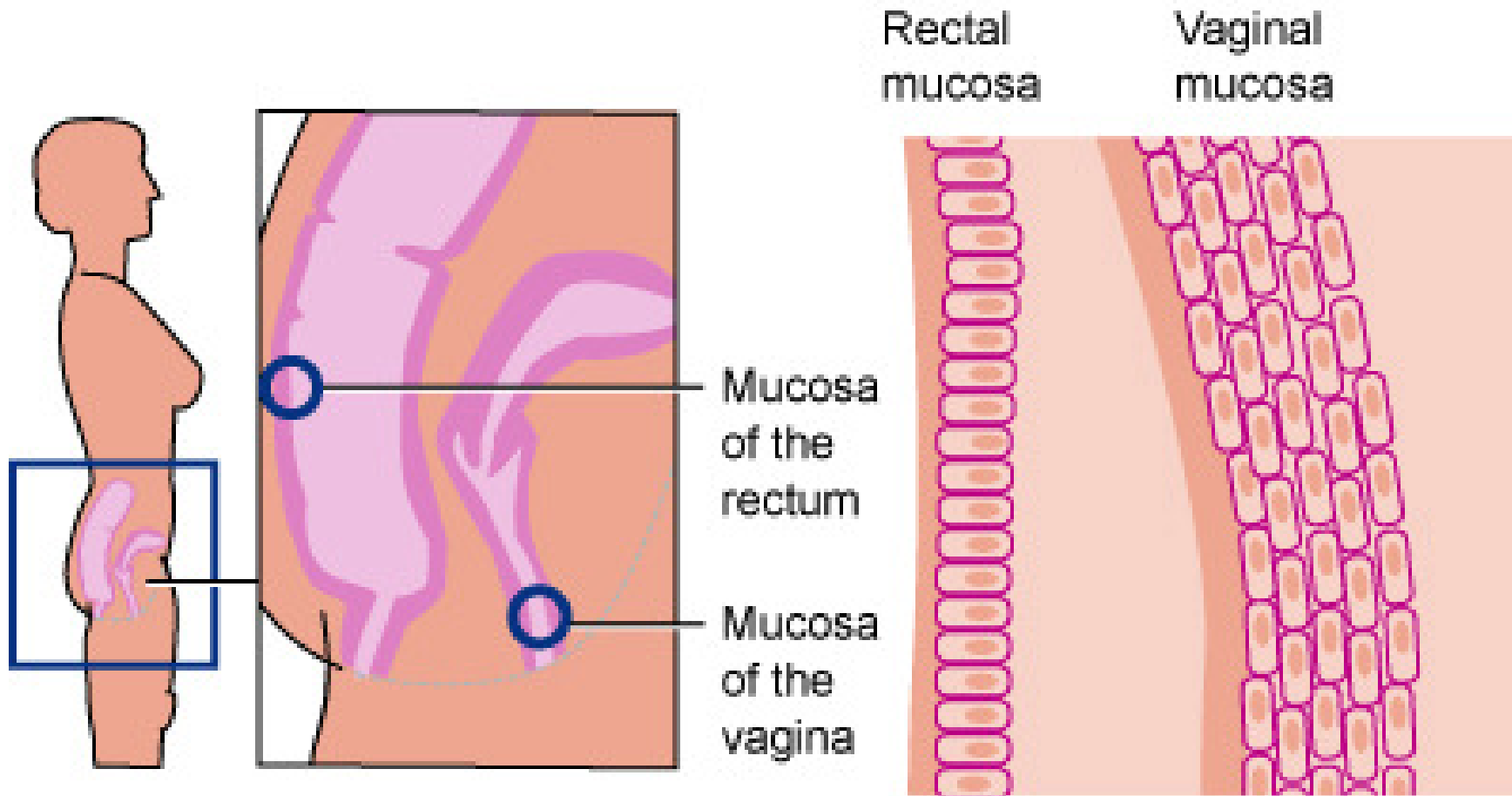


Vagina	Rectum
Most of the epithelium is 40 cell layers thick	Very fragile epithelium, 1 cell layer thick.
Fewer CD4 cells than rectum	More inflammatory cells under surface (CD4 receptors)
Acidic pH	Alkaline, rather than acidic pH
Enclosed pouch	Open-ended tube



Anatomy 101

Mucosa of the Vagina and Rectum

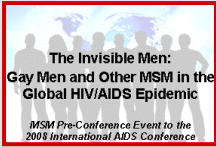




AI is common globally



- **Prevalence & incidence not well defined**
- **Widely practiced among gay/MSM**
- **Increasingly understood as relatively common between women and men (10-40% report practicing AI)**



Anal intercourse (AI) A heterosexual behavior



Prevalence, incidence among heterosexuals not well defined

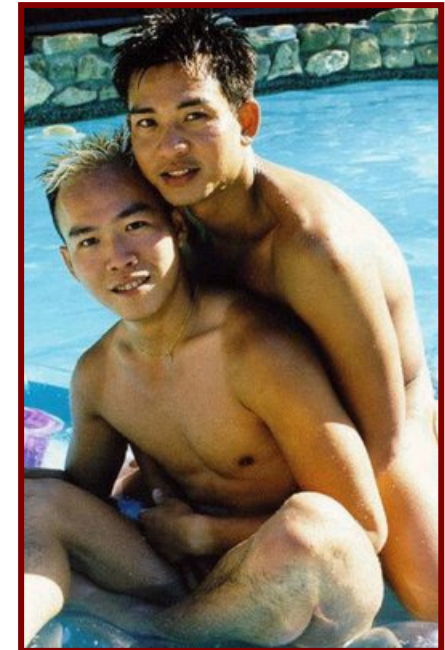
- Varies regionally by age, population, co-risk
- AI is relatively common globally, 5 – 10% in gen. pop. and up to 30-50% of women with other HIV risks engage in AI
- UAI may be significant source of HIV transmission, including regions where the epidemic is labelled “heterosexual”
- **Volume UAI est. 7x higher in het compared to gay/MSM in US (conservative estimate)**



Anal intercourse (AI) A homosexual behavior



- Gay and MSM still make up bulk of HIV infections in the West, Latin America, South America
- **Africa? And the rest of the developing world?**
 - **Deplorable lack of research!**
 - HIV prevalence is significantly higher among MSM compared to gen. pop. in Senegal, Kenya, Ghana, Sudan, most countries in L. America, and several countries in Asia (source *Less Silence, More Science*)





U.S. numbers – a glimpse



- **CDC – MMWR June 27, 2008**
 - **Analysis of 33 states with confidential, name-based testing**
 - **# HIV/AIDS diagnoses among MSM overall during 2001–2006 increased 8.6%**
 - **Between 2001–2006, an estimated 214,379 persons had HIV/AIDS diagnosed in the 33 states.**
 - **Of these, 46% MSM, and 4% MSM/IDU**
 - **1 in 2 gay black men, 1 in 4 Latino gay men**





U.S. numbers - neglect



- **CDC's Compendium of Evidence-Based Preventions**
 - prevention interventions designed to reduce behavioral risk of HIV acquisition
 - **Updated Compendium of Evidence-Based Interventions - 2007**
 - includes 49 Interventions classified either “Best-Evidence” or “Promising-Evidence”



Analysis by The AIDS Institute



U.S. numbers - neglect



- **CDC's Compendium of Evidence-Based Preventions**
 - 4 for MSM**
 - 1 API focus
 - 1 HIV+ focus
 - 0** African American MSM (32% of all MSM with HIV/AIDS)
 - 0** Latino MSM (16% of all MSM with HIV/AIDS)



Analysis by The AIDS Institute

We need new prevention tools

- A comprehensive advocacy approach [science, policy and community], is needed to bring safe, acceptable and effective rectal microbicides to market (topical, oral)
- Women and men around the world engage in receptive anal intercourse
- What is holding us back?
 - biological and scientific challenges
 - socio-cultural and political barriers
 - a lack of adequate resources



State-sponsored homophobia

The International Lesbian and Gay Association's 2008 report on state-sponsored homophobia says that **to be lesbian or gay risks jail time in 86 countries and the death penalty in seven.**



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