

Viral hepatitis notifications: an assessment of place-based management in Victoria

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Background

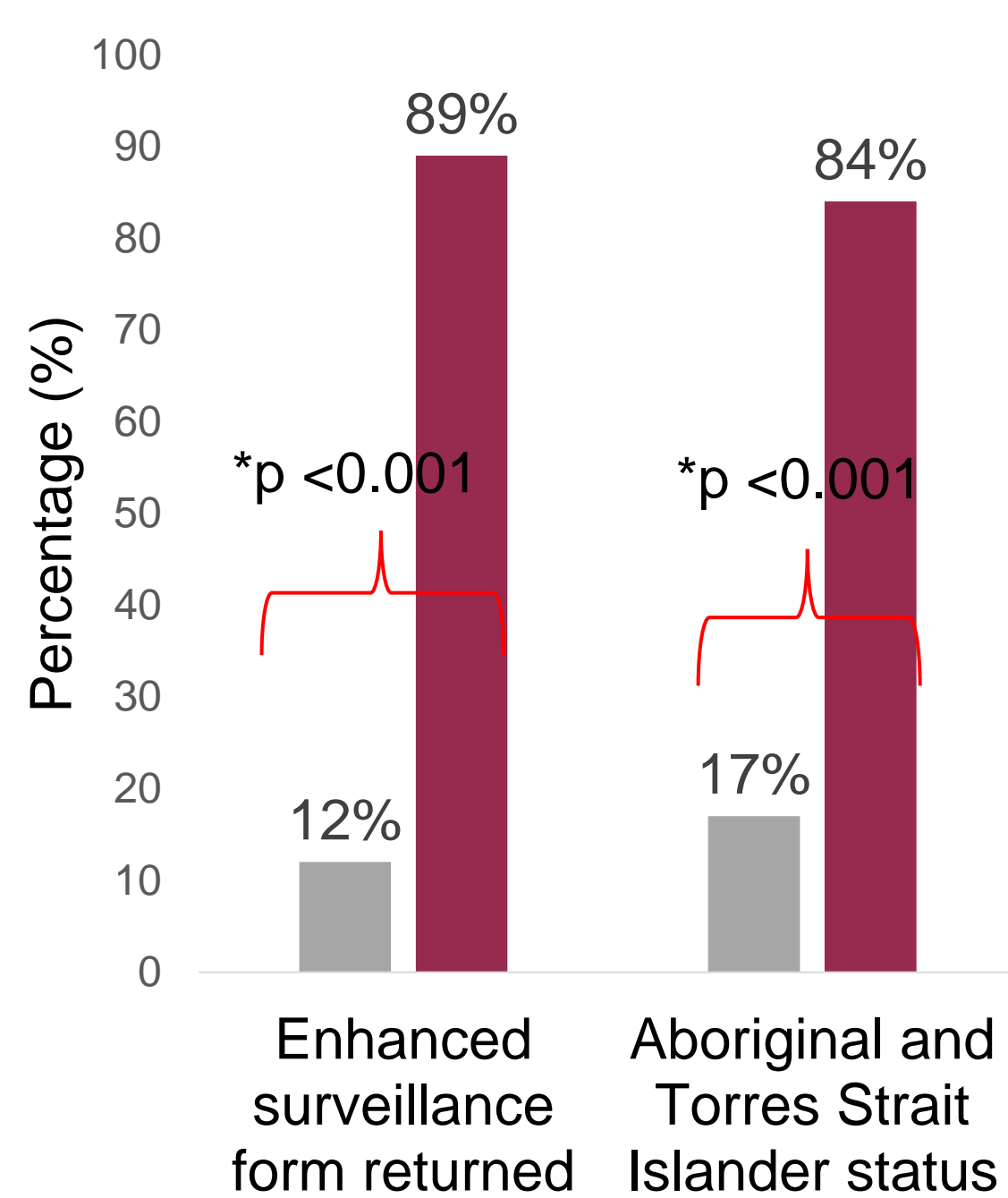
- Hepatitis B and C can cause liver cirrhosis and liver cancer
 - Most complications can be prevented by safe and effective treatment
- Many people living with hepatitis B and C in Australia are not engaged in care and treatment
- Nine Victorian Local Public Health Units (LPHU) were created during the COVID-19 pandemic
- Pre-pandemic all notifications of communicable diseases managed centrally in Melbourne CBD
 - Integrated to LPHU 2022-2023
- Embedding public health actions locally may improve clinical outcomes

Aims & Methods

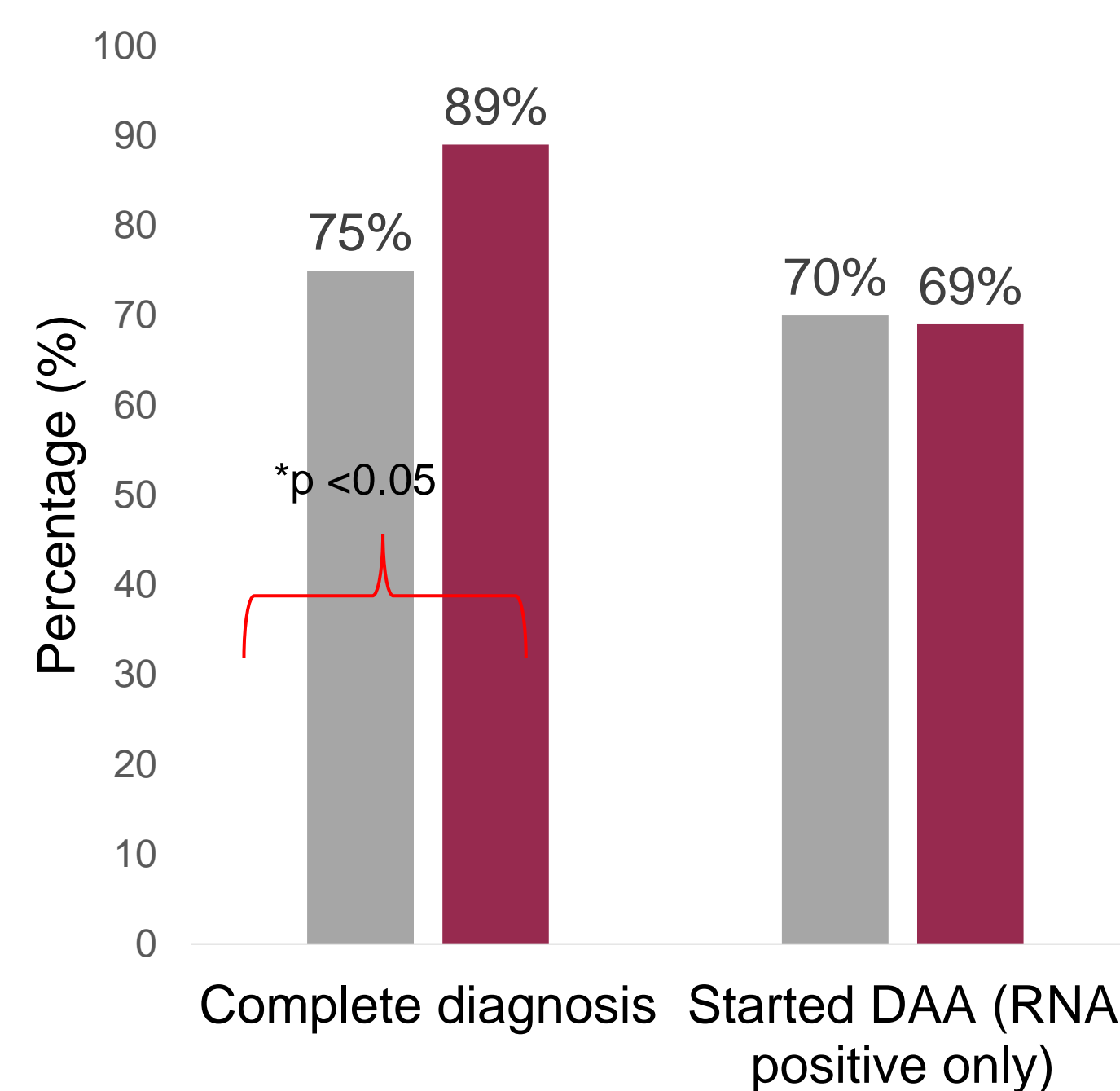
- To determine the impact of LPHU management on hepatitis B and C notifications
- A retrospective cohort study comparing outcomes of notifications:
 - SOC notifications management centrally, Feb – Aug 2022
 - LPHU notifications management at LPHU, Aug – Feb 2023
- Outcomes include proportion of cases
 - Enhanced surveillance form (ESF) completion (collection of demographic information post-notification)
 - Complete diagnosis of hepatitis C (antibody and RNA)
 - Hepatitis B viral load measurement
 - Treatment commencement and / or referral to specialist care
- Sites
 - Barwon South West LPHU; Gippsland Region LPHU

Outcomes

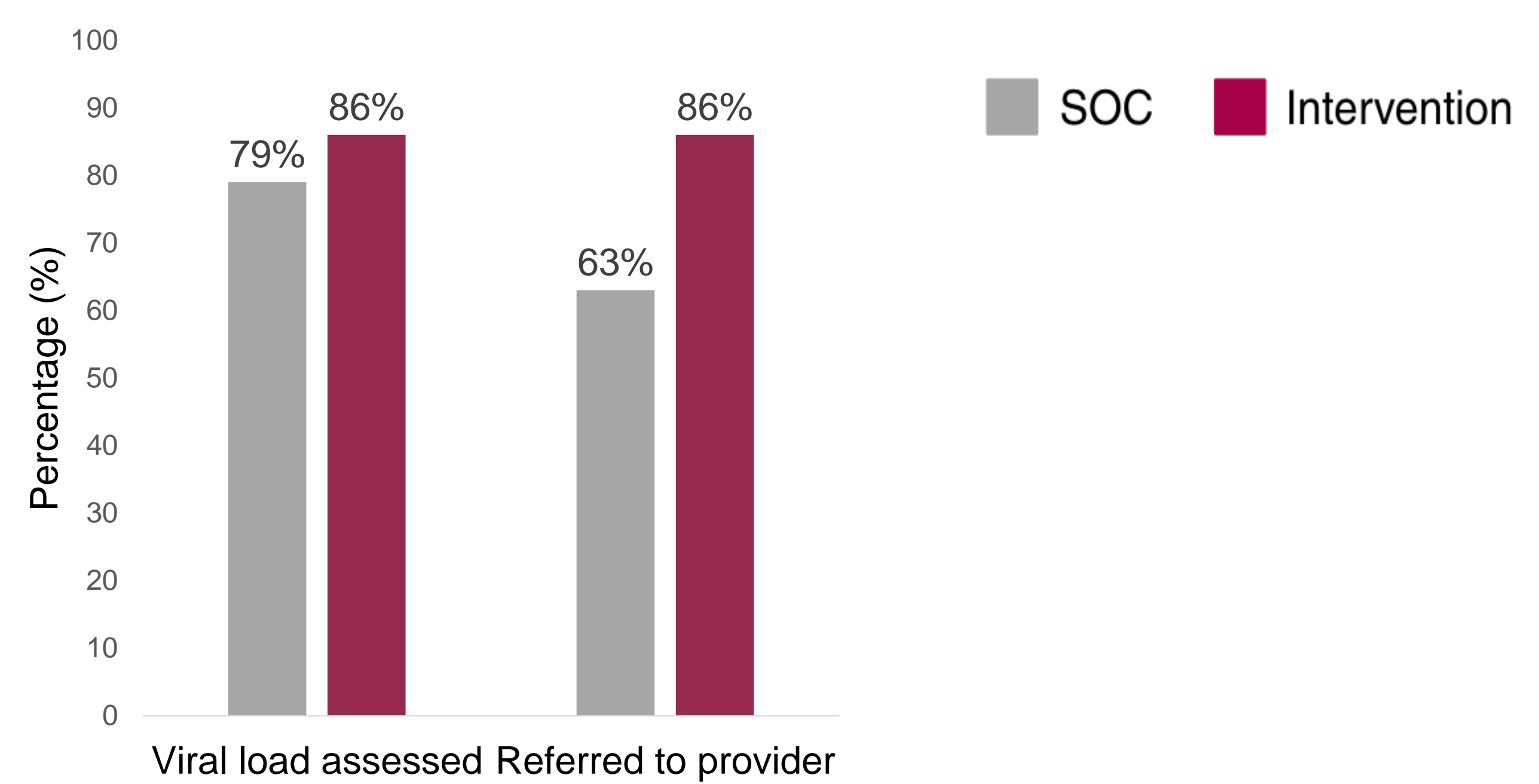
Demographic data completeness



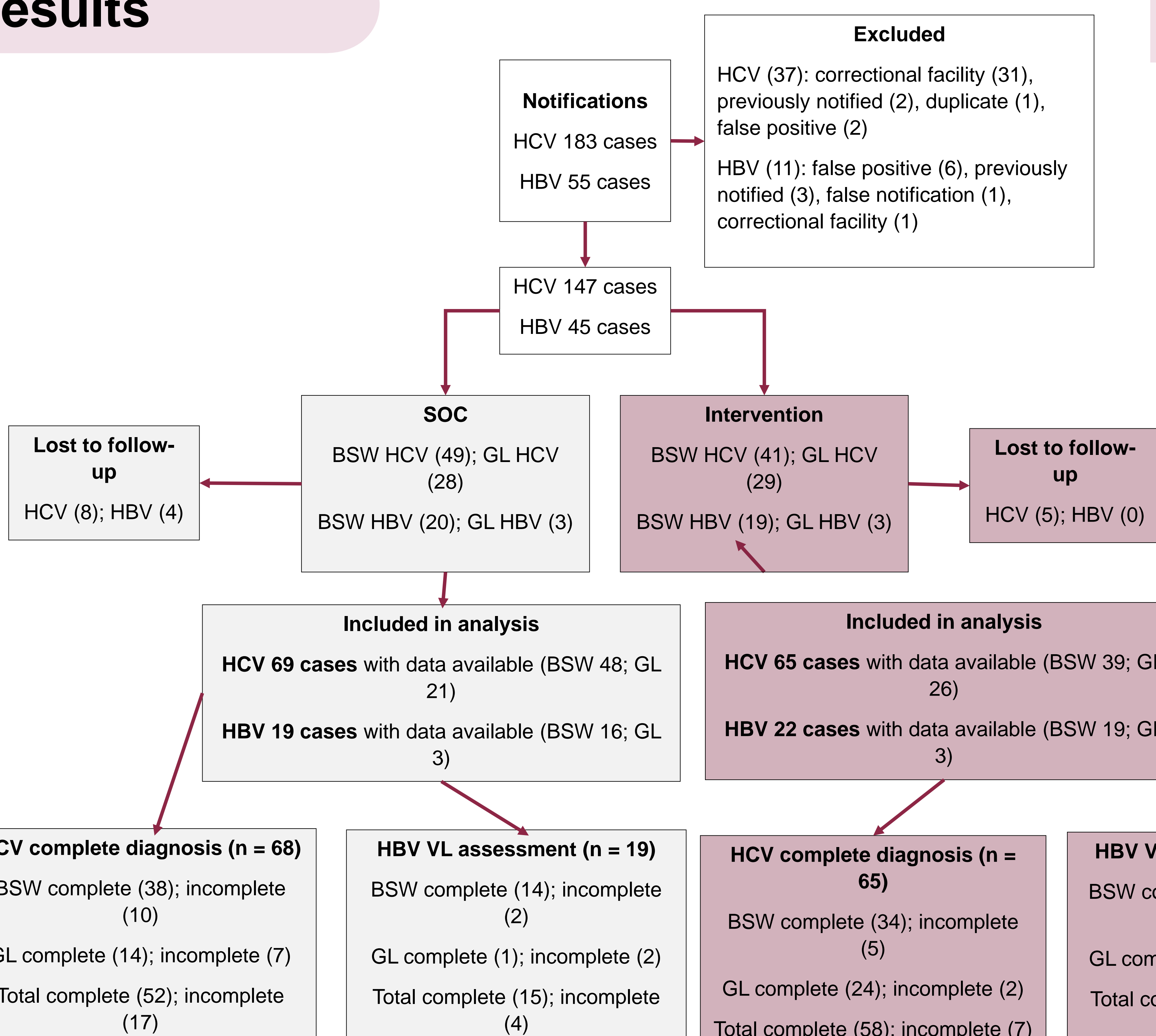
Hepatitis C



Hepatitis B



Results



Discussion and conclusion

- Compared to SOC, A local workforce enabling enhanced follow-up by both LPHUs had a statistically significant higher proportion of:
 - Demographic data completion
 - Hepatitis C complete diagnoses
- Compared to SOC, enhanced follow-up by BSW and Gippsland LPHU did not have a statistically significant higher proportion of
 - Hepatitis C treatment uptake
 - Hepatitis B viral load assessments.
 - Referral to a hepatitis B provider
- Survival and subgroup analysis in process
- Strategies key to achieving elimination include:
 - Tailoring the care cascade to respond to need, informed by local data
 - Collaboration and evaluating components of the public health response

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