

Peer-led community-based testing is reaching recently arrived people who have never tested for HIV and are PrEP naïve

Ray A¹, **Houghton R¹**, Mahony A¹, McCann L¹, Mackie B³, van der Merwe J³, Varma R^{1,2}, & Wong A^{1,2}

¹Sydney Sexual Health Centre, Sydney, NSW, ²Kirby Institute, Sydney, NSW, ³AIDS Council of NSW (ACON), Sydney, NSW



Rebecca Houghton
Sexual Health Service Manager
South Eastern Sydney Local Health District

Background

- Overseas born migrants remain overrepresented in HIV notifications in Australia
(Australian Government Department of Health And Aged Care, 2024)
- Recently arrived GBM are priority population
(NSW Ministry of Health, 2021)
- Greater barriers to accessing sexual healthcare services
(Wells et al., 2024)
- Peer-led community-based services have been identified as an effective model for targeted HIV testing
(Chan et al., 2021)



(Australian Government

Department of Health And Aged Care, 2024)

Men who have sex with men (MSM), including:
- culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD)
- recently arrived (four years or less) overseas-born
- under 25 years old



Q [TEST]



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Research Question

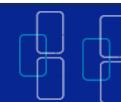
Is our peer-led community-based testing service reaching recently arrived GBM most at need of HIV testing?



Community-based setting



Clinic-based setting



Method

- Cross-sectional study
- GBM and TGD people recently arrived between January 2022 and January 2024
- Categorized by the setting of first HIV test – a[TEST] v SSHC
- Demographics plus previous HIV test, PrEP use and recency of arrival (<6m or >6m)
- Exclusion criteria – Australian born, arrival outside study period or known to be living with HIV

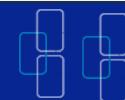
Analysis

- **Univariate analysis**

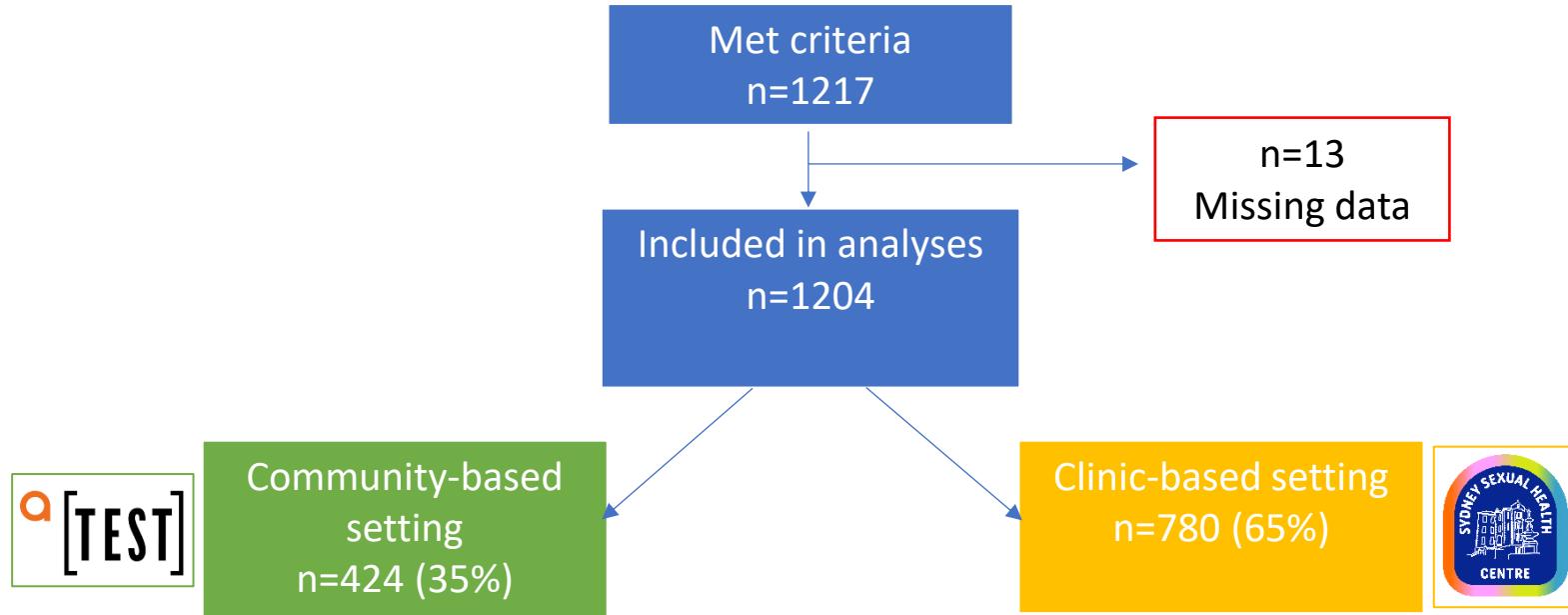
Chi-squared test used to find differences between the settings

- **Multivariate analysis**

Logistic regression model to find factors associated with first test at a[TEST]



Results



Results - Univariate analysis

Q [TEST]



	Community n=424 (35%)	Clinic n=780 (65%)	p-value (chi-squared test)
No previous HIV test	159 (38%)	134 (17%)	p<0.001
Never used PrEP	355 (84%)	571 (73%)	p<0.001
Region of birth#			
High income	204 (48%)	329 (42%)	
High to middle income	159 (38%)	397 (51%)	p<0.001
Lower-middle/lower income	61 (14%)	54 (7%)	
Preferred language - English	297 (70%)	445 (56%)	p<0.001
Recency of arrival more than 6 months ago	283 (67%)	210 (27%)	p<0.001
Gender - Cisgender male	417 (98%)	738 (95%)	p=0.002
No Medicare	396 (93%)	702 (90%)	p=0.047
Median age (IQR)	27 (24-31)	27 (24-31)	p=0.419

Results – Multivariate analysis

- No previous HIV test: **aOR 2.11 (1.48-3.02), p<0.001**
- Recency of arrival more than six months ago: **aOR 5.47 (4.03-7.42), p<0.001**

Conclusion

- Community-based setting is engaging overseas born people who are HIV testing and PrEP naive
- Overseas born migrants experience heightened barriers to access *(Wells et al., 2024)*
- While the group are presenting later to the service, a[TEST] is connecting with this cohort in a unique way compared to the clinic-based setting
- Culturally appropriate tailored engagement strategies to facilitate earlier testing

Thank you



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