



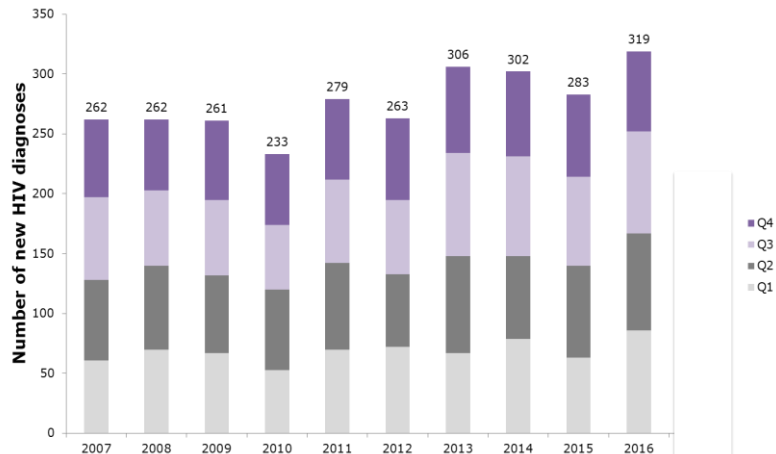
## Characteristics of HIV cases diagnosed at non-HIV specialist GP clinics in Victoria

Carol El-Hayek, Clarissa Moreira, Kathleen Ryan, Nasra Higgins, Margaret Hellard, Mark Stoove

Equity Through Better Health  
burnet.edu.au

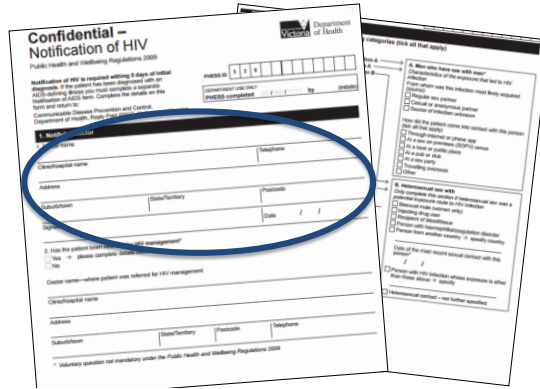
### Background

- Stable annual HIV new diagnoses
  - ~1000 nationally each year
  - ~300 in Victoria each year
- Timely HIV testing & treatment
  - Where are people being diagnosed?
  - What are their characteristics?

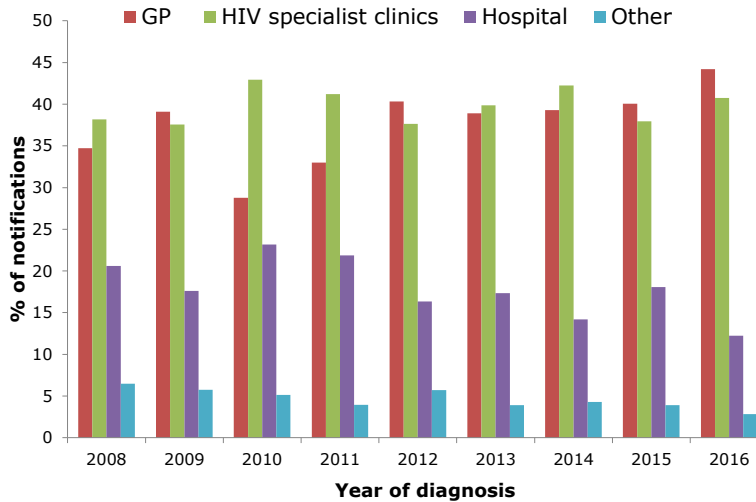


## Methods

- Victorian HIV notification data 2008-2016
- Health services where diagnosis occurred were classified as:
  - HIV-specialist = high HIV caseload with s100 prescriber
  - Non HIV specialist = general practice, hospital
- Descriptive characterisation of cases by service type



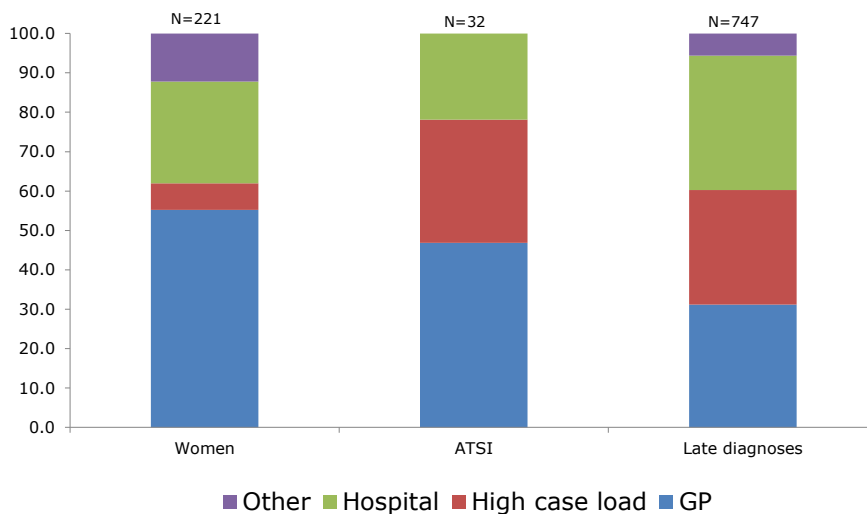
## Results: where is HIV diagnosed in Victoria?



## Results: characteristics of cases

| Exposure               | HIV specialist clinics |            | GP clinics |            |
|------------------------|------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
|                        | n                      | %          | n          | %          |
| MSM                    | 954                    | 95.5       | 655        | 68.9       |
| Heterosexual           | 39                     | 3.9        | 250        | 26.3       |
| IDU                    | 3                      | 0.3        | 16         | 1.7        |
| Other/unknown          | 3                      | 0.3        | 29         | 3.0        |
| <b>Reason for test</b> |                        |            |            |            |
| STI screening          | 523                    | 52.4       | 394        | 41.5       |
| Recent risk behaviour  | 192                    | 19.2       | 132        | 13.9       |
| Symptoms               | 113                    | 11.3       | 224        | 23.6       |
| HIV positive partner   | 73                     | 7.3        | 86         | 9.1        |
| Other/unknown          | 98                     | 9.8        | 114        | 12.0       |
| <b>TOTAL</b>           | <b>999</b>             | <b>100</b> | <b>950</b> | <b>100</b> |

## Results: where are key populations diagnosed?



## Conclusions

- Increasing % of new HIV diagnoses in non-specialist GP clinics.
  - Most new HIV diagnoses at non-HIV specialist GP clinics were gay or bisexual men, but diagnoses were more heterogeneous:
    - Women
    - ATSI
    - Heterosexual
    - PWID
  - More late HIV diagnoses coming from non-HIV specialist GPs
  - Efforts to increase HIV testing frequency and early diagnosis must be expanded across all settings.
  - Non-specialist GPs must be adequately equipped to identify risk and be linked into appropriate HIV care referral pathways
- 
- Victorian Department of Health and Human Services
    - Public Health Officers, Information Officers, Partner Notification Officers, Epidemiology and surveillance staff
  - Victorian Infectious Diseases Reference Laboratory
  - Burnet Institute surveillance and research officers
  - Diagnosing clinicians



Health  
and Human  
Services