Objective: The aim of this study was to calculate HIV prevalence and determinant factors for HIV diagnosis concomitant to MSM in Catalonia during years 2011 to 2013.

Methods: Analysis included MSM older than 13 years of age, notified to the STI Sentinel Surveillance System during 2011 to 2013. Concomitant HIV was defined as any HIV diagnosis within previous 3 months or 6 months after STI diagnosis. Factors associated with concomitant HIV were assessed using a multivariate logistic regression model, assuming a 95% confidence interval.

Results:

- A total of 2612 MSM cases were reported to the STI Sentinel Surveillance System during 2011-2013.
- HIV prevalence was 39% overall, 55% herpes, 41% Chlamydia, 31% genital warts and 25% latent syphilis.
- Out of 1013 HIV-positive, 12% were diagnosed concomitant to STI.
- Concomitant HIV diagnosis was independently associated with younger age (20-24 years, 25-34 years, 35-44 years), having a latent syphilis diagnosis, and no previous STI disclosure.

Conclusions:

- Data from STI Sentinel Surveillance improve the knowledge of determinants factors, increasing the opportunity for early detection in settings where STI are diagnosed.
- High HIV co-infection among MSM and low risk perception among the youngest, who do not disclose previous STI, brings the need for HIV/STI-awareness and awareness of STI symptoms.
- Further analysis is needed to address testing and risk behaviour among young MSM aged <25.

Limitations: Analysis is based on cases reported by sentinel physicians, so people with limited access or poor use of health services or visiting private health care are not included. The sentinel network collects data from few geographical areas of Catalonia, so these findings are not representative of the whole territory and can not be extrapolated.