

POZQOL IN CLINICAL PRACTICE: AN EXPLORATORY PATIENT CASCADE TOWARD THE 75% TARGET

Authors:

JOSHUA E. BORJA¹

¹*ASHM Health*

Background/Purpose:

Australia's Ninth National HIV Strategy targets 75% of people living with HIV reporting high quality of life by 2030. PozQoL, a peer-developed, validated quality of life tool, offers a structured way to measure progress, but there is limited practice-based evidence of what happens when it is used in routine clinical settings — from offer, to completion, to identification of need, to action.

Approach:

A mini-audit was conducted in which 18 HIV s100 prescribers applied PozQoL with real patients across general practice, sexual health, hospital, and specialist settings. The audit tracked a simple patient cascade: how many patients were offered PozQoL, how many completed it, how many scored low in at least one domain, and how many were referred for additional support. This cascade was informed by prior consultations with prescribers that identified practical barriers and shaped the audit design.

Outcomes/Impact:

Of 132 patients offered PozQoL, 89% completed it. Forty percent of those who completed scored low in at least one domain, identifying psychosocial needs that may otherwise have gone unaddressed. Of those who scored low, 57% were referred for additional support. These results demonstrate that when PozQoL is used, it reliably surfaces unmet needs and prompts clinical action.

Innovation and Significance:

This mini-audit contributes a practice-based patient cascade for PozQoL, tracking what happens when the tool is applied in real clinical settings. While not a direct measure of the 75% quality of life target, PozQoL provides a practical starting point. With 40% scoring low in at least one domain, clinicians have a clear indication of where to focus. Improving outcomes for this group represents a tangible first step toward 2030, and the cascade model offers a replicable framework for tracking progress across sites.

Disclosure of Interest Statement:

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