reactive protein were adjusted for in the analysis. Waist circumference (WC) and waist to hip ratio (WHR) were higher in the fourth quartile of serum ferritin than the third, also, in the third quartile compared to second quartile (p<0.05). 31% and 52% of the women had excess abdominal obesity as indicated by WC and WHR respectively. The mean (95% CI) serum transferrin receptor concentration (9.09 µg/l (8.77, 9.44)) was high indicating risk of iron deficiency. The mean (95% CI) concentrations of lipids (TC=4.78 (4.64, 4.95), HDL-C=1.45 (1.39, 1.52), LDL-C=1.65 (1.53, 1.78), TG=1.12 (1.07, 1.18) mmol/l) were within recommended reference ranges.

**Conclusions** No significant association exists between iron status parameters and established CVD risk factors. But, excessive abdominal adiposity indicated by high WC and WHR contributes significantly to increased serum ferritin concentration in this population.

**P2-352** YOUTH HIV PREVALENCE AND SEXUAL BEHAVIOUR INDICATORS: EVIDENCE FROM NIGERIA

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1,2A Adeyemi,* 1,3A Azeeg, 1K Issa, 40D Falkunle. 1MEASURE Evaluation, Abuja, Nigeria; 2NACA, Abuja, Nigeria; 3Federal Ministry of Health, Abuja, Nigeria; 4University College Hospital, Ibadan, Nigeria

**Introduction** Youths are particularly vulnerable to HIV/AIDS, sexual and reproductive health problems, which are major challenges to their health and development. There is a need to estimate HIV prevalence and understand predictors among them towards implementation of appropriate and evidence-based national interventions.

**Methods** A 2007 nationally representative household survey was analysed. It involved 4633 youths aged between 15 and 24 years. HIV prevalence and behavioural indicators were assessed. Logistic regression was used to model predictors of HIV infection.

**Results** Mean age was 19.1±2.8 years; 50.9% male and 49.1% female. Youth HIV prevalence was 2.4% (national prevalence was 3.6%); young women HIV prevalence was 2.9% and male counterpart 1.9%. Sexual debut <15 years was10.4%; 7.8% exchanged sex for gifts; 23.3% had been away from home for >1 month; 18.4% had more than one sexual partner; 80.7% knew male condom protected against pregnancy; 75.6% knew male condom protected against HIV/AIDS; 81.9% had sexual intercourse in the last 12 months of which 45.8% used condom, and 10.5% were engaged in inter-generational sex with partners ≥10 years. Risks for HIV infection were away from home for >1 month AOR=2.1 95% CI 1.3 to 2.7; being a female AOR 3.4 95% CI 2.8 to 6.7; sex without condom AOR=2.1 95% CI 1.4 to 5.6 while having at least secondary education was protective with AOR 0.7 95% CI 0.3 to 0.9.

**Conclusion** Youths accounted for 67% of HIV prevalence in Nigeria with young women disproportionately affected by HIV. Youths need appropriate and targeted behavioural interventions that involve partner reduction, consistent condom use and avoidance of inter-generational sex.

**P2-353** SOCIOECONOMIC TRENDS IN OBESITY IN EGYPT: CAN THE RISE IN PREVALENCE AND THE INCREASE IN INEQUALITIES BE PREVENTED?

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1A Altsi-Selmi,* 2M Brown, 3T Marsh, 4M G Marmot. 1University College London, London, UK; 2National Heart Forum, London, UK; 3University of Dundee, Dundee, UK

**Introduction** Middle Eastern and North African countries have some of the highest obesity prevalence levels in the world (40% among women in Egypt in 2008). The prevalence of obesity in low-and-middle income countries has been rising in the last 2 decades and its socioeconomic distribution appears to be changing to the disadvantage of those with low socioeconomic status (SES) in many low-and-middle income countries.

**Methods** We first use five nationally representative survey waves (1992–2008) from Egypt to examine (1) prevalence trends; and (2) associations between SES and obesity using multivariable logistic regression and interaction tests. To help assess the policy implications, we are currently adapting the prediction model developed for the Foresight Tackling Obesities study in the UK to predict future obesity trends in Egypt.

**Results** Our regression analyses indicate that the rapid increase in obesity prevalence among low socioeconomic groups is the main factor driving the rise in overall prevalence. Adjusted coefficients of increase by education group were 7% (no education); 5% (primary education); 2% (secondary education); 1% (higher education)-p-value for linear trend <0.001. Those most at risk appear to be those with low education and higher income (p<0.05 for an inhibitive interaction of education with income).

**Conclusion** Improving education levels appears to be an important policy approach to addressing both the prevalence rise and the socioeconomic inequalities in obesity in Egypt, particularly among lower socioeconomic groups experiencing rapid increases in income. Calculations from the prediction model will help quantify the impact of different educational policies on the obesity burden.