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# Title: Social-structural inequities associated with housing instability among women living with HIV over 10-year period: Urgent need to expand women-centred and trauma-informed housing models

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*We acknowledge the land on which we work is the unceded traditional territory of the Coast Salish Peoples, including the territories of xʷməθkwəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səlílwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.*



 **SHAWNA**  
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## The problem:

- Housing is a basic human rights and an important determinant of health for cisgender (cis) and transgender (trans) women living with HIV (WLWH).
- WLWH experience numerous barriers to stable housing, with limited evidence available for developing safe housing programs.

## Research objectives:

- To study the **prevalence and correlates of housing status** reported by WLWH.

## Innovation:

- The application of the Canadian Definition of Homelessness (CDOH), adopted by the Government of Canada to address the lack of consensus in defining homelessness/housing status
- Accessible and translatable results for a wide range of audiences (e.g., national housing experts, stakeholders, and scholars).

## The SHAWNA cohort:

- Longitudinal community-based open cohort.
- Cis and trans WLWH aged 14+.
- Live or access health care in Metro Vancouver, Canada.
- 336 participants, 1930 observations from 2010-2019.

## Outcome variable:

- Housing status derived based on CDOH, measured in the last 6 months, including: unsheltered, unstable, supportive housing, and stable housing (reference).
- 4 mutually exclusive categories.

## Statistical analysis:

- Bivariate and multivariable (explanatory) models using generalized linear mixed model (GLMM) with random intercepts to analyze association between social-structural correlates and housing status.
- Adjusted odds ratios (AOR) and 95% confidence intervals [95%CI] were reported.

**Table 1** Baseline descriptive statistics of housing status outcomes and demographic characteristics.

	Total N=336 (100)
<b>Housing status</b>	
Unsheltered	82 (24.4)
Unstable	159 (47.3)
Supportive housing	40 (11.9)
Stable housing	55 (16.4)
<b>Age (median, IQR)</b>	43 (36-50)
<b>Race</b>	
White	115 (34.2)
Indigenous	191 (56.9)
Otherwise racialized <sup>a</sup>	30 (8.9)
<b>Sexual minority<sup>b</sup></b>	110 (32.7)
<b>Gender minority<sup>c</sup></b>	33 (9.8)
<b>Hospitalization</b>	79 (23.5)
<b>Physical/sexual violence</b>	62 (18.5)
<b>Stimulant use</b>	221 (65.8)

<sup>a</sup> Including African, Caribbean, Black, Latin American, Asian, other.

<sup>b</sup> Including lesbian, gay, bisexual, asexual, Two-Spirit, queer, other.

<sup>c</sup> Including transgender women, gender diverse, and Two-Spirit persons.

**Table 2** Adjusted odds ratios from multivariable GLMM model for significant correlates of housing status (stable housing as reference, abridged results).

	Adjusted odds ratios (95% CI)		
Explanatory variables	Unsheltered	Unstable	Supportive Housing
Hospitalization	4.89 (2.64-9.04)	7.83 (4.63-13.25)	--
Physical/sexual violence	4.67 (2.54-8.60)	3.00 (1.75-5.12)	--
Stimulant use	2.73 (1.59-4.69)	--	2.32 (1.42-3.76)

# Conclusions & Acknowledgments

**Complex social-structural inequities are associated with housing instability.**

Our study has identified recent hospitalization, physical/sexual violence, and stimulant use as important correlates.

**Implications** for housing programs for WLWH and marginalized populations:

- Input and involvement from individuals with lived experiences,
- Gender-responsiveness,
- Trauma- and violence-informed practices,
- Low-barrier requirements for membership,
- Supportive harm reduction practices, addiction treatments,
- Housing approaches tailored to meet the needs of all WLWH.

**Thank you to the Positive Women's Advisory Board, Community Advisory Board and Community Partners.**

