



YZETTE LANIER, Ph.D.
Principal Investigator

PROFILE

Dr. Lanier is a developmental psychologist whose research broadly centers on health promotion and disease prevention in communities of color, with a special focus on preventing HIV and STIs among Black and Latino youth. Dr. Lanier is an Assistant Professor in the Rory Meyers College of Nursing at New York University.

GOALS

To develop age and culturally-appropriate interventions that promote healthy romantic relationships and the uptake of HIV prevention methods among youth.

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

- ▶ HIV/AIDS Prevention
- ▶ Community Health
- ▶ Health Equity
- ▶ Behavioral Interventions
- ▶ Adolescent Health



CURRENT RESEARCH

How do Black and Latino youth make decisions about their use of HIV prevention methods in the context of romantic relationships?

The Development of a Couples-Focused HIV Behavioral Intervention for Heterosexual Black and Latino Youth and Their Romantic Partners

*Funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention,
(PI: Y. Lanier, 1U01PS005121)*

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The project seeks to address an important gap in our national HIV prevention efforts by developing a couples-focused HIV behavioral intervention targeting Black and Latino heterosexual youth and their romantic partners.

- ▶ Young heterosexual Black and Latino youth are at heightened risk for HIV.
- ▶ The South Bronx & Upper Manhattan are geographic areas of HIV vulnerability.
- ▶ Currently, there is insufficient attention to the immediate context in which HIV-risk behaviors occur.
- ▶ The project will assess the promise of a couples-focused intervention.

TARGETED HIV PREVENTION METHODS

Correct
+
Consistent
condom use

Routine
HIV testing
+
Linkage to
care

Routine STI
screening
+
Treatment

Initiation
+
Adherence
to PrEP

- ▶ This is a four year, three-phase research project

PHASE 1 / YEAR 1

Conduct individual and dyadic qualitative interviews with 30 Black and Latino youth and their romantic partners

***Completed**

PHASE 2 / YEARS 2 - 3

Administer a 6-month prospective quantitative study with 200 Black and Latino youth and their romantic partners

***In progress**

PHASE 3 / YEAR 4

Design and pilot-test a couples-focused HIV prevention intervention for Black and Latino youth with feedback from youth and community stakeholders