Objectives

Examine the prevalence of mental health symptoms, diagnoses, and treatment among a large U.S. cohort of aging youth affected by PHIV. Identify factors associated with MH diagnoses and treatment.

Methods

Study Population

PHIV and PHIV youth, ages 10 to 22 years, from a longitudinal cohort study (PHACS) from 2007–2009 in 15 urban sites across the U.S., including Puerto Rico. Completed at least one parent-reported Neuropsychological Diagnosis Case Report Form (NPDF).

Inclusion in MH symptoms analyses required at least one parent or youth Behavior Assessment System for Children-2 (BASC-2) interview.

Results

1. Rates of MH diagnoses among PHIV and PHEU youth were lower than similar contemporary cohorts of youth exposed to PHIV.

2. There is an unmet need for MH services, particularly among PHIV youth.

3. Prevention and early intervention services that aim to prevent serious MH problems and related high-risk behaviors should target youth, maternal, and family resources and well-being.

References