

## You & Your Data

Questions, blood, urine, mental tests, even cups full of spit - we collect a lot from our volunteers at Pitt Men's Study appointments. So where does all that info go and what do we do with it? Below are some recent articles that appeared in scientific journals using data that you provided for us. The results aren't always groundbreaking or newsworthy - science generally moves in baby steps rather than strides - however without you and your data, none of these articles would exist.

Title of Article	Journal & Publication Date	The Gist of It
HIV infection is associated with progression of subclinical carotid atherosclerosis.	Clinical Infectious Diseases. 2015 Apr 22. [Epub ahead of print]	The long-term consequences of infection, treatment and immunological dysfunction are poorly understood in HIV-infected individuals. This study looked at positive and negative people (including Pitt Men's Study men) who underwent artery ultrasound imaging in 2004-2013. It concluded that HIV infection is associated with greater risk of focal plaque (thickening of the arteries) among men and women.
Lung cancer incidence and survival among HIV-infected and uninfected women and men.	AIDS. 2015 Apr 17. [Epub ahead of print]	This study looked at incidences of lung cancer and survival time among HIV-infected and uninfected women and men. The data suggests that lung damage and inflammation associated with HIV infection may be a factor for increased risk of lung cancer, and concluded that encouraging and assisting younger HIV-infected smokers to quit and continue to abstain from smoking is an important factor in reducing the lung cancer burden in this population.
Effects of syndemics on HIV viral load and medication adherence in the multicentre AIDS cohort study.	AIDS. 2015 Apr 13. [Epub ahead of print]	This study (investigated by past PMS employee Mack Friedman!) looked to determine associations between intertwining epidemics (such as substance use, depression symptoms and sexual risk behavior), HIV medication adherence and viral load levels among HIV-positive men who have sex with men. Its findings suggested that integrating mental healthcare, sexual risk prevention, and substance use interventions into standard HIV care may be necessary to provide the best HIV treatment.