

Reducing Undiagnosed HIV in New Zealand Through Self-Testing

J. Beaumont, New Zealand AIDS Foundation, Auckland, New Zealand
 G. Agbozo, New Zealand AIDS Foundation, Wellington, New Zealand
 J. Rich, New Zealand AIDS Foundation, Auckland, New Zealand
 J. Myers, New Zealand AIDS Foundation, Auckland, New Zealand

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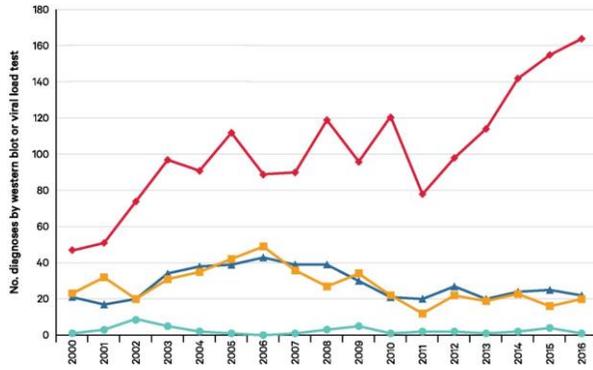
Background

- HIV transmission in the New Zealand context.
- Reducing the levels of undiagnosed HIV^{2,4}
- HIV self-testing (HST) was identified as a tool to increase access to testing and address barriers to testing
- The New Zealand AIDS Foundation (NZAF) conducted an HST pilot project with 500 HST kits, between Dec '17 and May '18

1. McAllister S et al. 2017 AIDS - New Zealand. Dunedin: AIDS Epidemiology Group, University of Otago. 2017; issue 76.
 2. Saxton PJ, Hughes AJ, Giola M. HIV prevention today: with coordinated action, we can end transmission. NZ Med J. 2015; 128 (1426): 8-15.

HIV diagnoses in New Zealand 2000-2016

- Men who have sex with men
- Heterosexual men
- Heterosexual women
- People who inject drugs



Source: McAllister S et al. 2017 AIDS - New Zealand

Process

Recruitment Pathway

Existing visitors to website (e.g. from Google)

Triaging and ordering

Online order form visible only to GBM, trans men and women and heterosexual Africans who:

- Live in Auckland, Wellington or Christchurch and have never tested or not in the last 12-months; OR
- Live elsewhere in New Zealand

Contact details verification

Client enters unique verification code sent via SMS to verify phone number. Once verified, client receives email confirming order.

Dispatch

Test kit dispatched from Burnett Centre within 3 days of order. Client receives email confirming dispatch and with peer tester contact details.

Client choices for pre-test information

Option 1

No peer contact prior to test

Option 2

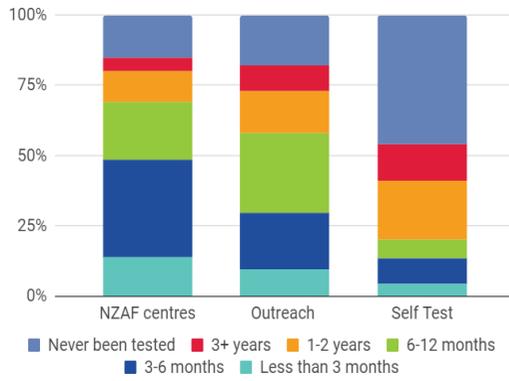
Client-initiated peer tester call prior to test

Option 3

Peer tester-initiated contact prior to test

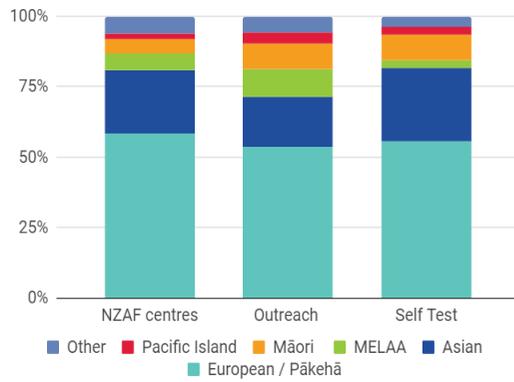
Recent testing among GBM using NZAF services 2017/18

Source: NZAF health services database.



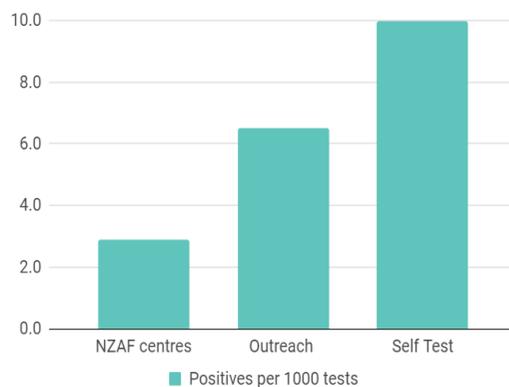
Ethnicity of GBM using NZAF services 2017/18

Source: NZAF health services database.



Positivity rate of NZAF testing services 2017/18

Source: NZAF health services database.



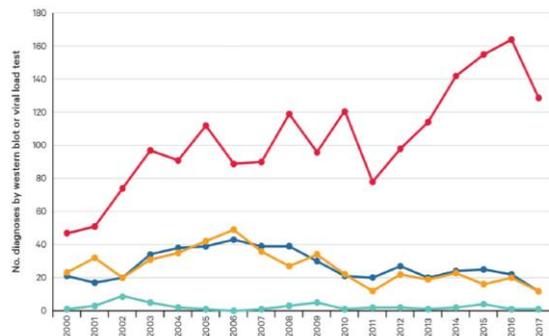
Conclusions and next steps

- HST has increased HIV testing among populations underserved by NZAF centres.
- Five preliminary positives from 498 tests during the pilot suggests that the service reached the right people.
- Scaled-up HST has occurred as a result of the Pilot - we are seeing the same trends.
- From July 2018, NZAF began selling HST kits to clients who do not meet triage criteria. Currently selling 17.8% of the HST ordered
- A coupon/voucher system is also being developed to distribute HST kits through sex-on-premises venues and other channels.

Conclusions and next steps cont.

- Feedback from people using HST is overwhelmingly positive
- Economical
- We now have word of mouth process occurring
- Keep reviewing the information in the HST kit based on feedback
- An alternative for those who struggle with blood
- The good news is:

HIV diagnoses in New Zealand 2000-2017



Source: McAllister S et al. 2017 AIDS - New Zealand

Acknowledgements

- Queensland Positive People
- Body Positive NZ
- Joe Rich and the team from NZAF
- Derek - HST administrator and Barry - Peer tester who run the HST project daily

Thank You

jill.beaumont@nzaf.org.nz



New Zealand AIDS Foundation
Te Tūāpapa Māte Arakore o Aotearoa