

Hepatitis D prevalence and testing patterns among Australians with hepatitis B

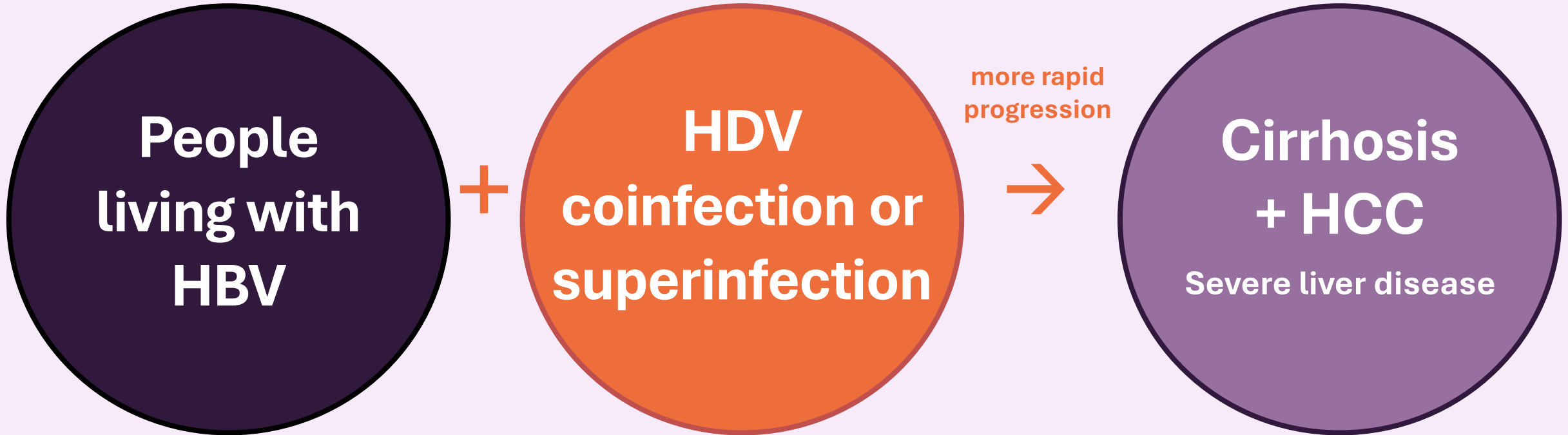
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Nothing to disclose

HDV accelerates severe liver disease

THE CLINICAL PROBLEM



GUIDELINE

Screen all people with HBV for HDV

EVIDENCE GAP

Testing uptake is poorly understood

Study design

- **Retrospective analysis:** HDV testing and prevalence among people with HBV
- **Data source:** ACCESS sentinel surveillance network primary care and community health clinics that regularly carry out HBV testing
- **Study population:** People with first recorded evidence of HBV infection between **2015–2024**
- **HBV infection defined as:**
 - Positive HBsAg, or
 - Positive HBeAg, or
 - Detectable HBV viral load
- **Outcomes assessed:**
 - Anti-HDV testing uptake
 - Timing of anti-HDV testing
 - Follow-up HDV PCR testing
- **HDV prevalence defined as:**
 - Proportion with a positive anti-HDV result

Study population

-ACCESS sentinel surveillance network, 2015-2024



32 clinics



1,683 People with HBV infection

59% Male

996

41% Female

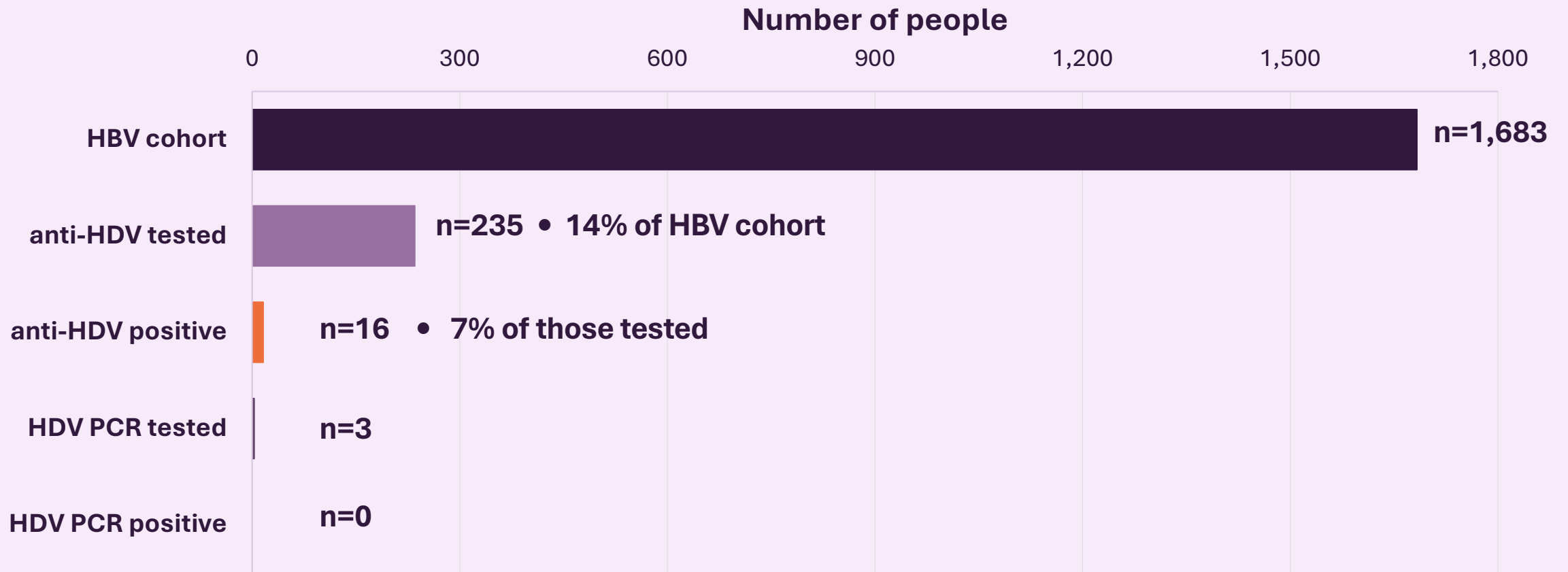
687



Mean age: **41 years** (SD 14.7)

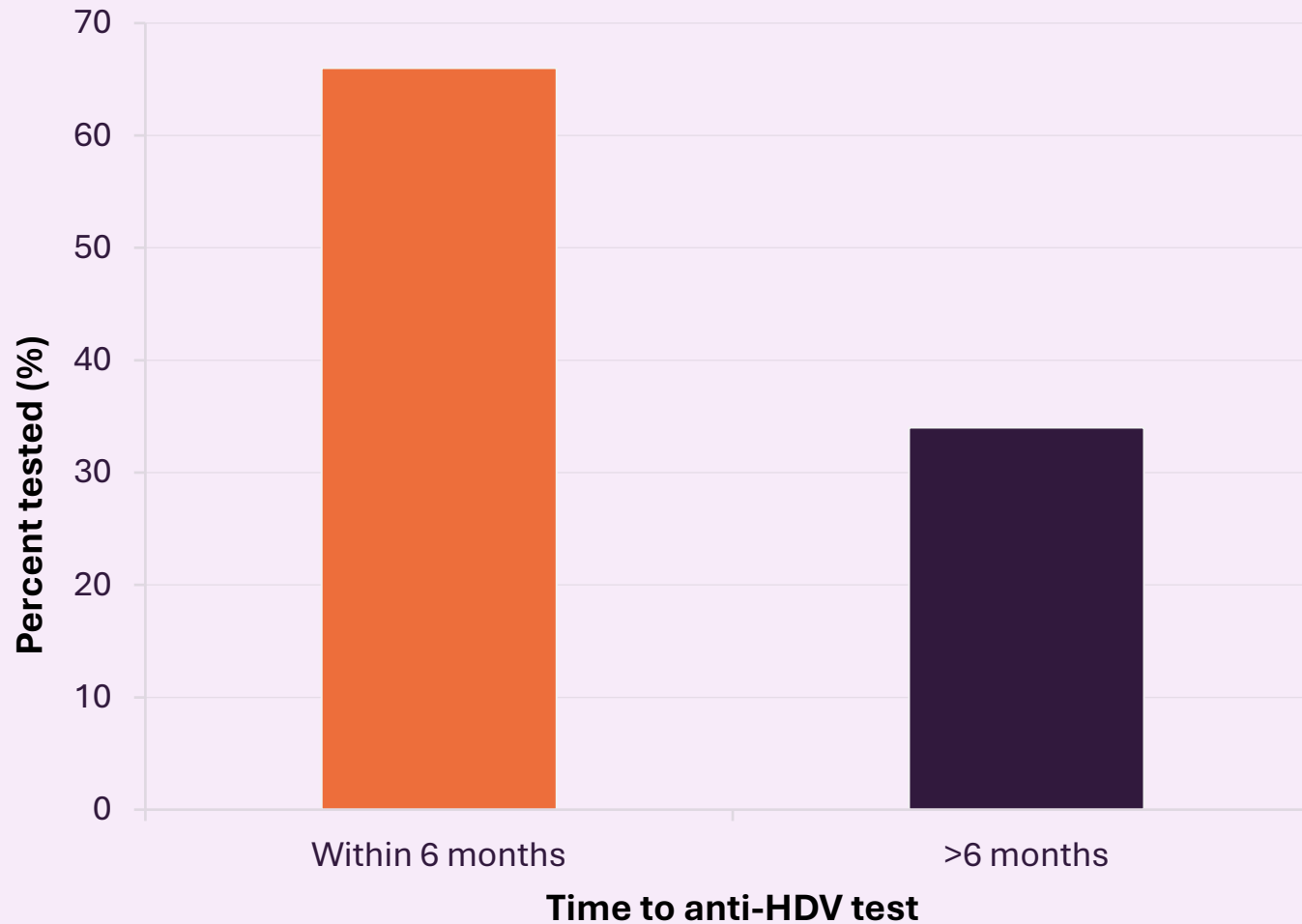


HDV testing cascade



WHO global estimate: 5% of people with chronic HBV are anti-HDV positive

Timeliness of anti-HDV testing



n = 235

How long after initial evidence of HBV were people tested for anti-HDV?

66%

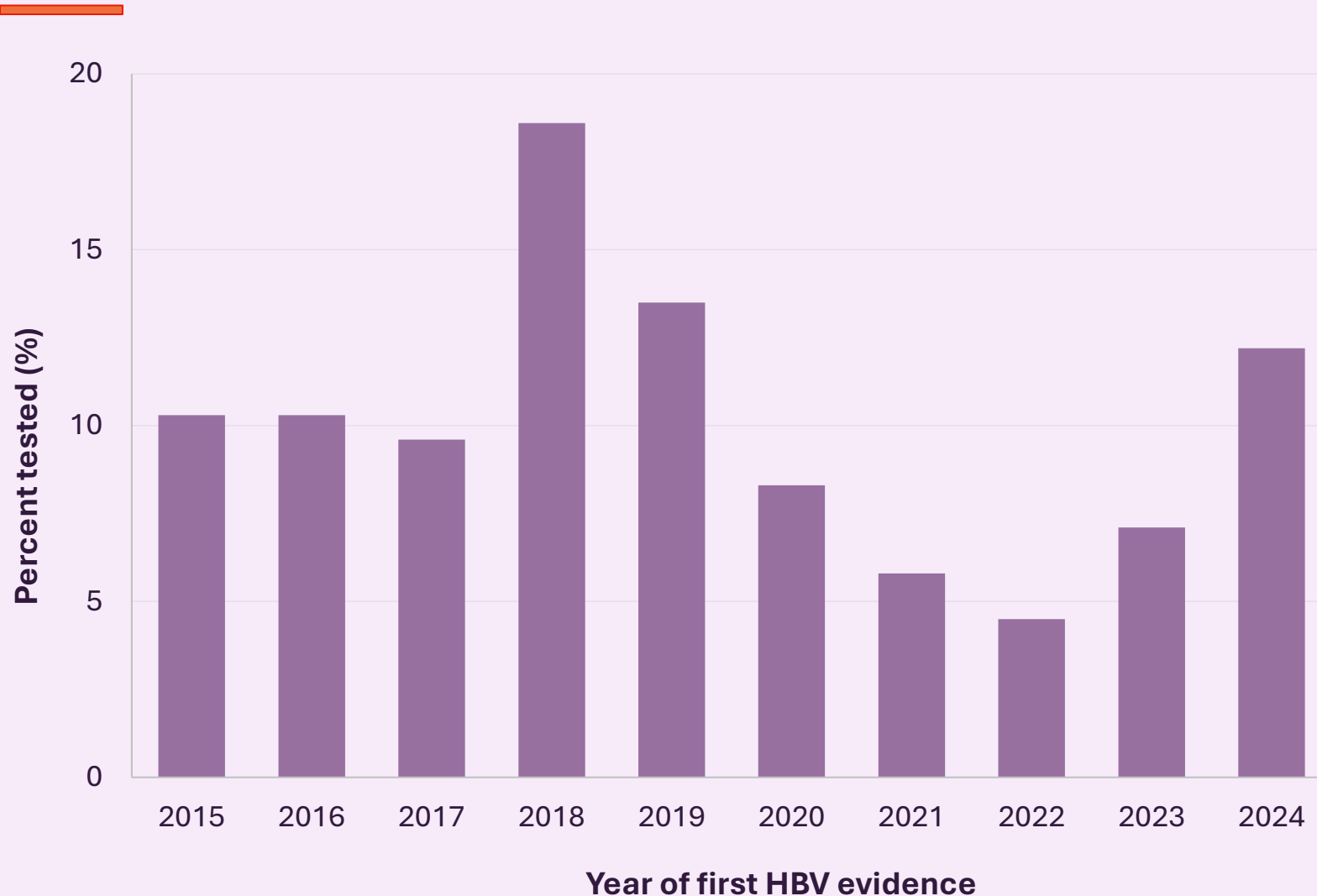
within 6 months

34%

after 6 months

Proportion tested for anti-HDV over time

-within six months of initial HBV evidence



Timely anti-HDV testing fluctuated over time but remained below 20%

Key messages

- **Despite guideline recommendations, only 14% of HBV patients received anti-HDV testing in ACCESS clinics**
- **Missed testing may result in undiagnosed HDV co-infection and superinfection, delaying identification of patients at high risk of liver disease**
- **HDV reflex testing for HBsAg-positive patients may improve low HDV testing**
 - **consistent with the GESA-ASID policy statement**
“all HBsAg positive people should be tested for HDV at their initial assessment”