

UCSF

UC San Francisco Previously Published Works

Title

Resilience, Physical Activity, and Depression in Women Living With HIV in the San Francisco Bay Area: A Cross-sectional Study

Permalink

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/9p61x8k2>

Journal

Journal of the Association of Nurses in AIDS Care, 33(2)

ISSN

1055-3290

Authors

Ambrose, Patricia R
Cuca, Yvette P
Baguso, Glenda N
et al.

Publication Date

2022-03-01

DOI

10.1097/jnc.0000000000000292

Peer reviewed

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18

Abstract

There is a lack of literature on the effects of physical activity and depression on resilience in women living with HIV. This cross-sectional study examined the associations of sociodemographic factors, physical activity, and depression on resilience among 97 women living with HIV using linear regression models. Among these women, the mean resilience score was 70.7 (SD 16.3), the majority were insufficiently active (67.0%), and 45.4% had a PHQ-9 score that indicated at least moderate depression. In a multivariable analysis, depression was negatively associated with resilience, and education was positively associated with resilience ($p < .0001$; $p = .031$). There was no significant correlation between physical activity and depression or resilience. An exploratory analysis did not indicate that depression mediated the relationship between physical activity and resilience. There is a need to address low levels of physical activity in women living with HIV. Interventions that address resilience and depressive symptoms may lead to improved mental health.

Key words: depression, HIV, physical activity, resilience, women

19 Resilience, Physical Activity, and Depression in Women Living With HIV in the San Francisco
20 Bay Area: A Cross-Sectional Study

21 Among people living with HIV (PLWH), HIV infection and prolonged exposure to
22 antiretroviral therapy (ART) increase the risk for non-AIDS related comorbidities, such as
23 cardiovascular disease (Lambert et al., 2016), insulin resistance (Deeks et al., 2013), functional
24 limitations (Emlet et al., 2013), and frailty (Deeks et al., 2013). In addition, PLWH are affected
25 by HIV-related stigma, discrimination, and lack of social support—factors associated with
26 impaired immunological function, decreased quality of life, and stress-related symptomology,
27 including depression and anxiety (Emlet et al., 2013). For women living with HIV, additional
28 biological and social factors influence the impact of living with the disease. The cardiovascular
29 and bone health risks associated with menopause are greater in infected women compared to
30 their uninfected counterparts (Andany et al., 2016; Lambert et al., 2016). Structural determinants
31 of health, such as traditional gender roles, housing instability, poverty, and a history of abuse and
32 trauma, also create health disparities between women and men living with HIV, and between
33 women living with HIV and women unaffected by HIV (High et al., 2012; Machtinger et al.,
34 2012).

35 Resilience has been implicated as a significant predictor of quality of life in PLWH and is
36 associated with enhanced functional, physical, and psychological well-being (Fang et al., 2015;
37 Saucedo et al., 2016; Spies & Seedat, 2014; Yu et al., 2017; Yu et al., 2014; Zhang et al., 2015).
38 For example, among PLWH, resilience is positively associated with medication adherence
39 (Saucedo et al., 2016) and social support (Fang et al., 2015) and inversely correlated with viral
40 load (Dale et al., 2014), stigma (Zhang et al., 2015), substance use (Fumaz et al., 2015), and
41 mental health disorders, including depression and anxiety (Spies & Seedat, 2014; Yu et al.,

42 2017).

43 The work presented here is guided by an integrated model comprising three theories that
44 address the process of resilience, the acquisition of protective factors, and the role of symptom
45 management in advancing resilient outcomes. The backbone of the framework is Richardson's
46 resiliency theory, whereby resilience is conceptualized as an ongoing process of disruption and
47 subsequent reintegration (Richardson, 2002). The process begins with a tension between
48 adversities and protective factors, the resilient qualities that buffer the effect of stressors.
49 Developing protective factors (i.e., resilient qualities) is a function of biology, prior experiences,
50 and interactions between individuals and their environment, including the ability to access
51 community resources.

52 The process of achieving resilient qualities is closely aligned with the principles of
53 Bronfenbrenner's bioecological model (Bronfenbrenner, 1999). In this model, person
54 characteristics, including those that are protective against adversity (i.e., resilience qualities), are
55 described as being influenced by multiple social, biological, and environmental factors. The
56 model explicates the means by which protective factors are acquired and offers a reasonable
57 interpretation for how an individual, even in adversity, may achieve resilience. Integrating the
58 resiliency and bioecological models increases understanding of the variance that exists in
59 response to stress and adversity and increases the relevance of resiliency theory across different
60 circumstances and among diverse groups of people.

61 According to resiliency theory, homeostasis is disrupted when protective factors are not
62 adequate to neutralize an adversity. The process of moving from a state of disequilibrium and
63 disruption to establish or regain resilience can be explained using the conceptual framework of
64 symptom management theory (SMT; Humphreys et al., 2014). The symptom management

65 model's three interrelated constructs—symptom experience, management strategies, and
66 symptom status outcomes—are influenced and contextualized within the nursing science
67 domains of person, health-illness, and environment. In PLWH, a commonly reported symptom
68 experience is depression. Empirical evidence suggests PLWH experience depressive
69 symptomology at rates up to 10 times greater than their noninfected counterparts (Do et al.,
70 2014; Pence, 2009). In PLWH, depression is linked to suboptimal medication adherence
71 (Blashill et al., 2013), impaired immune function (Sin & DiMatteo, 2014), and mortality (Cook
72 et al., 2004).

73 As previously stated, physical activity has been implicated as an effective strategy for
74 improving psychological health, including depression (O'Brien et al., 2016). As a result, physical
75 activity has been characterized as a resilience resource that promotes adaptive coping and is an
76 effective approach for re-establishing psychological homeostasis in the event of disruption due to
77 uncontrolled stressors (Richardson et al., 1990). Research findings suggest effective symptom
78 management leads to a sense of mastery over one's illness and is correlated with resilience in
79 PLWH (De Santis et al., 2013). Physical activity may therefore be related to resilience as a
80 coping resource and disease management strategy that promotes positive health outcomes in the
81 context of living with HIV.

82 Integrating the resiliency and symptom management models provides a mechanism for
83 understanding resilient reintegration whereby a symptom common to PLWH, such as depression,
84 represents the symptom experience and an upset to psychological homeostasis. Disruption
85 follows, prompting the motivation to re-establish homeostasis by way of drawing on physical
86 activity, a resilient resource and symptom management strategy. The outcome of physical
87 activity is a measure of depressive symptomology and, in the context of resilience theory, leads

88 to one of four possible reintegration outcomes, including resilience. As stated previously,
89 research on resilience and physical activity is scant in the HIV literature; therefore, little is
90 known about the potential effect of other related variables. Given the prevalence of depressive
91 symptomology in PLWH and the known relationship between physical activity and depression,
92 this study explores factors associated with resilience and whether depression mediates the
93 relationship between physical activity and resilience.

94 **Methods**

95 This is a secondary analysis of data collected from the Trauma Recovery Uncovered by
96 Sisterhood Today (TRUST) study (Cuca et al., 2019). TRUST is a mixed method, longitudinal
97 implementation study to assess the impact of trauma-informed health care for women living with
98 HIV in one HIV primary care clinic. Time 3 data, which are used in the present analysis, were
99 collected from February 2018 to June 2018.

100 Participants made up a convenience sample of women living with HIV ($n = 97$) who were
101 English speaking, identified as a cis- or transgender woman, were at least 18 years old, were able
102 to provide informed consent and successfully complete the study visit, and were patients of the
103 clinic at the time of data collection. All participants provided written informed consent, including
104 a separate consent allowing access to the patient's electronic health record (EHR). Study visits
105 were conducted in private clinic offices and entailed completion of a researcher-administered
106 survey booklet, which took approximately 30 to 45 minutes. After the interview, researchers
107 abstracted relevant data from the patient's EHR. Participants received a \$45 gift card to thank
108 them for their time. The study was approved by the institutional review board at the University
109 of California, San Francisco (UCSF).

110 **Measures**

111 *Demographic characteristics.* We administered a self-report instrument to assess social
112 and demographic factors, including age (continuous), gender (female/transgender female), race
113 (Black/African American, not Black/African American), education (high school or less/more
114 than high school), and stable housing (yes/no).

115 *HIV and medications.* Participants were asked the year of their HIV diagnosis
116 (continuous) and whether they were on HIV medications (yes/no). Participants self-reported
117 adherence to HIV medications based on a single-item adherence rating item, “Thinking back
118 over the past 30 days, rate your ability to take all your medications as prescribed” (very poor,
119 poor, fair, good, very good, excellent; Lu et al., 2008). Responses were then dichotomized into a
120 good 30-day adherence variable (yes = good, very good, or excellent; no = very poor, poor, or
121 fair).

122 *HIV biomarkers.* Viral load (copies/mL) and CD4 count (cells/mm³) were abstracted
123 from each participant’s EHR by research staff. Viral load was dichotomized as undetectable (<
124 40 copies/mL) or detectable. CD4 was dichotomized with < 200 cells/mm³, which indicates an
125 AIDS diagnosis, or ≥ 200 cells/mm³.

126 *CD-RISC 25.* The Connor-Davidson Resilience Scale© (CD-RISC) comprises 25 items
127 (e.g., “I am able to adapt when changes occur,” “I can deal with whatever comes my way”)
128 scored on a five-point scale ranging from (0) “not true at all” to (4) “true nearly all the time;”
129 score totals range from 0 to 100, and higher scores are associated with higher levels of resilience
130 (Connor & Davidson, 2003). The CD-RISC has been previously used with diverse cultural and
131 racial groups (Sauceda et al., 2016) and has shown internal consistency reliability in women
132 living with HIV (Cronbach’s alpha = .94; Spies & Seedat, 2014). Cronbach’s alpha in this study
133 was .93.

134 *PHQ-9*. The Patient Health Questionnaire 9 (PHQ-9) comprises nine items that
135 correspond with nine symptoms of depression endorsed in the DSM-IV (Kroenke et al., 2001;
136 Löwe et al., 2004). The items are rated on a four-point scale ranging from 0 to 3; score totals
137 range from 0 to 27, with higher scores indicating greater depressive symptoms. A cutoff score of
138 ≥ 10 indicated at least moderate depression in concordance with prior literature (Levis et al.,
139 2019). Reliability has been evidenced by Cronbach's alpha coefficients from .84 to .86 (Kroenke
140 et al., 2001). Cronbach's alpha in this study was .87.

141 *Godin-Shephard Leisure-Time Exercise Questionnaire (GSLTEQ)*. This is a four-item
142 self-report questionnaire (Godin & Shephard, 1997). For the first three items, the respondent is
143 asked to recall how many times in a typical week they engage in light, moderate, and strenuous
144 activities that last for more than 15 minutes at a time. The fourth item asks respondents to recall
145 how many times in a typical week they engage in physical activity "long enough to work up a
146 sweat." The scoring system was amended (Godin, 2011) and called Health Contribution Score
147 (HCS). First, the self-reported light, moderate, and strenuous activity weekly frequencies are
148 multiplied by 3, 5, and 9 metabolic equivalents of task, respectively. In alignment with American
149 physical activity guidelines, the HCS included the sum of the moderate and strenuous activity
150 scores to rank individuals by level of physical activity and to differentiate between active (i.e.,
151 scores ≥ 24) and insufficiently active (i.e., scores ≤ 23) categories of individuals (Amireault &
152 Godin, 2015).

153 **Analysis**

154 We calculated descriptive statistics to describe demographic and clinical characteristics
155 of the sample. We first conducted bivariate analyses to evaluate the relationships between
156 physical activity, depression, and resilience, and to determine whether a further analysis of

157 depression as a mediator of the relationship between physical activity and resilience was
158 warranted. We hypothesized that resilience would be positively associated with physical activity
159 and negatively associated with depression; and that physical activity would be negatively
160 associated with depression. We then conducted a multivariable regression analysis to examine
161 independent effects of physical activity and depression on resilience, while adjusting for
162 potential demographic variables (age, education, and race) identified in past literature as being
163 related to resilience (Herbert et al., 2018; Rouhani et al., 2021; Terrill et al., 2016), and while
164 striving for sufficient power with the relatively small sample size. These analyses were
165 conducted using Stata SE 15.1.

166 We also conducted an exploratory mediation analysis to assess whether depression
167 mediates any relationship of physical activity on resilience, controlling for age, race, and
168 education. Analysis was conducted using the mediation package v4.5.0 (Tingley et al., 2014) in
169 R v4.0.0 (R Core Team, 2020), using 10,000 bootstrapped samples to estimate a 95% bootstrap
170 percentile confidence interval. Tingley et al. (2014) recommends greater than 1,000 bootstrap
171 replicates, so we ran 10,000. The mediation model for the dichotomous depression diagnosis was
172 a logistic regression model using the logit link, adjusting for dichotomized physical activity, age,
173 education, and race. The outcome model for resilience was a linear regression model adjusting
174 for depression as well as the same covariates in the mediation model. Of note, for a cross-
175 sectional mediation analysis to not be unpredictably biased, we assume the temporal precedence
176 of the variables in the causal chain to be correct (Fairchild & McDaniel, 2017; i.e., that physical
177 activity happens before depression, which happens before resilience). We note that other
178 timepoints in the study could not be used, as physical activity was only available in Time 3 data.

179 **Results**

180 We interviewed 97 women living with HIV, whose mean age was 54 years (*SD* 9.5;
181 Table 1). Almost half of the study participants were African American/Black (48.5%), almost
182 half had more than a high school education (47.4%), and most reported having stable housing
183 (89.7%). The mean time since HIV diagnosis was 20.5 years (*SD* 8.6). A majority of study
184 participants were currently taking HIV medications (91.3%) and of these, 88.8% reported good
185 30-day adherence. Participants' mean resilience score was 70.7 (*SD* 16.3), with a range of 30 to
186 100. Most participants were insufficiently active (67.0%). Almost half of participants scored \geq
187 10 on the PHQ-9, indicating at least moderate depression (45.4%; $M = 9.3$, *SD* 7.0).

188 **Bivariate Analysis**

189 Table 2 shows the results of the bivariate analyses between sociodemographics,
190 covariates, and resilience. Depression was significantly negatively correlated with resilience
191 (Coefficient = -12.5176, 95% CI, -18.6361 to -6.3991, $p < .0001$), and physical activity was
192 marginally positively correlated with resilience (Coefficient = 6.8659, 95% CI, -.0119 to
193 13.7437, $p = .050$). Further, there was no significant correlation between physical activity and
194 depression (Coefficient = -.28712, 95% CI, -1.1442 to .56996, $p = .511$).

195 **Multivariable Analysis of Resilience**

196 We next conducted a multivariable regression model to examine predictors of resilience
197 and included age, race, education, physical activity, and depression. In this model, education and
198 depression were significantly associated with resilience. Participants who had more than a high
199 school education had 6.7 higher resilience scores compared to those who had a high school
200 education or less ($p = .031$). Further, individuals who had at least moderate depression had
201 significantly lower resilience scores than those who did not have at least moderate depression
202 (unstandardized coefficient = -11.6593, CI, -17.8927 to -5.4260, $p < .0001$).

203 **Mediation Analysis**

204 We further conducted a mediation analysis to see whether depression might mediate the
205 relationship of physical activity on resilience, adjusting for age, race, and education. The average
206 causal mediation effect (ACME) was estimated at 1.202 (CI, -1.112 to 5.12, $p = 0.22$), indicating
207 that there was no statistically significant mediation. The average direct effect was estimated
208 6.078 (CI, -0.258 to 12.57, $p = 0.061$), the total effect as 7.280 (CI, 0.874 to 14.95, $p = 0.027$),
209 and the proportion mediated as 0.165 (CI, -0.317 to 0.94, $p = 0.22$).

210 **Discussion**

211 Understanding resilience and how to further build resilience is an important area of study
212 for women living with HIV given the toll of living, in many cases for decades, with a chronic
213 illness. In this study, we found moderate levels of resilience ($M = 70.7$, $SD 16.3$) that were lower
214 than those reported among women living with HIV in South Africa ($M = 81.7$, range, 24-100),
215 and among the U.S. general population ($M = 80.4$, $SD 12.8$; Connor & Davidson, 2003; Spies &
216 Seedat, 2014). The mean resilience score in our study population was more comparable to
217 resilience scores among older women in the United States ($M = 75.7$, $SD 13.0$; Lamond et al.,
218 2008), perhaps reflecting the somewhat higher mean age of our participants ($M = 54.0$ years, SD
219 9.5). In contrast, women living with HIV in China reported substantially lower mean resilience
220 scores ($M = 47.3$, $SD 15.1$; Yang et al., 2020). Originally designed as a clinical tool for
221 evaluating treatment response in patients with psychiatric disorders, the CD-RISC has also been
222 used to evaluate the effectiveness of interventions designed to improve resilience among PLWH
223 (Yu et al., 2014). Yu et al. found an increase in resilience at the end of their study and at 3
224 months' post-intervention. In the current study, no interventions were implemented; thus, the use

225 of the measure in this cross-sectional analysis may not exploit the full evaluative potential of the
226 measure.

227 Among our study participants, almost half had symptoms of at least moderate depression,
228 and depression was inversely associated with resilience, findings that are consistent with past
229 studies of women living with HIV (Spies & Seedat, 2014; Yang et al., 2020). High resilience
230 among PLWH has been associated with lower prevalence of depression and anxiety and
231 problems with activities of daily living (Yang et al., 2020). Among those with low depression
232 symptoms or low internalized HIV stigma, resilience was associated with better ART adherence
233 and viral suppression (Fletcher et al., 2020). These results suggest that building resilience and
234 treating depression may be critical to better health outcomes for women living with HIV.

235 Our study adds to the literature regarding physical activity and resilience in PLWH.
236 Although earlier research suggests that exercise is associated with depression and depression is
237 associated with resilience (O'Brien et al., 2016), our results did not support our hypothesis that
238 depression mediated the pathway between physical activity and resilience. The GSLTEQ was
239 validated among people with cancer and multiple sclerosis but not with PLWH. Future studies
240 should validate this scale for PLWH, as some questions may not be suitable. For example,
241 specific activities are listed for each category in the questionnaire, including running, vigorous
242 swimming, bicycling, fast walking, and fishing. The examples for these activities may not be
243 appropriate for PLWH. Additionally, one study found that physical activity among PLWH
244 remains lower than the recommended level of activity (Webel et al., 2019), which indicates that
245 the HCS in our study, which only uses moderate and strenuous scores, may not be sensitive to
246 the physical activity of PLWH. In this population, different measures of physical activity may be

247 more sensitive and show significant relationships between physical activity and resilience and
248 depression.

249 We explored the relationships between physical activity, depression, and resilience by
250 looking at predictors of resilience. Our study endorses past research that supports an inverse
251 correlation between depression and resilience (Spies & Seedat, 2014; Yu et al., 2017). Due to the
252 nature of cross-sectional studies, however, it is not possible to ascertain whether having few
253 symptoms of depression leads to high resilience or whether high resilience predicts low
254 depression. For example, depression may be a consequence of added stressors and the experience
255 of stigma due to their HIV status, race and/or socioeconomic status (Rueda et al., 2016). These
256 experiences and stressors may precede and impact resilience in PLWH. However, a person who
257 cultivates and builds their resilience may consequently experience fewer symptoms of
258 depression.

259 We further found that level of education explained a portion of the variance in resilience
260 in our study, which is also reflected in prior research. Among a community sample, resilience
261 was positively correlated with level of education and also explained a small portion of the
262 variance of resilience when controlling for gender and income (Campbell-Sills et al., 2009).
263 However, the low proportion of the variance indicates that other factors contribute to resilience.
264 In a study among sex workers in the United States, structural factors, such as high school degree
265 or higher, were indeed associated with resilience (Rouhani et al., 2021). The attainment of a high
266 school degree or higher in our study may reflect educational achievement, bolstering resilience.

267 This study had limitations. First, the use of self-report instruments introduced the
268 potential for bias, such as social desirability bias, recall bias, and response bias. Bias may have
269 been introduced due to self-selection into the study or exclusion criteria (e.g., requiring English

270 language); it may be that those who agreed to participate had a higher level of resilience than
271 those who declined. In addition, the study sample size was small, which may have limited our
272 ability to detect statistical differences. Future research in this area should use larger samples in
273 order to be able to detect statistical differences and to be able to examine a larger number of
274 variables that may be related to resilience. The cross-sectional design precluded evaluation of
275 causality and the ability to examine associations among variables across time (physical activity
276 was only available at Time 3 data). When conducting our exploratory mediation analysis, we had
277 to assume that a temporal precedence of variables was correct, which may not be the case and, if
278 incorrect, may unpredictably bias those results (Fairchild & McDaniel, 2017). Relevant
279 covariates may not have been measured because of the need to reduce participant burden during
280 data collection. Further, because this is a clinical sample of women engaged in care, resilience
281 scores may be higher than for those not engaged in care, reducing the generalizability of study
282 findings. Finally, convenience sampling at one location also limits external validity. These
283 results are therefore primarily applicable to a clinical sample of women who are in treatment for
284 HIV and may not generalize to other populations of PLWH.

285 **Conclusion**

286 Understanding resilience has important implications for PLWH. The traditional
287 epidemiological model of risks and deficits may unintentionally characterize PLWH as patients
288 who are ill equipped to manage the challenges of their HIV status on their own (Herrick et al.,
289 2014). On the other hand, a focus on strengths emphasizes the capacity for adaptation and
290 positive outcomes. Framing resilience as a process that persists in the course of an individual's
291 lifetime suggests that the potential to adapt to adversity is always possible. Identifying factors

292 that promote effective coping and adaptation will broaden our knowledge with regard to
293 improving health outcomes for PLWH.

294 Resilience research, including identifying interventions that enhance resilient outcomes in
295 PLWH, was identified as a priority in a report to the National Institutes of Health Office of AIDS
296 Research (High et al., 2012). Investigating physical activity as a resilience resource is in
297 alignment with this goal and has the potential to provide evidence for the effectiveness of
298 physical activity as a self-management tool for PLWH. In addition, because physical activity has
299 been understudied in PLWH populations, this study addresses the gap in the literature as well.

300

301 **References**

- 302 Amireault, S., & Godin, G. (2015). The Godin-Shephard leisure-time physical activity
303 questionnaire: Validity evidence supporting its use for classifying healthy adults into
304 active and insufficiently active categories. *Perceptual and Motor Skills, 120*(2), 604-622.
305 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.2466/03.27.PMS.120v19x7>
306
- 307 Andany, N., Kennedy, V. L., Aden, M., & Loutfy, M. (2016). Perspectives on menopause and
308 women with HIV. *International Journal of Women's Health, 8*, 1. [https://doi.org/10.2147/](https://doi.org/10.2147/IJWH.S62615)
309 [IJWH.S62615](https://doi.org/10.2147/IJWH.S62615)
310
- 311 Blashill, A. J., Mayer, K. H., Crane, H., Magidson, J. F., Grasso, C., Mathews, W. C., Saag, M.
312 S., & Safren, S. A. (2013). Physical activity and health outcomes among HIV-infected
313 men who have sex with men: A longitudinal mediational analysis. *Annals of Behavioral*
314 *Medicine, 46*(2), 149-156. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12160-013-9489-3>
315
- 316 Bronfenbrenner, U. (1999). Environments in developmental perspective: Theoretical and
317 operational models. In S. L. Friedman & T. D. Wachs (Eds.), *Measuring environment*
318 *across the life span: Emerging methods and concepts*. American Psychological
319 Association. <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1037/10317-001>
320
- 321 Campbell-Sills, L., Forde, D. R., & Stein, M. B. (2009). Demographic and childhood
322 environmental predictors of resilience in a community sample. *Journal of Psychiatric*

323 *Research*, 43(12), 1007-1012.

324 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jpsychires.2009.01.013>

325

326 Connor, K. M., & Davidson, J. R. (2003). Development of a new resilience scale: The Connor-
327 Davidson Resilience Scale (CD-RISC). *Depression and Anxiety*, 18(2), 76-82.

328 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1002/da.10113>

329

330 Cook, J. A., Grey, D., Burke, J., Cohen, M. H., Gurtman, A. C., Richardson, J. L., Wilson, T. E.,
331 Young, M. A., & Hessol, N. A. (2004). Depressive symptoms and AIDS-related mortality
332 among a multisite cohort of HIV-positive women. *American Journal of Public Health*,
333 94(7), 1133-1140. <https://doi.org/10.2105/AJPH.94.7.1133>

334

335 Cuca, Y. P., Shumway, M., Machtinger, E. L., Davis, K., Khanna, N., Cocohoba, J., & Dawson-
336 Rose, C. (2019). The association of trauma with the physical, behavioral, and social
337 health of women living with HIV: Pathways to guide trauma-informed health care
338 interventions. *Women's Health Issues*, 29(5), 376-384.

339 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.whi.2019.06.001>

340

341 Dale, S., Cohen, M., Weber, K., Cruise, R., Kelso, G., & Brody, L. (2014). Abuse and resilience
342 in relation to HAART medication adherence and HIV viral load among women with HIV
343 in the United States. *AIDS Patient Care and STDs*, 28(3), 136-143. [https://doi.org/https://](https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1089/apc.2013.0329)

344 doi.org/10.1089/apc.2013.0329

345

346 De Santis, J. P., Florom-Smith, A., Vermeesch, A., Barroso, S., & DeLeon, D. A. (2013).

347 Motivation, management, and mastery: A theory of resilience in the context of HIV

348 infection. *Journal of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association*, 19(1), 36-46.

349 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1177/1078390312474096>

350

351 Deeks, S. G., Lewin, S. R., & Havlir, D. V. (2013, Nov 2). The end of AIDS: HIV infection as a

352 chronic disease. *Lancet*, 382(9903), 1525-1533. <https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140->

353 [6736\(13\)61809-7](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(13)61809-7)

354

355 Do, A. N., Rosenberg, E. S., Sullivan, P. S., Beer, L., Strine, T. W., Schulden, J. D., Fagan, J. L.,

356 Freedman, M. S., & Skarbinski, J. (2014). Excess burden of depression among HIV-

357 infected persons receiving medical care in the United States: Data from the medical

358 monitoring project and the behavioral risk factor surveillance system. *PloS One*, 9(3),

359 e92842. <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0092842>

360

361 Emlet, C. A., Fredriksen-Goldsen, K. I., & Kim, H.-J. (2013). Risk and protective factors

362 associated with health-related quality of life among older gay and bisexual men living

363 with HIV disease. *The Gerontologist*, 53(6), 963-972.

364 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1093/geront/gns191>

365

366 Fairchild, A. J., & McDaniel, H. L. (2017). Best (but oft-forgotten) practices: Mediation analysis.

367 *The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*, 105(6), 1259-1271.

368 <https://doi.org/10.3945/ajcn.117.152546>

369

370 Fang, X., Vincent, W., Calabrese, S. K., Heckman, T. G., Sikkema, K. J., Humphries, D. L., &

371 Hansen, N. B. (2015). Resilience, stress, and life quality in older adults living with HIV/

372 AIDS. *Aging & Mental Health*, 19(11), 1015-1021.

373 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1080/13607863.2014.1003287>

374

375 Fletcher, F. E., Sherwood, N. R., Rice, W. S., Yigit, I., Ross, S. N., Wilson, T. E., Weiser, S. D.,

376 Johnson, M. O., Kempf, M.-C., Konkle-Parker, D., Wingood, G., Turan, J. M., & Turan,

377 B. (2020). Resilience and HIV treatment outcomes among women living with HIV in the

378 United States: A mixed-methods analysis. *AIDS Patient Care and STDs*, 34(8), 356-366.

379 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1089/apc.2019.0309>

380

381 Fumaz, C. R., Ayestaran, A., Perez-Alvarez, N., Muñoz-Moreno, J. A., Moltó, J., Ferrer, M. J.,

382 & Clotet, B. (2015). Resilience, ageing, and quality of life in long-term diagnosed HIV-

383 infected patients. *AIDS Care*, 27(11), 1396-1403.

384 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1080/09540121.2015.1114989>

385

386 Godin, G. (2011). The Godin-Shephard leisure-time physical activity questionnaire. *The Health*

387 & Fitness Journal of Canada

, 4(1), 18-22. <https://doi.org/10.14288/hfjc.v4i1.82>

388

- 389 Godin, G., & Shephard, R. (1997). Godin Leisure-Time Exercise Questionnaire. *Medicine and*
390 *Science in Sports and Exercise*, 26(6), S36-S38.
- 391
- 392 Herbert, M. S., Leung, D. W., Pittman, J. O., Floto, E., & Afari, N. (2018). Race/ethnicity,
393 psychological resilience, and social support among OEF/OIF combat veterans. *Psychiatry*
394 *Research*, 265, 265-270. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.psychres.2018.04.052>
- 395
- 396 Herrick, A. L., Stall, R., Goldhammer, H., Egan, J. E., & Mayer, K. H. (2014). Resilience as a
397 research framework and as a cornerstone of prevention research for gay and bisexual
398 men: Theory and evidence. *AIDS and Behavior*, 18(1), 1-9.
399 <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10461-012-0384-x>
- 400
- 401 High, K. P., Brennan-Ing, M., Clifford, D. B., Cohen, M. H., Currier, J., Deeks, S. G., Deren, S.,
402 Effros, R. B., Gebo, K., & Goronzy, J. J. (2012). HIV and aging: State of knowledge and
403 areas of critical need for research. A report to the NIH Office of AIDS Research by the
404 HIV and Aging Working Group. *JAIDS Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency*
405 *Syndromes*, 60, S1-S18. <https://doi.org/http://doi.org/10.1097/QAI.0b013e31825a3668>
- 406
- 407 Humphreys, J., Janson, S., Donesky, D. A., Dracup, K., Lee, K. A., Puntillo, K., Faucett, J. A.,
408 Aouizerat, B., Miaskowski, C., Baggott, C., Carrieri-Kohlman, V., Barger, M., Franck,
409 L., Kennedy, C., & University of California San Francisco School of Nursing Symptom
410 Management Faculty Group. (2014). Theory of symptom management. In M. J. Smith &
411 P. R. Liehr (Eds.), *Middle range theory for nursing* (pp. 141-164). Springer.

412

413 Kroenke, K., Spitzer, R. L., & Williams, J. B. (2001). The PHQ-9: Validity of a brief depression
414 severity measure. *Journal of General Internal Medicine*, *16*(9), 606-613.

415 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1046/j.1525-1497.2001.016009606.x>

416

417 Lambert, C., Sandesara, P., Hirsh, B., Shaw, L., Lewis, W., Quyyumi, A., Schinazi, R., Post, W.
418 S., & Sperling, L. (2016). HIV, highly active antiretroviral therapy and the heart: A
419 cellular to epidemiological review. *HIV Medicine*, *17*(6), 411-424.

420 <https://doi.org/10.1111/hiv.12346>

421

422 Lamond, A. J., Depp, C. A., Allison, M., Langer, R., Reichstadt, J., Moore, D. J., Golshan, S.,
423 Ganiats, T. G., & Jeste, D. V. (2008). Measurement and predictors of resilience among
424 community-dwelling older women. *Journal of Psychiatric Research*, *43*(2), 148-154.

425 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jpsychires.2008.03.007>

426

427 Levis, B., Benedetti, A., & Thombs, B. D. (2019). Accuracy of Patient Health Questionnaire-9
428 (PHQ-9) for screening to detect major depression: Individual participant data meta-
429 analysis. *BMJ*, *365*. <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1136/bmj.11476>

430

431 Löwe, B., Kroenke, K., Herzog, W., & Gräfe, K. (2004). Measuring depression outcome with a
432 brief self-report instrument: Sensitivity to change of the Patient Health Questionnaire
433 (PHQ-9). *Journal of Affective Disorders*, *81*(1), 61-66.

434 [https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/S0165-0327\(03\)00198-8](https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/S0165-0327(03)00198-8)

435

436 Lu, M., Safren, S. A., Skolnik, P. R., Rogers, W. H., Coady, W., Hardy, H., & Wilson, I. B.

437 (2008). Optimal recall period and response task for self-reported HIV medication

438 adherence. *AIDS and Behavior*, *12*(1), 86-94. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10461-007-9261-4>

439

440 Machtinger, E. L., Wilson, T., Haberer, J. E., & Weiss, D. S. (2012). Psychological trauma and

441 PTSD in HIV-positive women: A meta-analysis. *AIDS and Behavior*, *16*(8), 2091-2100.

442 <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10461-011-0127-4>

443 O'Brien, K. K., Tynan, A.-M., Nixon, S. A., & Glazier, R. H. (2016). Effectiveness of aerobic

444 exercise for adults living with HIV: Systematic review and meta-analysis using the

445 Cochrane Collaboration protocol. *BMC Infectious Diseases*, *16*(1), 182.

446 <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12879-016-1478-2>

447

448 Pence, B. W. (2009). The impact of mental health and traumatic life experiences on antiretroviral

449 treatment outcomes for people living with HIV/AIDS. *Journal of Antimicrobial*

450 *Chemotherapy*, *63*(4), 636-640. <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1093/jac/dkp006>

451

452 R Core Team. (2020). *R: A language and environment for statistical computing*. In

453 <https://www.R-project.org>

454

455 Richardson, G. E. (2002). The metatheory of resilience and resiliency. *Journal of Clinical*

456 *Psychology*, *58*(3), 307-321. <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1002/jclp.10020>

457

- 458 Richardson, G. E., Neiger, B. L., Jensen, S., & Kumpfer, K. L. (1990). The resiliency model.
459 *Health Education, 21*(6), 33-39.
460 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1080/00970050.1990.10614589>
461
- 462 Rouhani, S., Decker, M. R., Tomko, C., Silberzahn, B., Allen, S. T., Park, J. N., Footer, K. H., &
463 Sherman, S. G. (2021). Resilience among cisgender and transgender women in street-
464 based sex work in Baltimore, Maryland. *Women's Health Issues, 31*(2), 148-156.
465 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.whi.2020.11.002>
466
- 467 Rueda, S., Mitra, S., Chen, S., Gogolishvili, D., Globerman, J., Chambers, L., Wilson, M., Logie,
468 C. H., Shi, Q., & Morassaei, S. (2016). Examining the associations between HIV-related
469 stigma and health outcomes in people living with HIV/AIDS: A series of meta-analyses.
470 *BMJ Open, 6*(7), e011453. [https://doi.org/http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2016-](https://doi.org/http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2016-011453)
471 [011453](https://doi.org/http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2016-011453)
472
- 473 Saucedo, J. A., Wiebe, J. S., & Simoni, J. M. (2016). Childhood sexual abuse and depression in
474 Latino men who have sex with men: Does resilience protect against nonadherence to
475 antiretroviral therapy? *Journal of Health Psychology, 21*(6), 1096-1106.
476 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1177/1359105314546341>
477
- 478 Sin, N. L., & DiMatteo, M. R. (2014). Depression treatment enhances adherence to antiretroviral
479 therapy: A meta-analysis. *Annals of Behavioral Medicine, 47*(3), 259-269. [https://doi.org/](https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1007/s12160-013-9559-6)
480 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1007/s12160-013-9559-6>

481

482 Spies, G., & Seedat, S. (2014). Depression and resilience in women with HIV and early life
483 stress: Does trauma play a mediating role? A cross-sectional study. *BMJ Open*, *4*(2).

484 <https://doi.org/http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2013-004200>

485

486 Terrill, A. L., Molton, I. R., Ehde, D. M., Amtmann, D., Bombardier, C. H., Smith, A. E., &
487 Jensen, M. P. (2016). Resilience, age, and perceived symptoms in persons with long-term
488 physical disabilities. *Journal of Health Psychology*, *21*(5), 640-649.

489 <https://doi.org/10.1177/1359105314532973>

490

491 Tingley, D., Yamamoto, T., Hirose, K., Keele, L., & Imai, K. (2014). Mediation: R Package for
492 causal mediation analysis. *Journal of Statistical Software*, *59*(5), 1-38.

493 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.18637/jss.v059.i05>

494

495 Webel, A. R., Perazzo, J., Phillips, J. C., Nokes, K. M., Rentrop, C., Schnall, R., Musanti, R.,
496 Tufts, K. A., Sefcik, E., Hamilton, M. J., Portillo, C., Chaiphibalsarisdi, P., Orton, P.,
497 Davis, L., & Dawson-Rose, C. (2019). The relationship between physical activity and
498 cardiorespiratory fitness among people living with human immunodeficiency virus
499 throughout the life span. *Journal of Cardiovascular Nursing*, *34*(5), 364-371.

500 <https://doi.org/https://dx.doi.org/10.1097/JCN.0000000000000589>

501

502 Yang, X., Wang, Q., Wang, X., Mo, P. K., Wang, Z., Lau, J. T., & Wang, L. (2020). Direct and
503 indirect associations between interpersonal resources and posttraumatic growth through

504 resilience among women living with HIV in China. *AIDS and Behavior*, 24, 1687-1700.

505 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1007/s10461-019-02694-3>

506

507 Yu, N. X., Chen, L., Ye, Z., Li, X., & Lin, D. (2017). Impacts of making sense of adversity on

508 depression, posttraumatic stress disorder, and posttraumatic growth among a sample of

509 mainly newly diagnosed HIV-positive Chinese young homosexual men: The mediating

510 role of resilience. *AIDS Care*, 29(1), 79-85.

511 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1080/09540121.2016.1210073>

512

513 Yu, X., Lau, J. T., Mak, W. W., Cheng, Y., Lv, Y., & Zhang, J. (2014). A pilot theory-based

514 intervention to improve resilience, psychosocial well-being, and quality of life among

515 people living with HIV in rural China. *Journal of Sex & Marital Therapy*, 40(1), 1-16.

516 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1080/0092623X.2012.668512>

517

518 Zhang, L., Li, X., Qiao, S., Zhou, Y., Shen, Z., Tang, Z., Shah, I., & Stanton, B. (2015). The

519 mediating role of individual resilience resources in stigma-health relationship among

520 people living with HIV in Guangxi, China. *AIDS Care*, 27(10), 1317-1325.

521 <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1080/09540121.2015.1054338>

522

523

524

525 **Key Considerations**

526 • Women who reported higher levels of resilience reported fewer symptoms of depression.

527 • Women living with HIV who are long-term HIV survivors are resilient, but ongoing

528 assessment of depression is indicated.

529 • Physical activity in women living with HIV could be improved, but methods to ensure

530 sufficient activity need further exploration.

531

532 Table 1. Sample characteristics of women living with HIV from an HIV primary care clinic in
 533 San Francisco ($n = 97$)

| Characteristics | Mean (SD), range | Number (%) |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| Age | 54.0 (\pm 9.5), 28-75 | |
| Gender | | |
| Female | | 93 (95.9%) |
| Transgender | | 4 (4.1%) |
| Race | | |
| Other | | 50 (51.6%) |
| African American/Black | | 47 (48.5%) |
| Education | | |
| High school or less | | 51 (52.6%) |
| More than high school | | 46 (47.4%) |
| Stable housing | | |
| No | | 10 (10.3%) |
| Yes | | 87 (89.7%) |
| Years since HIV diagnosis | 20.5 (\pm 8.6), 2-38 | |
| On HIV medications | | |
| No | | 8 (8.3%) |
| Yes | | 89 (91.8%) |
| Good 30-day adherence ($n = 89$) | | |
| No | | 10 (11.2%) |
| Yes | | 79 (88.8%) |
| Undetectable viral load ($n = 94$) | | |
| No | | 15 (16.0%) |
| Yes | | 79 (84.0%) |
| CD4 count ($n = 92$) | | |
| < 200 cells/mm ³ | | 6 (6.5%) |
| ≥ 200 cells/mm ³ | | 86 (93.5%) |

Resilience, physical activity & depression in WLWH

| | | |
|---|-----------------------------|------------|
| Physical activity (Health Contribution Score; <i>n</i> = 97) | | |
| Insufficiently active (≤ 23) | | 65 (67.0%) |
| Active (≥ 24) | | 32 (33.0%) |
| | | |
| Resilience (scale 0-100) | 70.7 (± 16.3), 30-100 | |
| | | |
| Depression (scale 0-27) | 9.3 (± 7.0), 0-25 | |
| None or mild depression (< 10) | | 53 (54.6%) |
| Major depression (≥ 10) | | 44 (45.4%) |

534

535

536 Table 2. Bivariate associations with resilience among women living with HIV from an HIV

537 primary care clinic in San Francisco ($n = 97$)

538

| Variables | Bivariate | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|------------|
| | β | p |
| Age | .2440 | $p = .163$ |
| Gender | | |
| Female | ref | - |
| Transgender female | 3.5565 | $p = .395$ |
| Race | | |
| Other | ref | - |
| African American/Black | 3.7570 | $p = .258$ |
| Education | | |
| High school or less | ref | - |
| More than high school | 6.3137 | $p = .056$ |
| Stable housing | | |
| No | ref | - |
| Yes | 1.3161 | $p = .810$ |
| Years since HIV diagnosis | .0120 | $p = .951$ |
| On HIV medications | | |
| No | ref | - |
| Yes | -3.6180 | $p = .550$ |
| Good 30-day adherence ($n = 89$) | | |
| No | ref | - |
| Yes | 4.8241 | $p = .388$ |
| Undetectable viral load ($n = 94$) | | |
| No | ref | - |
| Yes | -3.2253 | $p = .472$ |
| CD4 count ($n = 92$) | | |
| < 200 cells/mm ³ | ref | - |
| ≥ 200 cells/mm ³ | 7.0310 | $p = .296$ |

Resilience, physical activity & depression in WLWH

| | | |
|---|----------|-------------|
| | | |
| | | |
| Physical activity (Health Contribution Score) | | |
| Insufficiently active (≤ 23) | ref | - |
| Active (≥ 24) | 6.8659 | $p = .050$ |
| | | |
| Depression (scale 0-27) | | |
| None or mild depression (< 10) | ref | - |
| Major depression (≥ 10) | -12.5176 | $p < .0001$ |

539

540

541

Resilience, physical activity & depression in WLWH

542 Table 3. Multivariable associations with resilience among women living with HIV from an HIV
 543 primary care clinic in San Francisco ($n = 97$)

544

| Variables | Multivariable | |
|---|----------------------|-------------|
| | β | p |
| Age | .1994 | $p = .230$ |
| Race | 1.9849 | $p = .536$ |
| Education | 6.7094 | $p = .031$ |
| Physical activity (Health Contribution Score) | 6.0779 | $p = .072$ |
| Depression (scale 0-27) | -11.6593 | $p < .0001$ |

545

546

547

548