**Module 3 Handout – HIV PrEP and Treatment**

**Barriers for Black Gay Men**

**BGM – Social Determinants – Things of the Outside**

* **Intersectional Stigmas**
* **Anti-Black Racism**
* **Homophobia**
* **Immigration status**
* **Having HIV/STI-related health conditions and needs**
* **Incarceration history**
* **Poverty, employment instability**
* **Lack of Supportive Social, Religious, and Community Norms & Peer Norms** (Lassiter et al. [2014]; Jeffries et al. [2017])
  + **Social Norms –** community medical distrust, attitudes towards preventive service
  + **Lack of Social Support –** social isolation due to rejection from family, community, church (Kelly et al. [2016])
  + **Housing and food instability**
  + **Inadequate access** to culturally responsive health care & treatment near where one lives and feels safe
  + Higher rates of being **uninsured** and **under-insured**
  + Higher levels of education, yet **lower income** and **higher unemployment** or **underemployment**

**BGM – Behavioral Determinants – Things on the Inside**

* **Lower knowledge levels re** PrEP, STIs, Viral Hepatitis, testing, vaccines
* **Attitudes and beliefs**
* **Distrust** of medical systems, including getting vaccines, taking blood, cleanliness of needles/equipment
* **Distrust** of health care providers
  + **Perceived racism and discrimination** in health care (Bailey et al. [2014])
  + **Perceptions** that care is not culturally responsive
* **Internalized stigma (racism and homophobia)** (Jeffries et al. [2017])
* **Dual/Triple Identity issues** (Crawford et al. [2002])
* **Lower self-value**
* **Mental health, depression, anxiety** effects (Latkin et al. [2017])
* **Shame and guilt**
  + - * Being a BGM
      * Having high HIV and STI risk behaviors
      * Taking medications for HIV and STIs
    - **Disclosure fears of**
      * Being a BGM
      * PrEP pills if found/seen by partners, mothers, others
    - **Fear of providers’ reactions, judgements** 
      * Rejection due to MSM status (Bailey et al. [2014])
      * Patients taking PrEP will stop using condoms and increase rates of STIs
* **Lower *health literacy* skills**
  + - How to disclosure BGM status to a health care provider
    - How to ask about safety, side effects, other issues