

Peer-led community based integrated  
BBV/COVID testing and linkage to care in  
covid emergency accommodation for the  
homeless in London, UK

We would like to declare no conflict of interest

***In the midst of chaos...  
there is opportunity***

Sun Tzu - The Art of War



**UCL**



**Collaborative  
Centre for  
Inclusion  
Health**



# Accessing care – we come to you





# Results on the spot





# Peer support



An iceberg floating in the ocean. The tip of the iceberg is above the water line, while the vast majority of the iceberg is submerged below the surface. The sky is blue with light clouds, and the water is a deep blue. The iceberg is white and blue, with some internal structure visible.

**PTB**

0.25%

**LTBI**

1:5

**HCV**

1:10

**HIV**

1:100

Aldridge RW, Hayward AC, Hemming S, Yates SK, Ferenando G, Possas L, Garber E, Watson JM, Geretti AM, McHugh TD, Lipman M, Story A. High prevalence of latent tuberculosis and bloodborne virus infection in a homeless population. *Thorax*. 2018 Jun;73(6):557-564



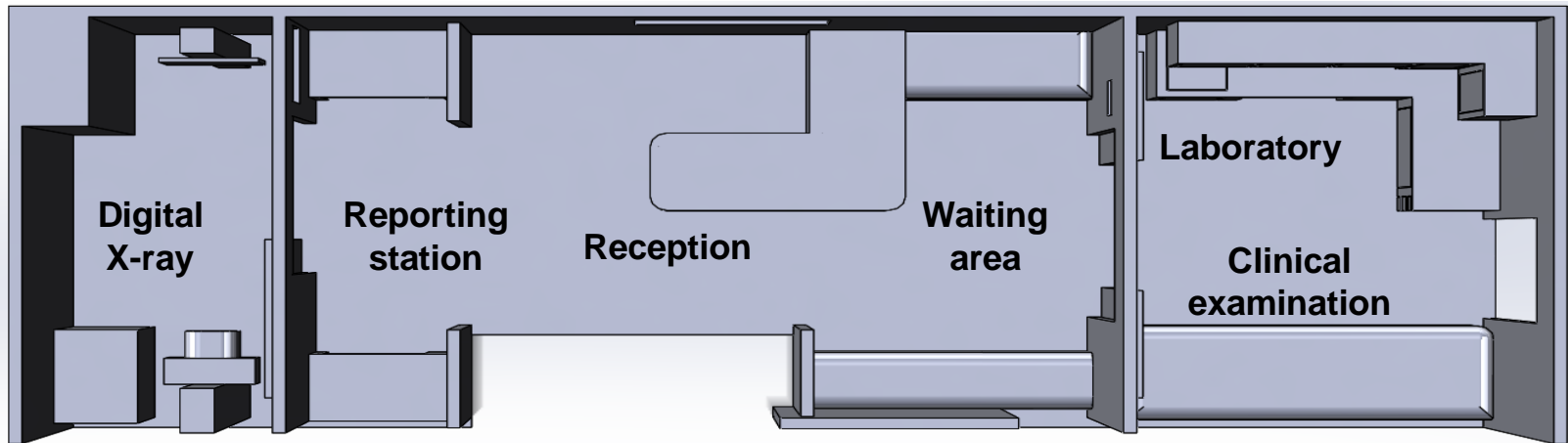
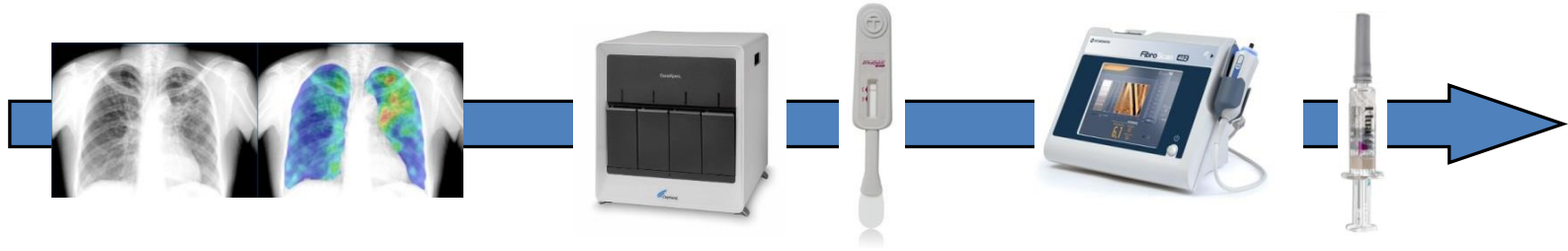
# High prevalence of latent tuberculosis and bloodborne virus infection in a homeless population

Robert W Aldridge,<sup>1,2</sup> Andrew C Hayward,<sup>1,2,3</sup> Sara Hemming,<sup>1,2,4</sup> Susan K Yates,<sup>1,2,4</sup>  
Gloria Ferenando,<sup>1,2,4</sup> Lucia Possas,<sup>1,2,4</sup> Elizabeth Garber,<sup>1,2,4</sup> John M Watson,<sup>1</sup>  
Anna Maria Geretti,<sup>5</sup> Timothy Daniel McHugh,<sup>6</sup> Marc Lipman,<sup>4,7</sup> Alistair Story<sup>8</sup>

- **Strong co-linearity between BBV and TB infection among homeless people**
  - **driven by Opiate and Cocaine Use**
- **17% TB infected – 10% chronic HCV**
  - 29% HCV+ have LTBI / 26% LTBI have HCV
- **1% HIV (5/491 - 3 not Rx engaged)**



# FIND TREAT Integrated One-stop-shop screening





# Triage - Test - Cohort – Care & “Everybody in”





# How a hotel is stemming the tide of Covid-19 among rough sleepers

Doctors at the UK's only treatment centre for homeless people warn of a potentially massive outbreak without more such facilities

- [Coronavirus - latest updates](#)
- [See all our coronavirus coverage](#)

Tom Wall

Tue 5 May 2020 07:00 BST



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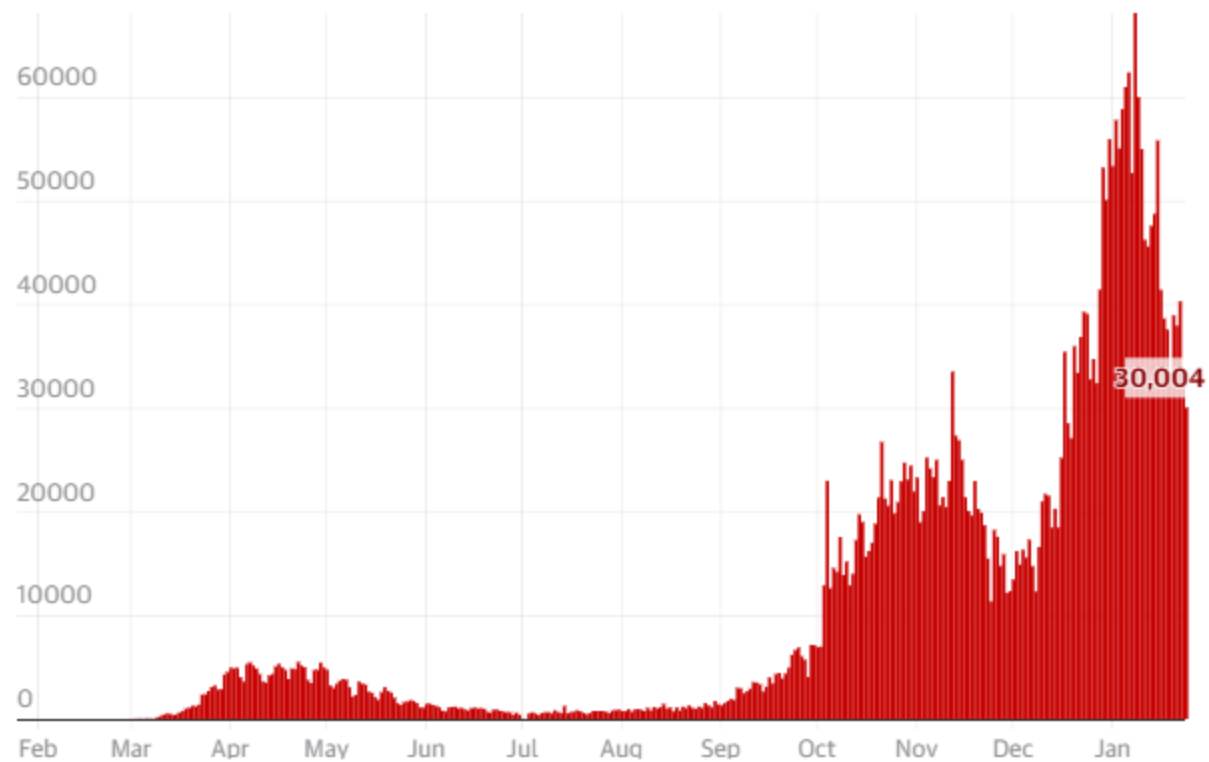


▲ Clara Chong, a doctor at UCLH, and Nicole Hartand Katie Gatward of Médecins sans Frontières donning PPE at the centre in east London. Outreach work suggests only 3-5% of rough sleepers in London carries the coronavirus.



## UK: number of new coronavirus cases per day

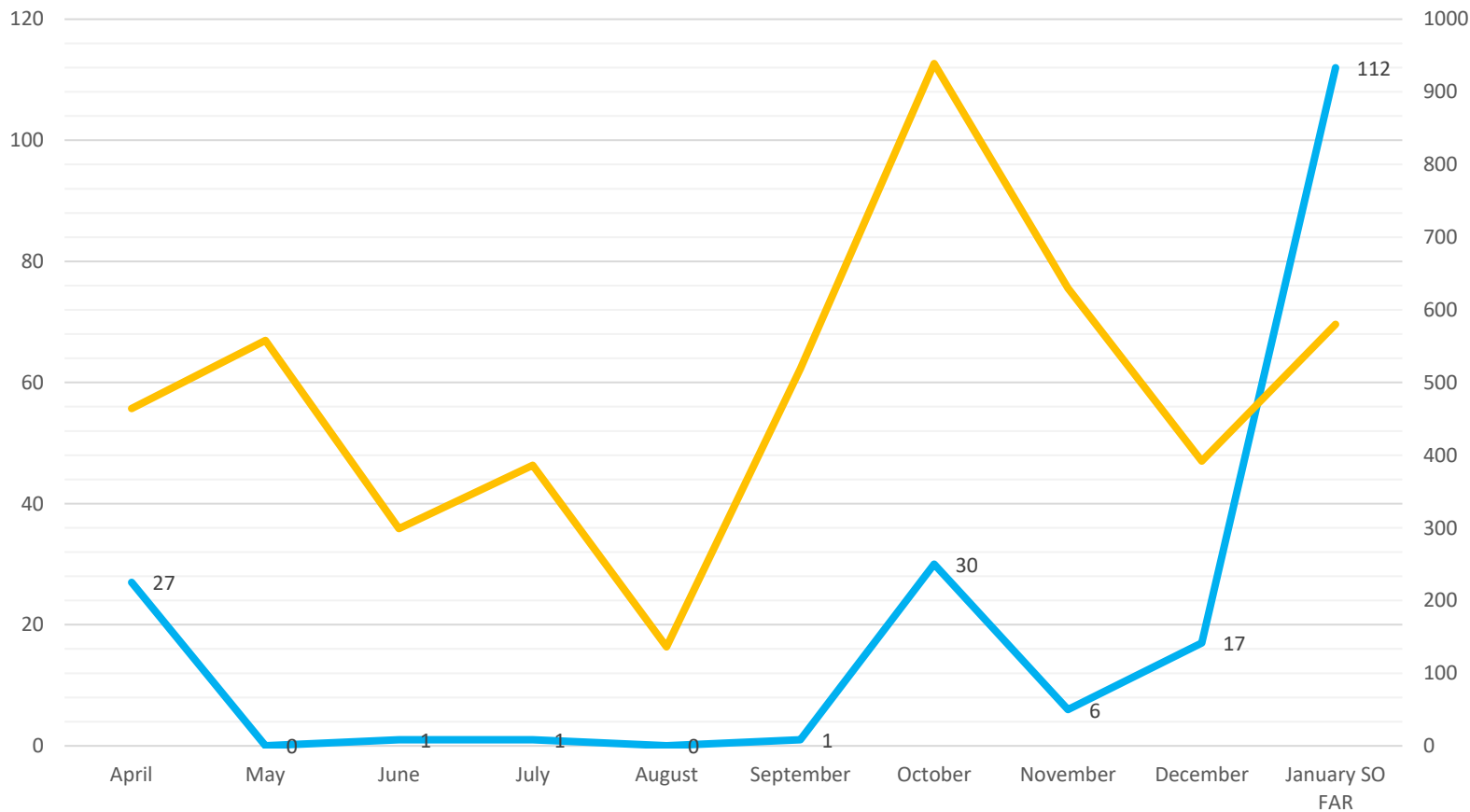
Starting from day of first reported case



# HOMELESS COVID 19 CASES: Find&Treat

NUMBER TESTS

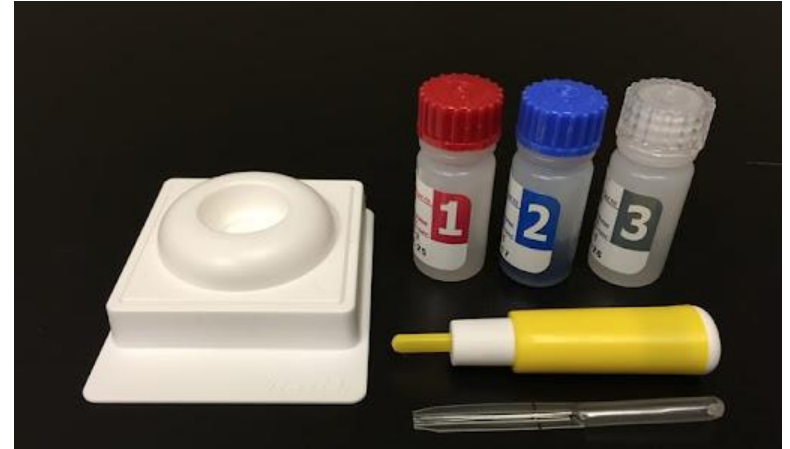
POSITIVE TESTS



AXIS TITLE

# Cohorted BBV (CBBVs)

- Collaborations
- Advocacy groups
- Point of care testing
  - HCV
  - HBV
  - HIV / Syphilis



THE HEPATITIS  TRUST

**Groundswell**

Out of homelessness



**PositiveEast**



Routemap to hepatitis C  
elimination in London

SUPPORTED BY  
**MAYOR OF LONDON**

**LONDON JOINT  
WORKING GROUP**  
ON SUBSTANCE USE  
+ HEPATITIS C

**Bloomsbury  
Network**

*Welcome to*  
**Mortimer  
Market  
Centre**

**NHS**  
Central and  
North West London  
Health Foundation Trust





# Results

- >1,500 former rough sleepers screened in 98 different venues between May 15<sup>th</sup> – August 31<sup>st</sup>
  - 14% female mean age 42
  - 76% male mean age 41
- Mean duration homelessness 3.5 years
- 76 different countries of birth
- 38.9% UK born
- 37.5% prev BBV test
- 15.5% PWID (ever)
- HBV (<1%)



# 1,082

## people tested for BBVs

over the course of 98 testing events, with almost all tested for hepatitis C (97%) and many others tested for HIV (78%) and hepatitis B (56%)

# 11%

## HCV antibody-positive

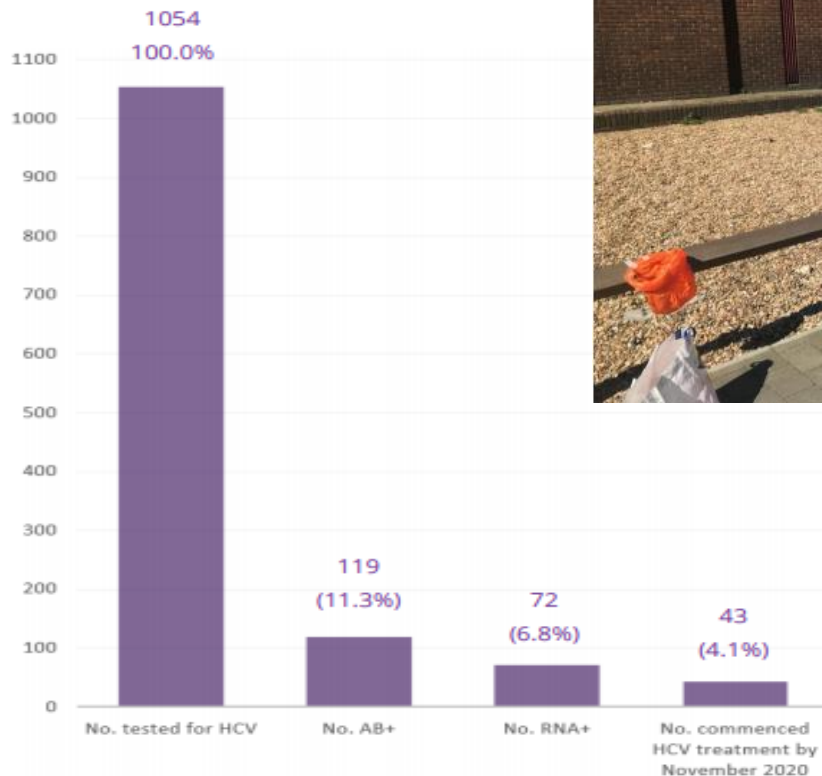
of those people tested for hepatitis C, indicating a previous or current infection

# 7%

## HCV RNA-positive

of those people tested for hepatitis C, indicating a current infection

**FIGURE 2: HCV CASCADE OF CARE FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE HOMELESS AS A RESULT OF TESTING EVENTS IN LONDON BETWEEN MARCH AND AUGUST 2020**



<http://ljwg.org.uk/hcv-testing-in-temporary-accommodation-during-lockdown-december-2020-2/>

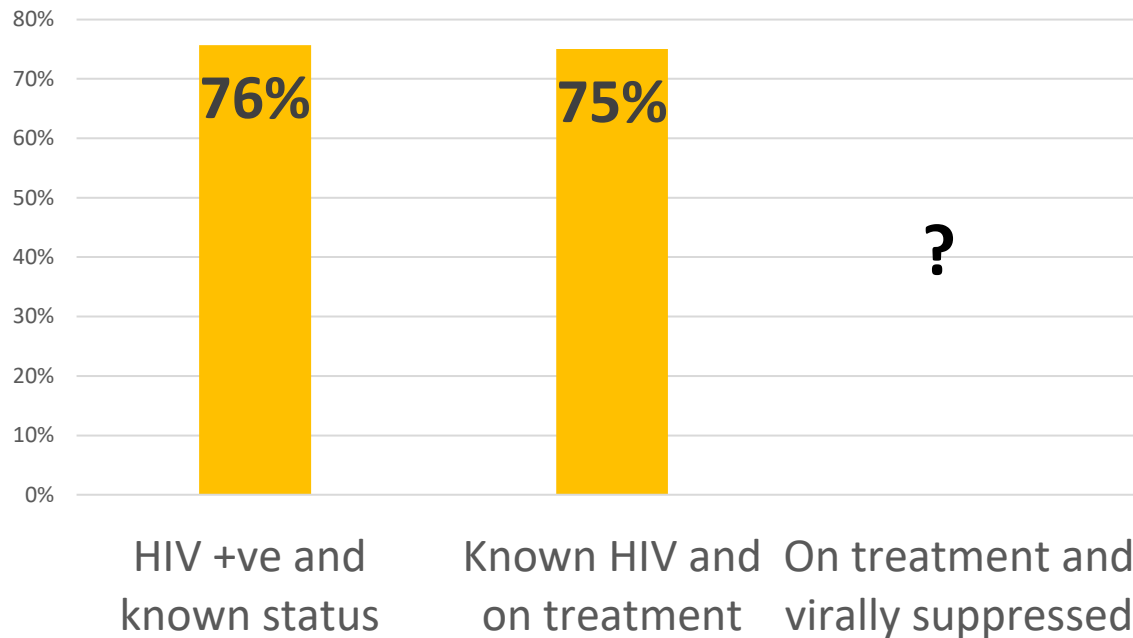
# HIV

- 1,078 tested – POCT + syphilis
- 3.4% Positive (n=37)
  - 21.6% co-infected HCV
  - 86.5% male
  - 27% MSM
  - 40.5% PWID (16.2 current)
  - Prev HIV test = 81.1%





# Inclusion health & 90:90:90



90%  
of all  
  
living with HIV will know  
their HIV status

90%  
of all  
  
living with HIV will receive  
antiretroviral therapy

90%  
of all  
  
receiving antiretroviral  
therapy will have viral  
suppression

# Sexual Health: Street Sex Workers

- STI testing
  - Chlamydia / Gonorrhoea – swabs / urine (!)
  - Syphilis
- HCV / HBV / HIV – (POCTs)

# Prelim results – CSW STI Outreach

- 67 women tested
- 40% UK born
  - Poland / Bulgaria / Romania / Latvia
- 77% homeless / 22% rough sleeping
- Mean age 28.2 (22-50)
- 45% PWID (current use)

# Prelim results – CSW STI Outreach

- 62.5% Chlamydia
- 50% Gonorrhoea
- 43.8% Chlamydia & Gonorrhoea
- 18.8% syphilis – POCT > Rx
- 12.5% HCV RNA
- linkage to care a challenge –
  - Traditional route does not work



## Challenges: Making every contact count

## Integrated care and inclusion health:

HCV

## HIV

STI

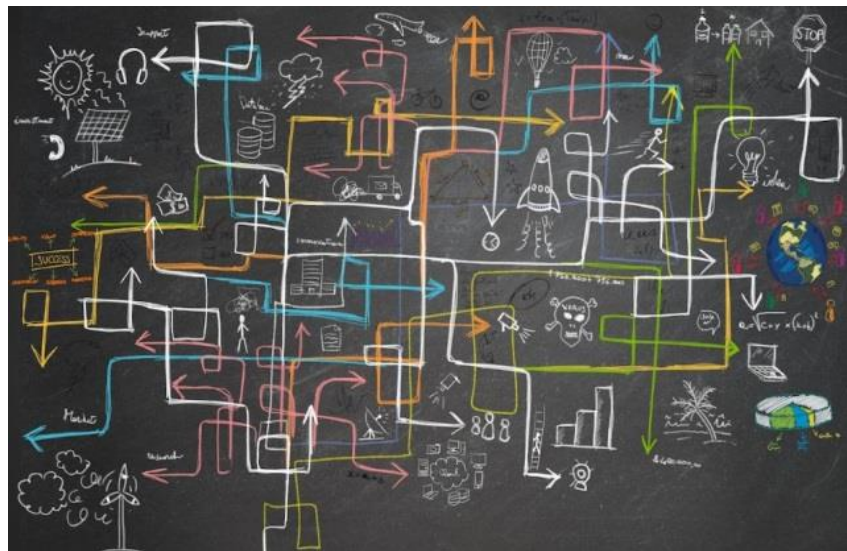
## LTBI

## Reproductive health

## Harm minimization

## Complexity

- Organisations
- Individuals



# Opportunities

Treatment support:

- Video observed therapy for people with complexities
- Peer support

Collaborations & Integrated care

Point of care diagnostics

- non-clinical staff / advocates / mates

Evidence

- > commissioning





With thanks to the Find&Treat  
team and all our collaborators

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