

Community-led Dual HIV/Syphilis Testing Initiative for Men Who Have Sex With Men in Vietnam

Nguyen Hiep.T, et al.

U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Vietnam

March 15, 2023



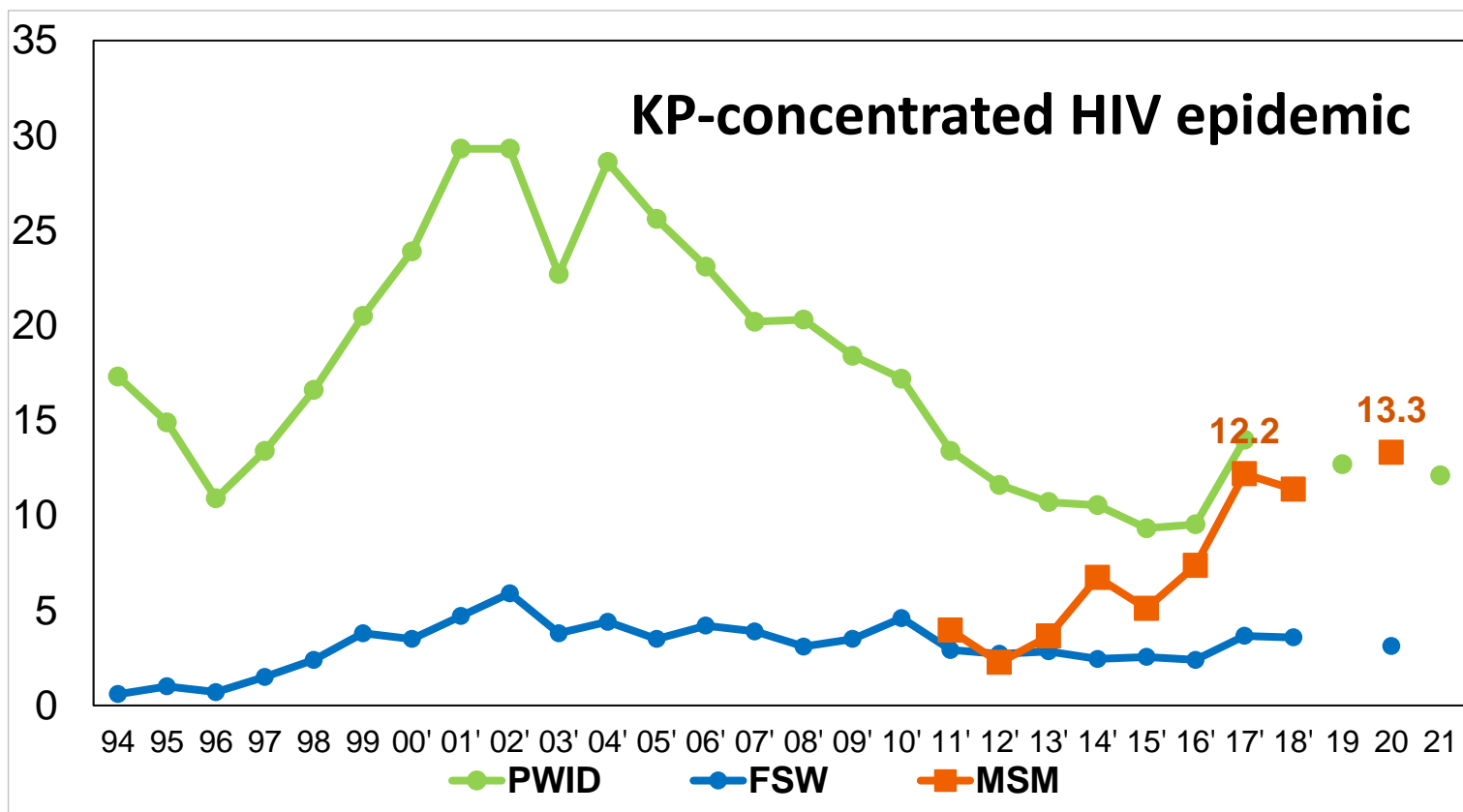
Acknowledgement & Disclosure of Interest

➤ ***I want to begin my presentation by acknowledging and thanking:***

- People who have generously participated in our program
- Community-based organizations (CBOs) for their commitment and support to their community members
- Vietnam Administration for AIDS Controls in Vietnam (VAAC), Vietnam Ministry of Health
- Provincial Departments of Health and provincial Centers for Diseases Controls
- US.CDC colleagues who involved and supported this project
- POC23 Secretariat

➤ ***The authors declare no potential conflicts of interest in publication and presentation of this work***

HIV and Syphilis Epidemic among MSM in Vietnam



HIV & Syphilis prevalence among MSM are increasing

✓ *Syphilis prevalence increased significantly from 0.8% (95% CI 0.3-2.0) in 2012 to 12.6% (95% CI 8.6-18.2) in 2020*

HIV infection among MSM with syphilis was 8.5 times higher than those without syphilis

Factor	HIV Test Result		Bivariate model - Crude OR (95% CI)	Final Model - Adjusted OR** (95% CI)
	Positive	Negative		
Syphilis test results				
Negative	113 (10.4)	974 (89.6)	1	1
Positive	78 (49.7)	79 (50.3)	8.51 (5.95 - 12.18)	8.55 (5.90, 12.38)

Intervention: Community-led Dual HIV/Syphilis Testing

- 70 MSM outreach workers from 24 CBOs in five provinces in 2021
- Training, technical supervision & monitoring
- SD Bioline Duo HIV/syphilis test



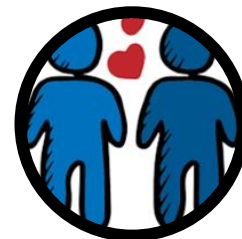
**Reach & Offer
Dual Test**



**Sexual health
discussion**



**Screen
HIV/Syphilis &
Linkage**



**Conduct Social
Network Strategy
(SNS) & Index
Testing**

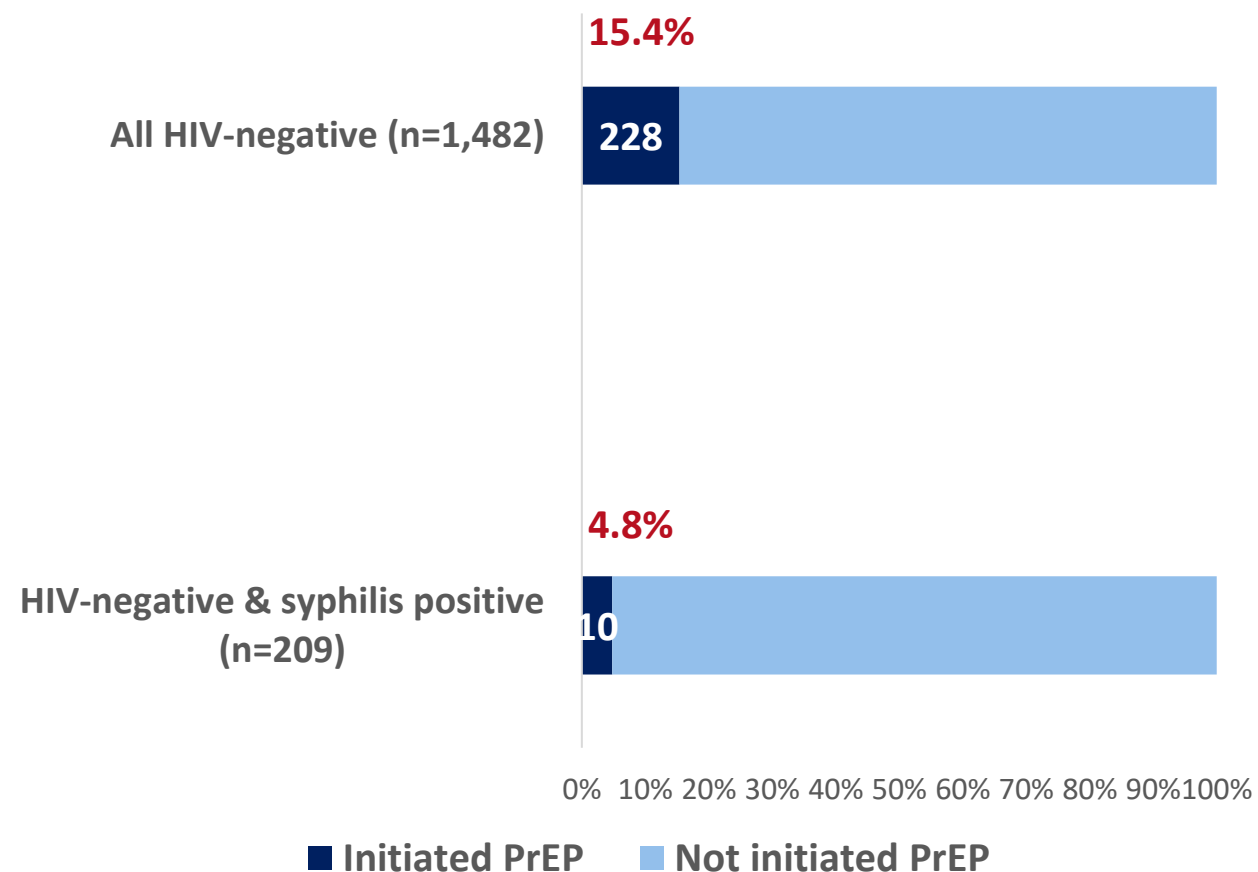
Results from April 2021 – June 2022

□ 3,351 MSM offered HIV/syphilis testing; 1,592 (47.5%) accepted

□ Among clients tested for HIV/syphilis:

- Median age: 26 years
- **61 (3.8%) HIV(+); 57 (93%) linked to ART**
- **217 (13.6%) Syphilis(+)** referred for STIs service
- **6 (0.4%) with HIV/Syphilis co-infections**

Low Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP)-linked rate, especially those with syphilis reactive



Conclusions

- It is feasible to offer dual HIV/syphilis testing for MSM through CBOs
- Dual HIV/syphilis testing is able to reach MSM at higher risk for syphilis
- High rate of linkage to HIV treatment
- Low PrEP uptake among HIV negative MSM, especially among the syphilis reactive clients

Contact Information:

[Nguyen Hiep.T](#)

Outreach and Prevention Innovation Officer

U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Vietnam

3rd Floor, Tung Shing Square, 2 Ngo Quyen, Hanoi, Vietnam

Tel: +84 24 3935 2091 | Mobile: +84 93 447 6266 | Email: xbl2@cdc.gov

Thank you!

Questions?



The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.