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| **Title of Research Presentation** “I want to test but I’m afraid”: Barriers to HIV testing among people born in sub-Saharan Africa and South East Asia |
| **Background/Objectives**  Like other high-income countries, Australia has seen an increase in HIV notifications among people born overseas. In the last decade, people born in Sub-Saharan Africa, North East Asia and South-East Asia have had the highest HIV diagnosis rates in Australia for any region of birth. About a third of these notifications occur via late or advanced HIV diagnosis. New testing technologies such as rapid testing, self-collection kits, and oral testing have recently been made available in Australia. Little is known about the acceptability of these technologies among people from sub-Saharan Africa, North East Asia and South East Asia. Understanding the barriers to HIV testing, and identifying possible enablers may increase testing to ensure early diagnosis and reduce likelihood of onward transmission. This study aimed to better understand barriers to HIV testing for migrants from these two regions.  **Methods**  This was a multi-jurisdictional study based in Australia. The project involved 11 focus groups with 77 people born in sub-Saharan Africa, North East Asia and South East Asia across four Australian states – New South Wales, Western Australia, South Australia and Victoria. Focus group discussions explored participants’ knowledge of HIV and HIV testing, access to health services, barriers to testing, attitudes to new testing technology and ways to increase HIV testing among communities. Focus groups included men who have sex with men and people who had lived in Australia for various lengths of time. Where possible, peer facilitators were utilised. The Curtin University Human Research Ethics Committee approved this study.  **Results**  Barriers to HIV testing included: cost and eligibility of health services, low visibility of HIV in Australia, HIV-related stigma, and missed opportunities by general practitioners. Participants had low knowledge on where to test for HIV and the different methods available. Diverse opportunities for testing were considered important by participants in order to encourage uptake.  **Discussion**  Health promotion interventions to address low levels of HIV testing among sub-Saharan Africa, North East Asia and South East Asia migrants in Australia need to be multi-strategic and aimed at both a community and policy level. New methods of HIV testing, including self-testing and rapid HIV testing, present an opportunity to reorient health services and engage with migrants outside of traditional health care settings.  **Keywords**  HIV; CaLD; migrant; health service access |