School of Public Health & Family Medicine University of Cape Town Special seminar: 3 October 2014

Hosted by the Division of Epidemiology & Biostatistics

Presentation by:

Guy Harling, PhD

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Title: Relationship age disparities and HIV acquisition among women in rural KwaZulu-Natal

Older sexual partners have often been considered a major risk factor for HIV acquisition by young women in sub-Saharan Africa, leading to public health campaigns conducted to discourage young women from relationships with older men. However, longitudinal evidence relating sex partner age disparity to HIV acquisition in young women is limited, and in older populations absent. Using data from a population-based open cohort in rural KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, this presentation focuses on the association between relationship age disparity and subsequent HIV infection in both younger (15-29 year old) and older (30-57 year old) women between 2003 and 2012.

Guy is a postdoctoral fellow in the departments of Global Health & Population and Biostatistics at Harvard School of Public Health (HSPH), having previously completed doctoral studies at HSPH and an MPH at the University of Cape Town. His research examines social risk factors for the acquisition of infectious diseases, including HIV, other STIs and tuberculosis.

<u>Where</u>: School of Public Health & Family Medicine, Seminar Room 2, Falmouth Building Entrance 5, Health Sciences Campus

When: 1-2pm, Friday 3 October 2014