



Improving HIV Case Finding – First 95

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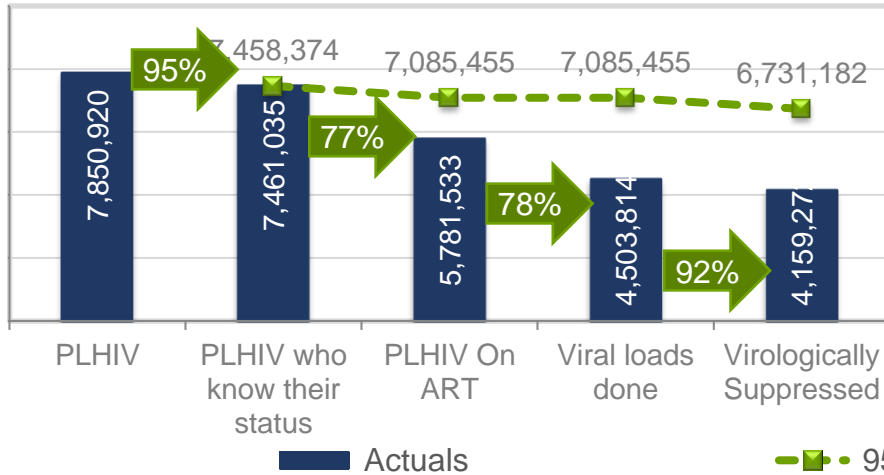
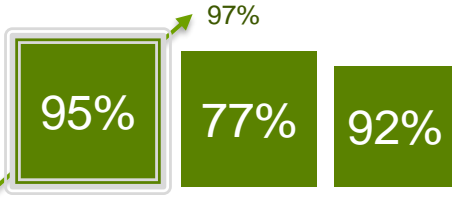


ANNUAL WORKSHOP ON ADVANCED CLINICAL CARE - AIDS
Durban, 20 October, 2023

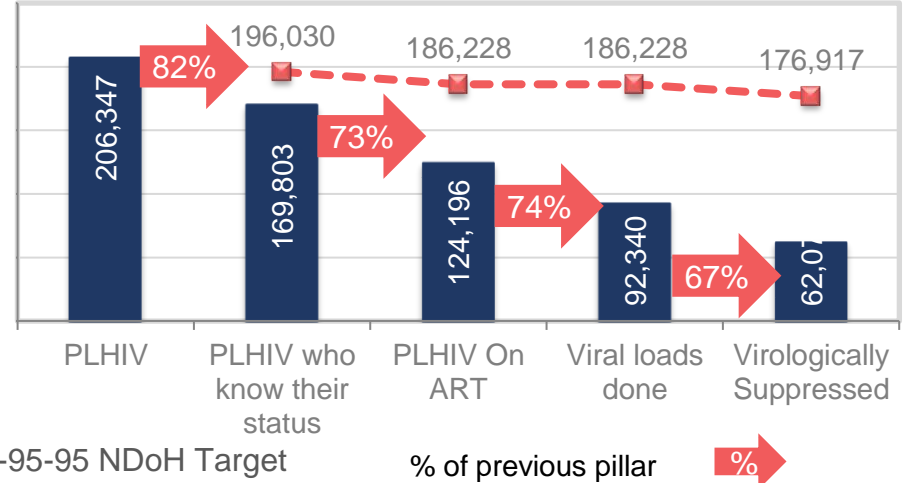
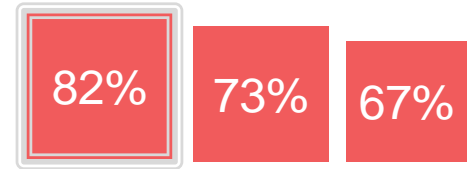


SA Progress to 95-95-95 - May 2023

Total Population



Under 15






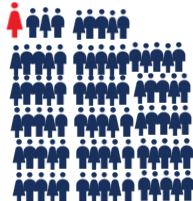
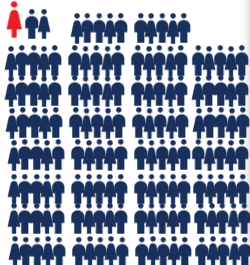

74% PLHIV on ART

53% of PLHIV are virally suppressed

60% CLHIV on ART

30% of CLHIV are virally suppressed

Impact of Closing the Gap on the 1st 95 on Testing Efficiency

2003	2008		2013	2018	2023
9%	11%	* Prevalence	12%	13%	13%
23%	48%	* % PLHIV diagnosed	81%	91%	95%
7.2%	5.2%	Undiagnosed % population	2.3%	1.2%	0.7%
14	17	Number Needed to Test (NNT)	43	84	153
		(random testing to find 1 undiagnosed PLHIV)			
63	55	NNT to find 1 undiagnosed CLHIV	101	240	493
					

Challenges → Need for Different Approaches

158

Number Needed to Test (NNT) to find one undiagnosed if we rely on random testing is very high

 PICT

Mostly those seeking healthcare due to illness, those inclined to come for a test only are likely part of the 95%



Community testing: usually 1/2 the positivity of facility testing; seemingly costly



Some sub-populations remain under-diagnosed for varying reasons

More Efficient Case Finding Strategies



PICT in high yield streams



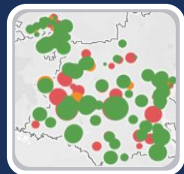
HIV Self- Screening



Targeted PICT



Social Network Testing



Targeted Community Testing



Index Testing Services



Testing of Confirmed and Presumptive TB clients



Understand the Gaps:

Interrogate Data Discuss with Implementers & Managers Interrogate Client Reasons

Key reasons for diminished testing coverage, including PICT

Key reasons for not giving greater priority to the higher yield modalities: eg Index

Why is HIVSS not maximised to increase our efficiency in finding new positive cases?

Are our supervisors and managers adequately equipped to drive efficient case finding?

Reduction in lay counsellors across districts

Available HRH vs targets

Low PN targets 2 HTS

Focus on 2 index vs 2 random

Concerns around disclosure

Concerns re coercion of clients

Lack of cadres that can go to the community

Staff not comfortable enough/skilled enough with process

No sense of ownership by DOH, seen as a partner thing

Support the understanding of how high yield modalities increase case finding per cadre

Not on DHIS

Forget that districts can add own indicators

Add ITS and HIVSS at nerve centre

Seen as not cost-effective

Districts react faster with signal from province

KZN written communication sent

No

Need capacitation on modalities and in supervision and monitoring

Targeted Community Testing

Community Testing in specific pre-identified geographies and amongst pre-identified sub-populations to reach PLHIV not frequenting facilities.



- Districts and sub-districts where HIV testing uptake is low
- Sub-districts and wards high positivity rates in community and facility testing and low viral suppression rates



- Certain sub-populations less likely to be found in-facility:
 - Key Populations
 - Men
 - Youth
 - Children

- Potential for Stigma

Link to care both diagnosed positive and identified high-risk clients



Testing of Presumptive and Diagnosed TB clients and TB contacts

HIV case finding amongst Diagnosed TB clients and their contacts, and presumptive TB clients



- High yield. Approximately 60% of clients in SA with a confirmed TB diagnosis are also HIV positive.
 - TB-negative presumptive clients also have high positivity rates (>20%)
 - Contacts of TB index client have double digit positivity rates
- Easy and efficient access: Clients are in care; >95% tested.
- Monitoring and Evaluation: partially implemented



- Majority of TB clients are undiagnosed
 - Switch from symptomatic screening alone to testing all high-risk people (TUTT) slow

Individual goals
Facility- & district-
level monitoring



HIV Self-Screening

Process in which a person collects his or her own specimen (oral fluid or blood) and then performs a screening test and interprets the result, often in a private setting, either alone or with someone he or she trusts



- Improve HTS among historically HIV under-tested, test-averse and hard-to-reach groups
- Easy couples testing among pregnant and breastfeeding women
- Facilitates regular repeat HIV testing in high-risk populations
- Privacy possible



- **Secondary distribution, unassisted HIVSS**
→ poor linkage to confirmatory HTS
- Opinion that it is an expensive option
- Concerns around human rights issues
- Concerns around quality of kits

Provide assisted HIVSS
Provide evidence showing savings in HCW time & costs
Provide available evidence



Social Network Testing

An approach to identify, engage and motivate people with undiagnosed HIV infection, through their social contacts, to accept HIV testing.

- ↪ People in the same network may share same behaviors and risk
- ↪ People in the same network know and trust each other



- Addresses people's confidentiality concerns
- Extends the reach to social contacts, accessing more test averse clients
- Successful in reaching Key populations, Youth, Men
- Although resource-intensive, can be cost-saving in undiagnosed PLHIV



- Incentives may be unaffordable or unallowable
- Incentives may result in repeat testing amongst associates



Index Testing Services

Exposed contacts (sexual partners, biological children, needle sharing partners) of an HIV-positive person (index client) are elicited and offered HIV testing services.



- High positivity yield amongst contacts
= lower numbers to test to find one positive
- Experience in conducting, SOPs, tools



- Extremely low contact testing rates when relying on client referral.
- Time taken to contact/track contacts if provider is responsible for this.
- If there is Partner Notification: potential for IPV, fear of partner knowing
- Potential for Patient Confidentiality breaches



Referral Methods

Index clients choose a mode for each of the contacts they provide.

Client Referral

Client tells the contact about his/her HIV status & encourages the contact to go for HTS

Dual Referral

HCP sits with the index client and partner to provide support as the index client tells the partner about his/her HIV status and the benefits of testing.

Contract Agreement Referral

Client is encouraged to talk with the partner/s within 7 days. After this, the counsellor will trace the partner/s and inform them about the National HTS Campaign and the importance of testing. after getting consent.

Provider Referral

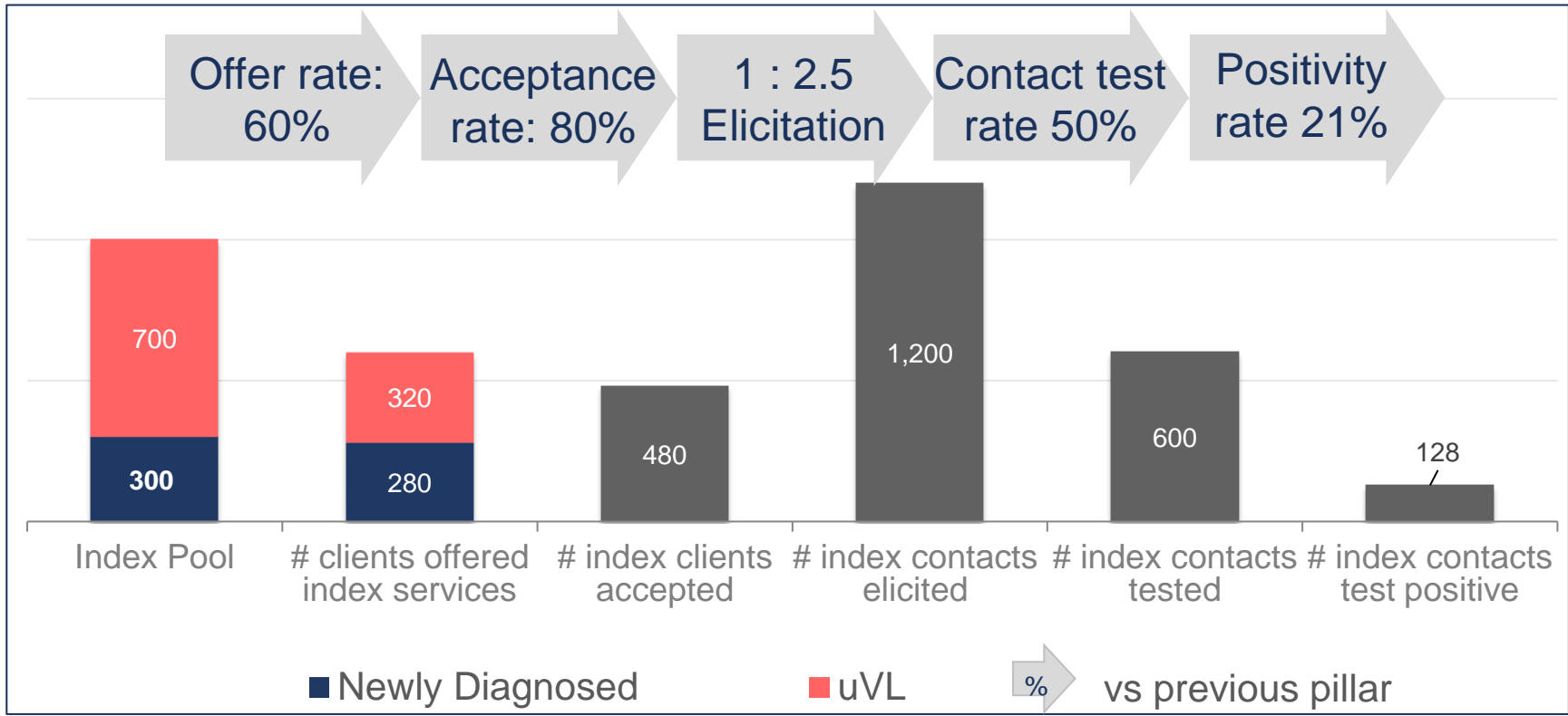
HCP calls and/or visits the index contact. No information about the index client shared.

Disclosure is better for support and adherence

Provider tracing gives better contact rates



Index Testing Cascade Example





Index Testing Services

When Index Testing Services Could Under-deliver

HCPs rely on clients to bring/send contacts

High elicitation rates.
Low contact test rates.

Recommend provider referral.
Assure confidentiality, mention “helicopter” approach.

Concern about IPV

Low elicitation rates and/or elicitation of children only.

IPV screening for each contact > NO further action if contact screens positive

Concern about Confidentiality

Low contact test rates

Strict SOPs, training.
Reassure re confidentiality.
No HCP “partner notification”

Focus on early part of cascade

High offer rates.
Low contact test rates

Give facility targets for contact testing not just for offer.

Push to meet offer targets: offering to suppressed clients on ART

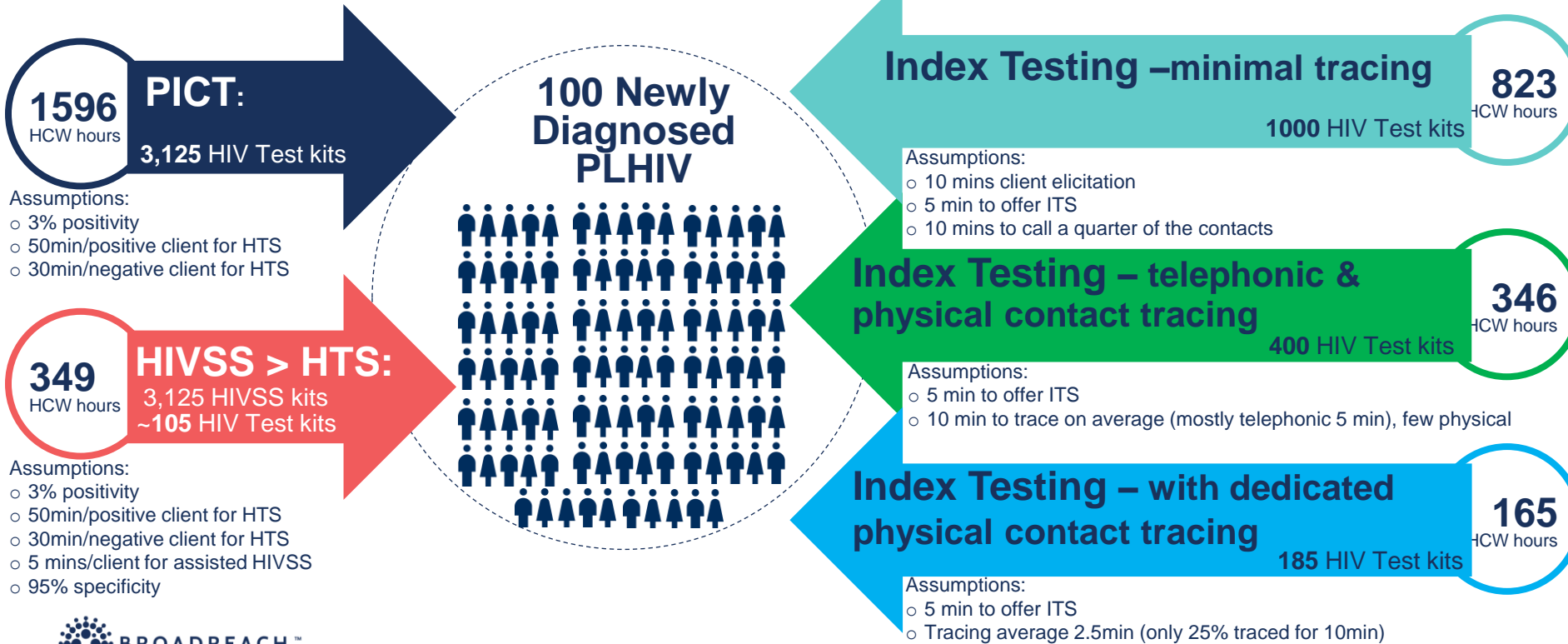
High offer rates.
Low positivity rates

Discount clients not newly diagnosed or virally unsuppressed

Case Finding Efficiency

High dependence on PICT is high resource and low output due to:

- Low positivity rates (>90% PLHIV know their status)
- Long HCW time needed even for negative tests



“ **Public Health Depends on
Winning over Hearts and Minds**

**It's not Enough to Just Have a Good
Policy, You Have to Convince
People to Actually Follow it. ”**

Thank you for your time.

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