

Innovative Programs to End the HIV Epidemic: ART Rapid Start



EMORY
UNIVERSITY

Center for
AIDS Research



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Southeast AIDS Education & Training Center (SEATEC) Webinar
January 22, 2020

Disclosures

- (CME) Integritas Communications: Funded through Gilead
- (CME) Vindico CME – Funded through ViiV Healthcare

Objectives

1. Describe the Data Pertaining to Rapid ART Start with focus on programs in Southeast
2. Advocate for Rapid Start Approach in Context of Equity
3. Review clinical considerations when initiating rapid ART
4. Identify Potential Hurdles to Implementation

Ending the HIV Epidemic

GOAL

75%
reduction
in new HIV
infections in 5
years and at least
90%
reduction in 10
years



Diagnose all people with HIV as early as possible after infection.



Treat the infection **RAPIDLY** and effectively to achieve sustained viral suppression.



Protect people at risk for HIV using potent and proven prevention interventions, including PrEP, a medication that can prevent HIV infections.



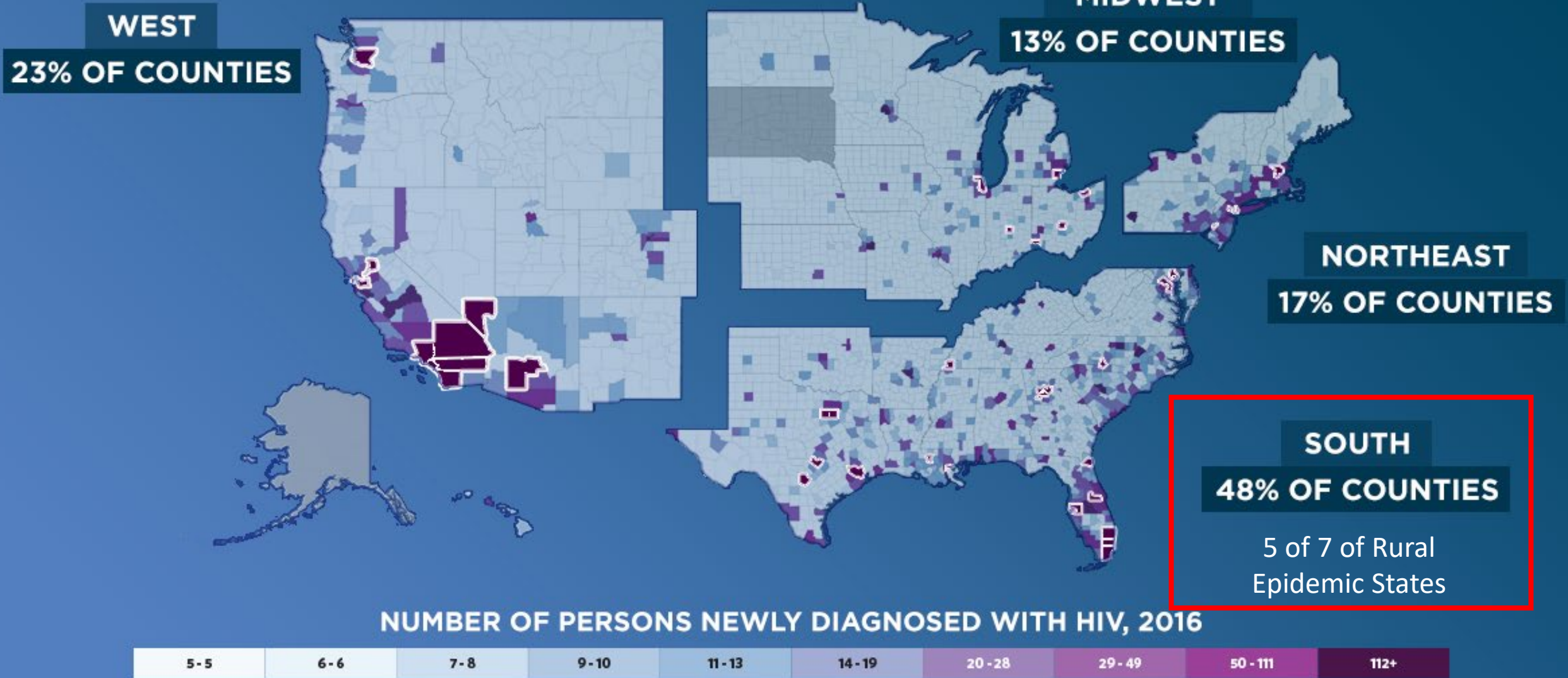
Respond rapidly to detect and respond to growing HIV clusters and prevent new HIV infections.



HIV HealthForce will establish local teams committed to the success of the Initiative in each jurisdiction.

Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America

Regional Breakdown of the 48 Highest Burden Target Counties

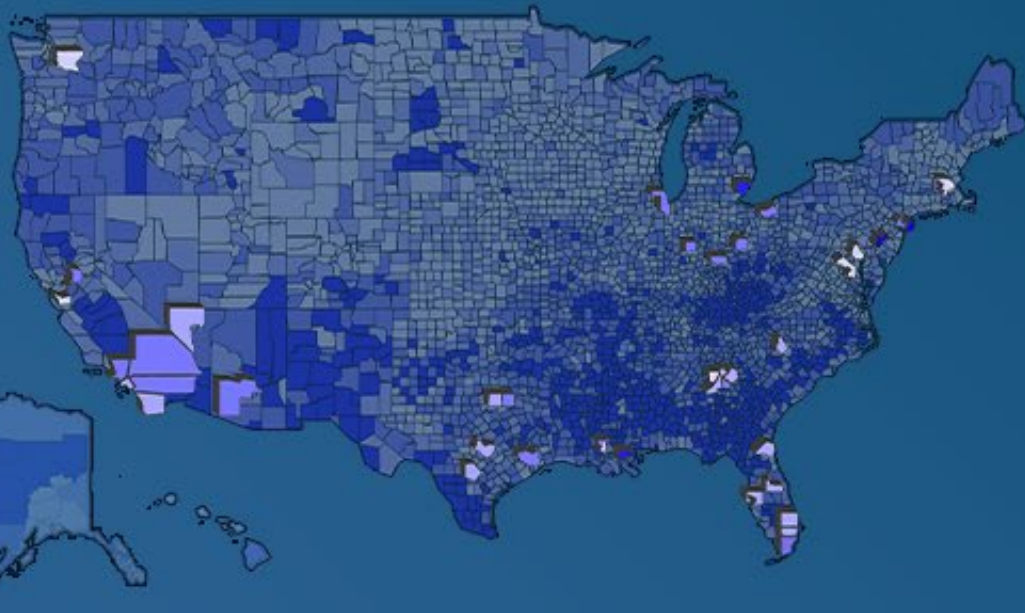


Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America

48 Highest Burden Counties and D.C.

In **67%** of the 48 target counties and D.C., the percent of people **living in poverty** is **higher** than the national average (**14.7%**)

In **73%** of the 48 target counties and D.C., the percent of people **uninsured** is **higher** than the national average (**9.4%**)



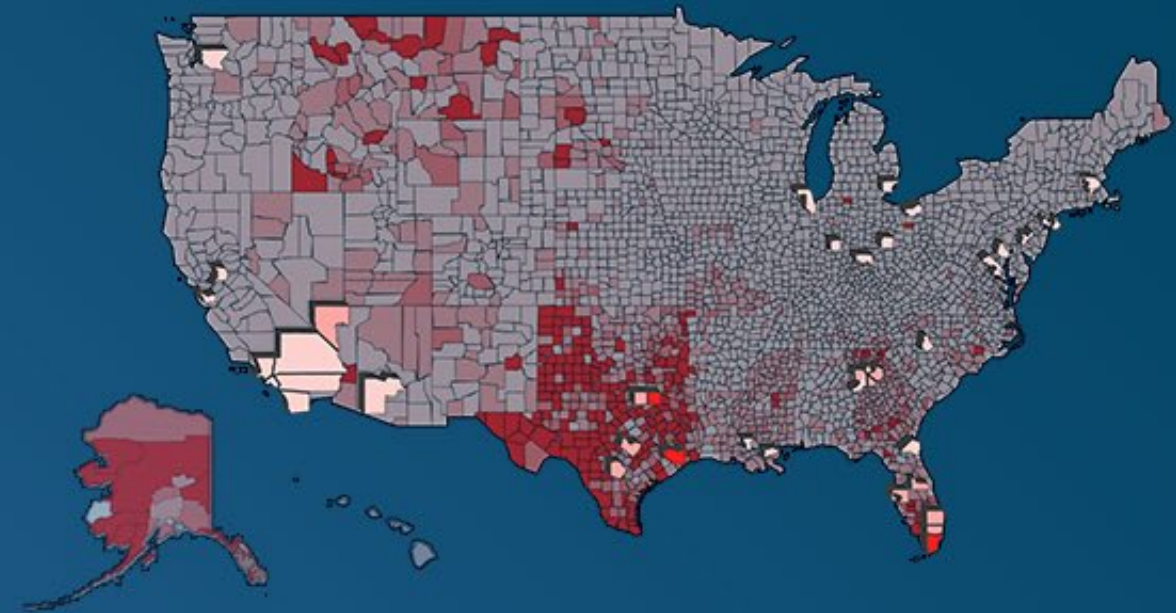
PERCENT OF POPULATION
LIVING IN POVERTY, 2015

0 - 12.0

12.1 - 15.0

15.1 - 18.0

18.1+



PERCENT OF POPULATION
LACKING HEALTH INSURANCE, 2015

0 - 12.0

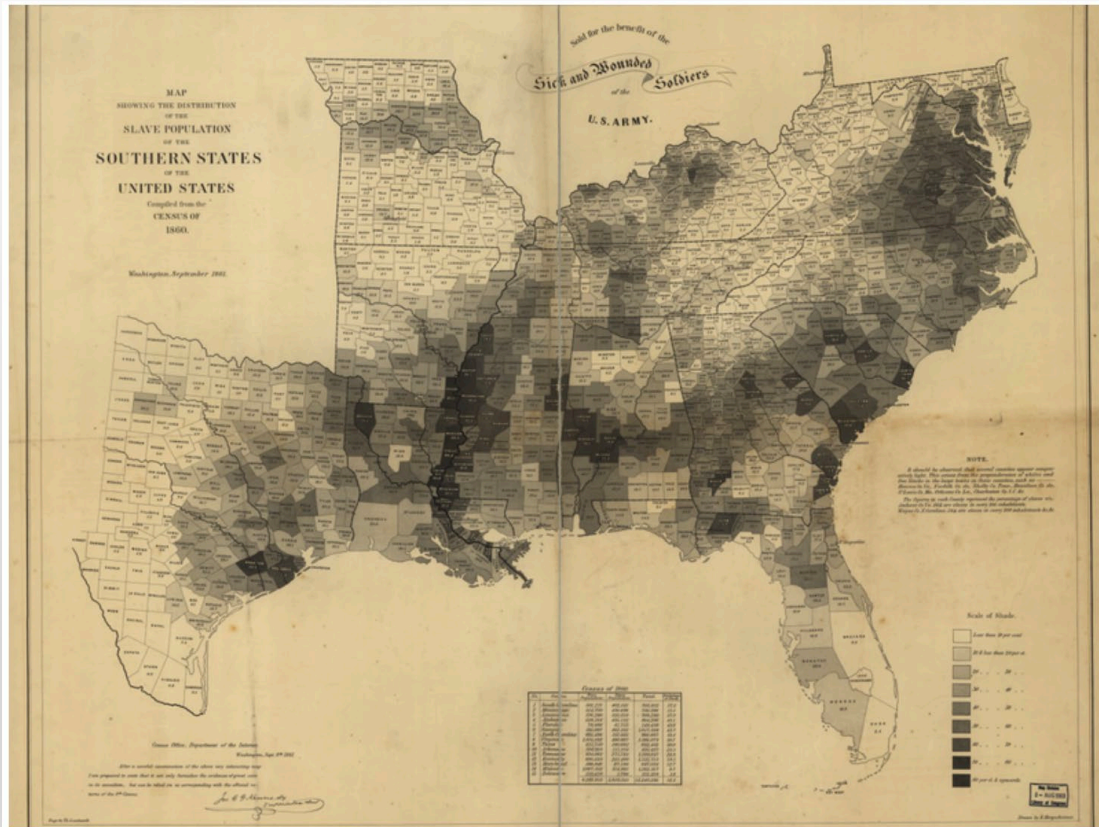
12.1 - 16.0

16.1 - 20.0

20.1+

Structural Racism

Slavery Expansion



The U.S. Coast Survey map calculated the number of slaves in each county in the United States in 1860. (Library of Congress)

Failing to Remember

#RobertRayford

Article

October 14, 1988

Documentation of an AIDS Virus Infection in the United States in 1968

Robert F. Garry, PhD; Marlys H. Witte, MD; A. Arthur Gottlieb, MD; et al

» [Author Affiliations](#)

JAMA. 1988;260(14):2085-2087. doi:10.1001/jama.1988.03410140097031

Guidelines Endorse

DHHS^[1]

- ART to be started immediately or as soon as possible after diagnosis (All)

WHO^[2]

- Recommended where feasible same day

IAS-USA^[3]

- Start ART as soon as possible, **including immediately after diagnosis**, if patient is ready

NY State DOH^[4]

- Offer rapid initiation of antiretroviral therapy (ART)—preferably on the same day (A1) or within 96 hours of diagnosis

U=U

UNDETECTABLE
=
UNTRANSMITTABLE

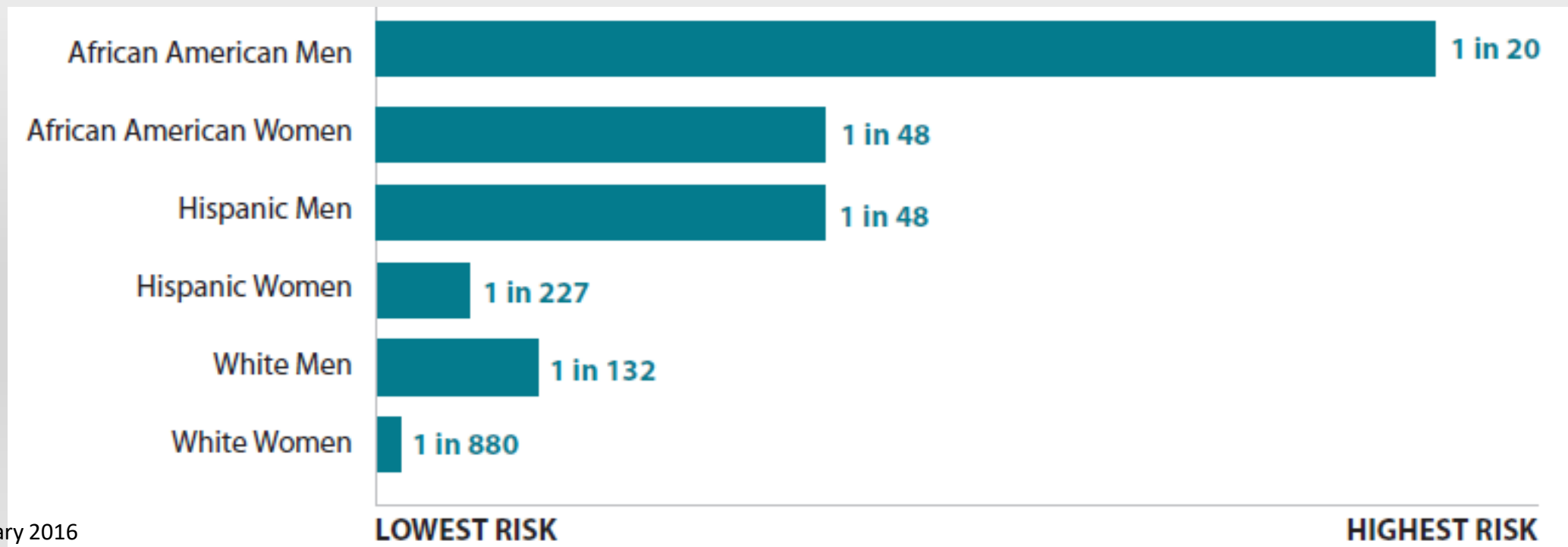
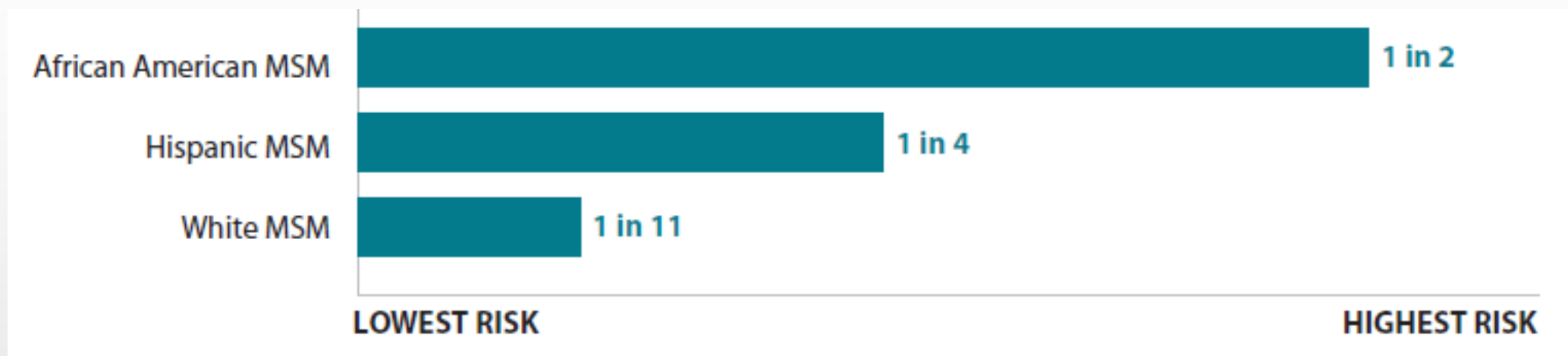
A PERSON LIVING WITH HIV
WHO HAS AN UNDETECTABLE
VIRAL LOAD DOES NOT
TRANSMIT THE VIRUS TO THEIR
PARTNERS.



The International AIDS Society is proud to endorse the U=U consensus statement of the Prevention Access Campaign.



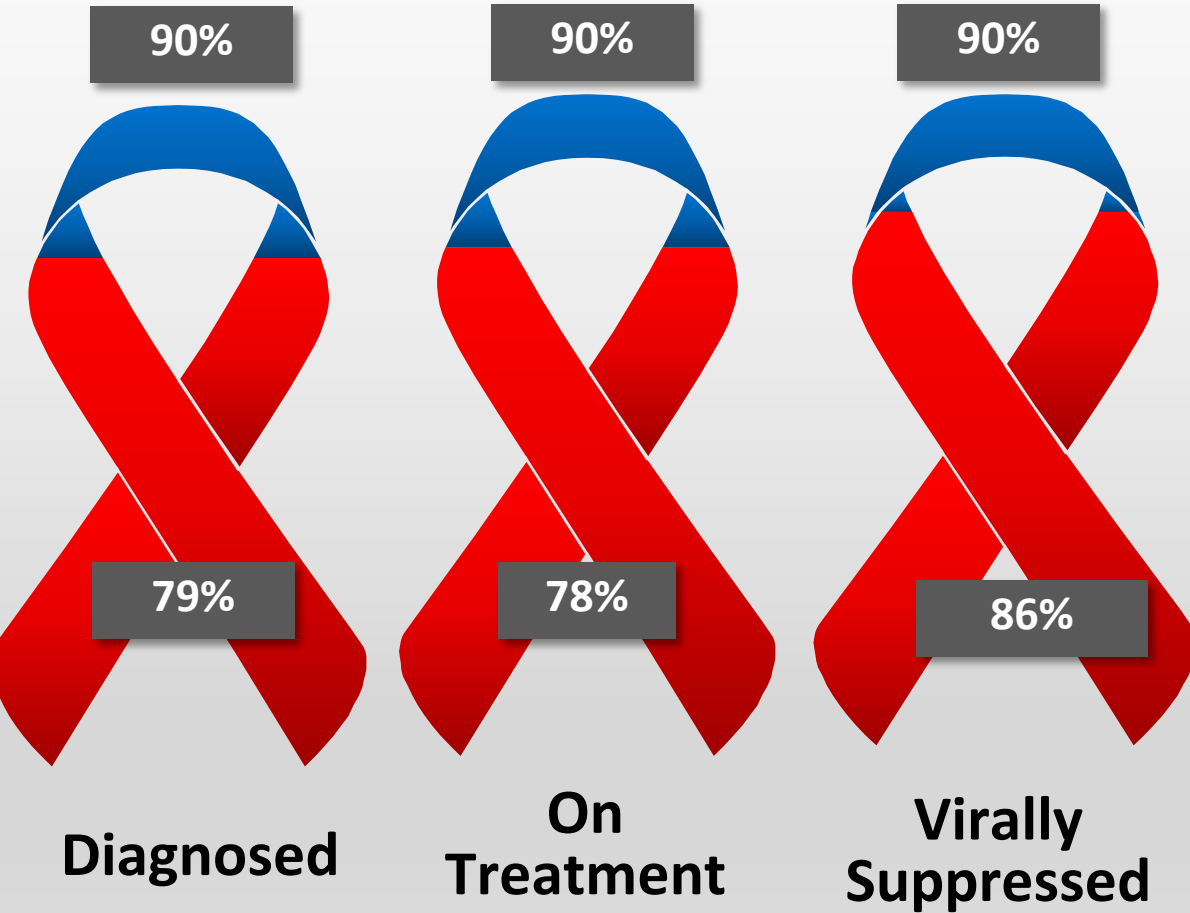
Lifetime Risk of HIV Infection...



Interpret Outcomes in Context of Setting

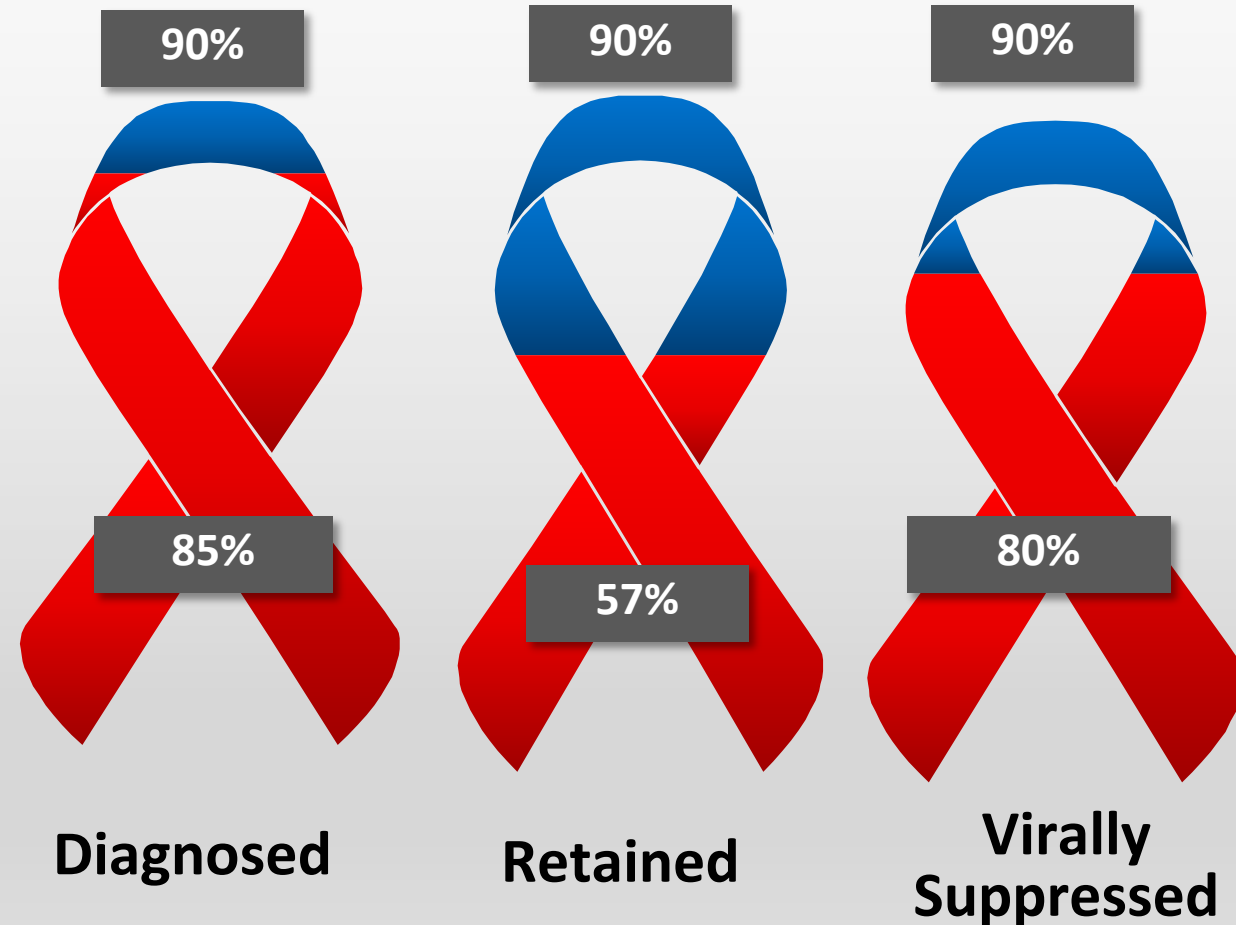
Global Progress

53% of All PWH Are Virally Suppressed

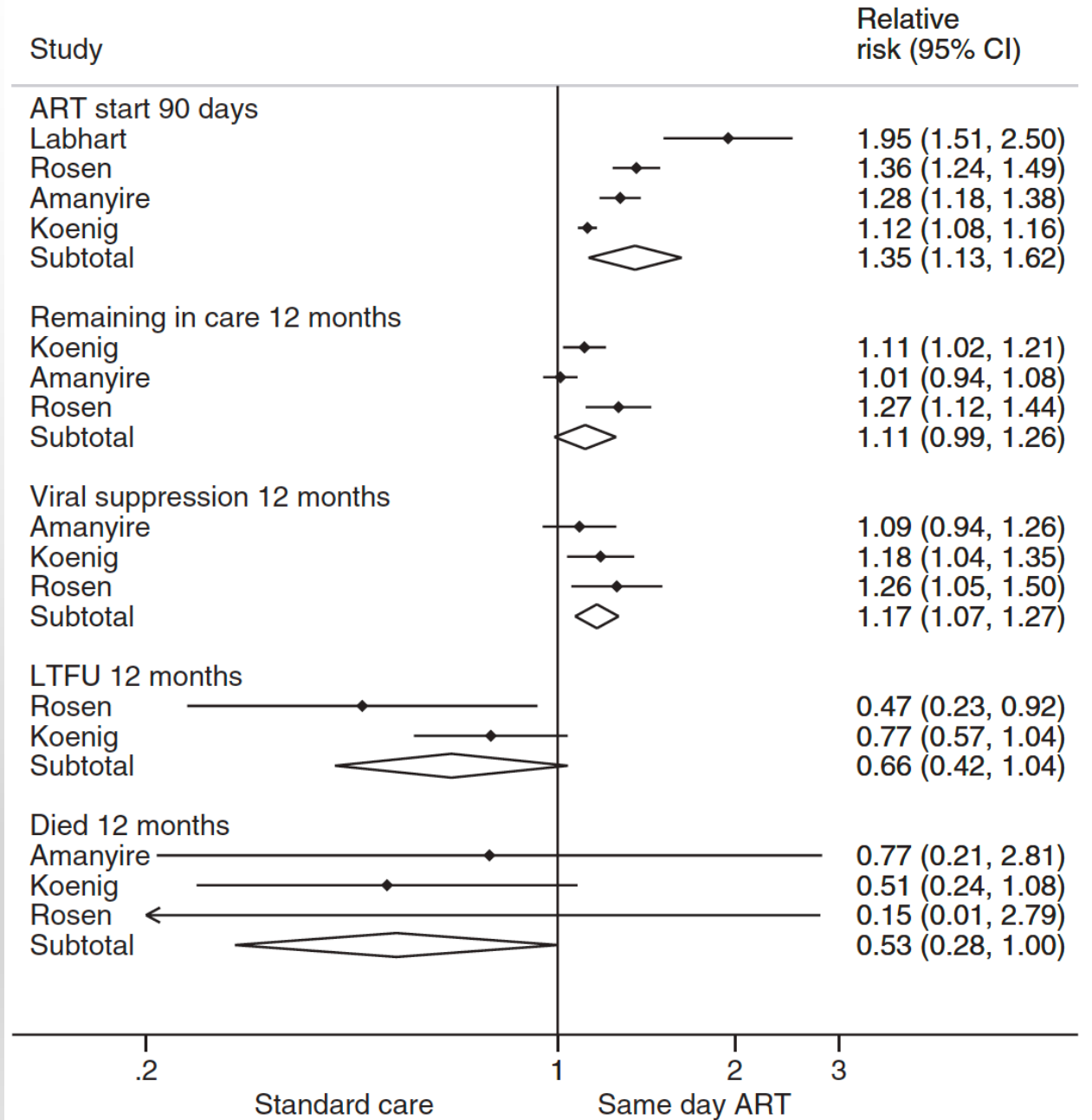


US Progress

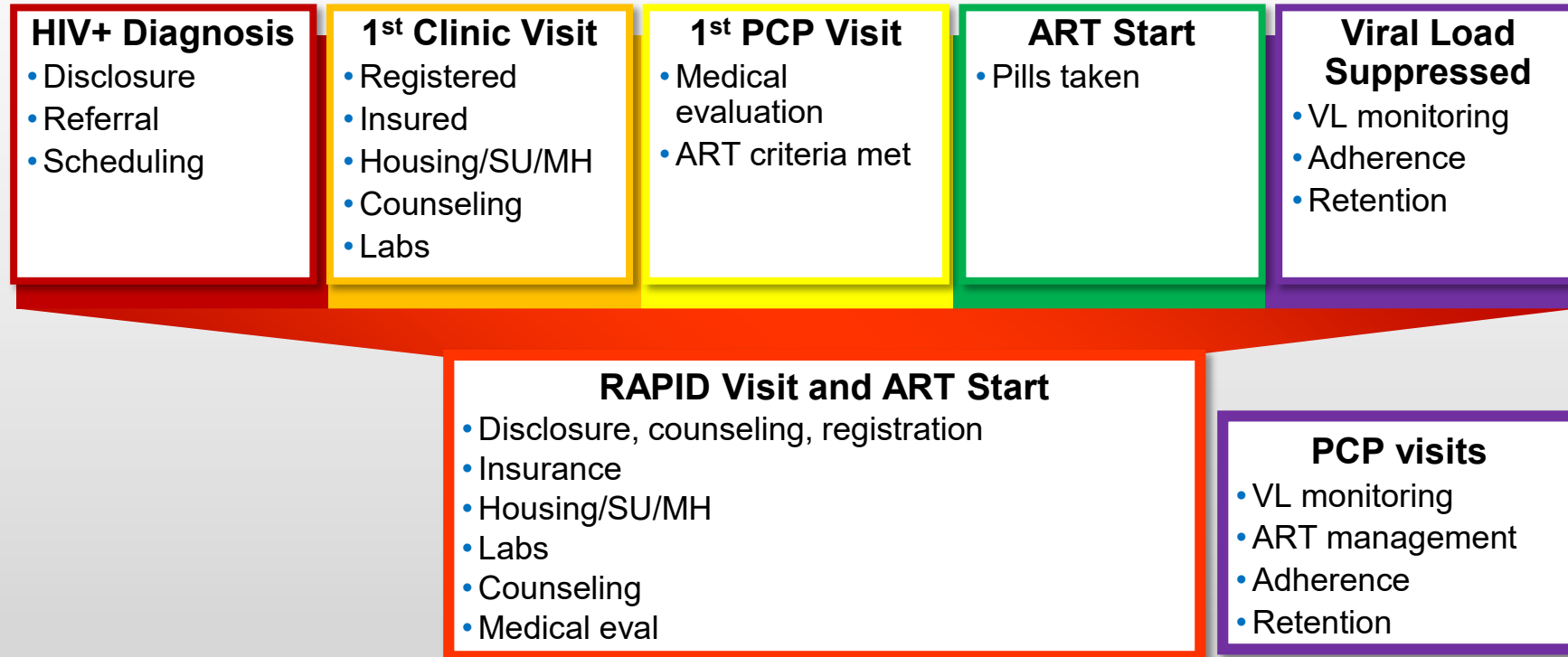
57% of All PLWH Are Virally Suppressed



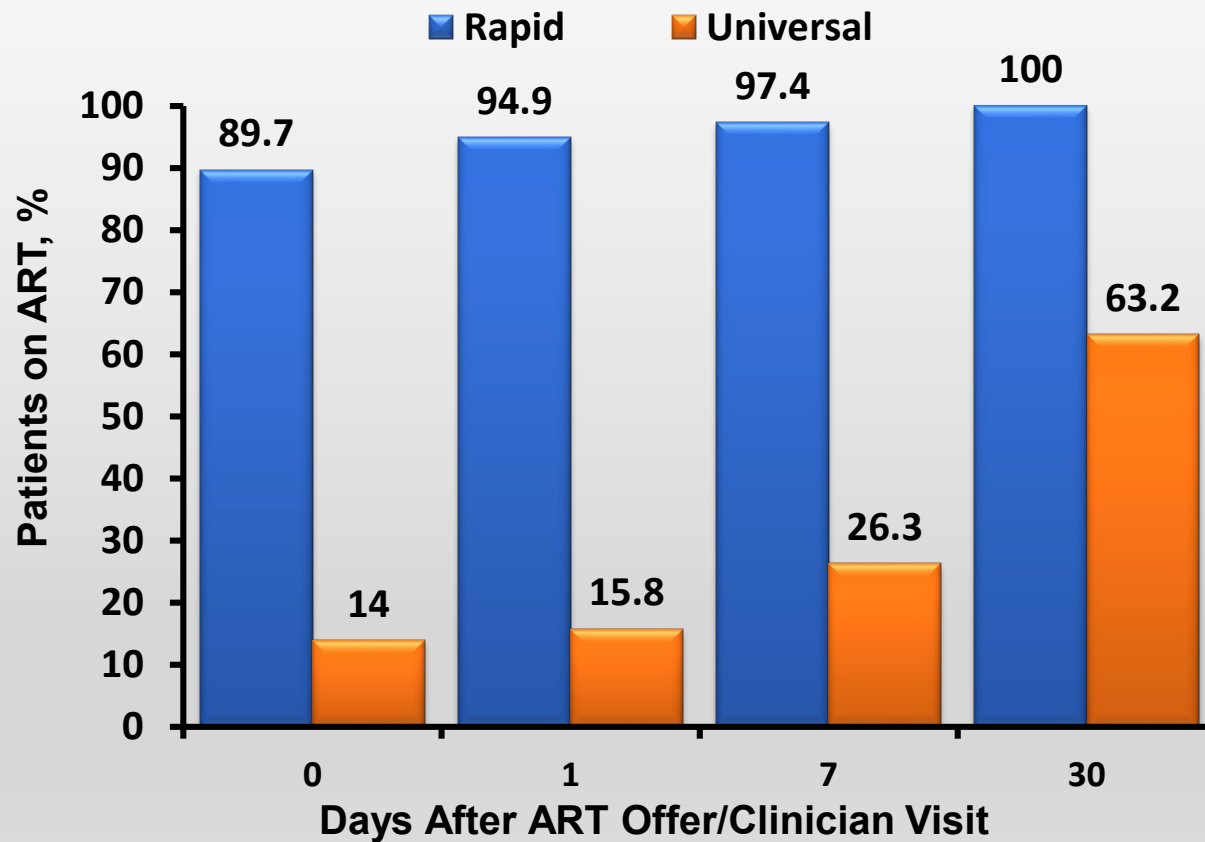
RCTs: Global Setting



SFGH RAPID Model



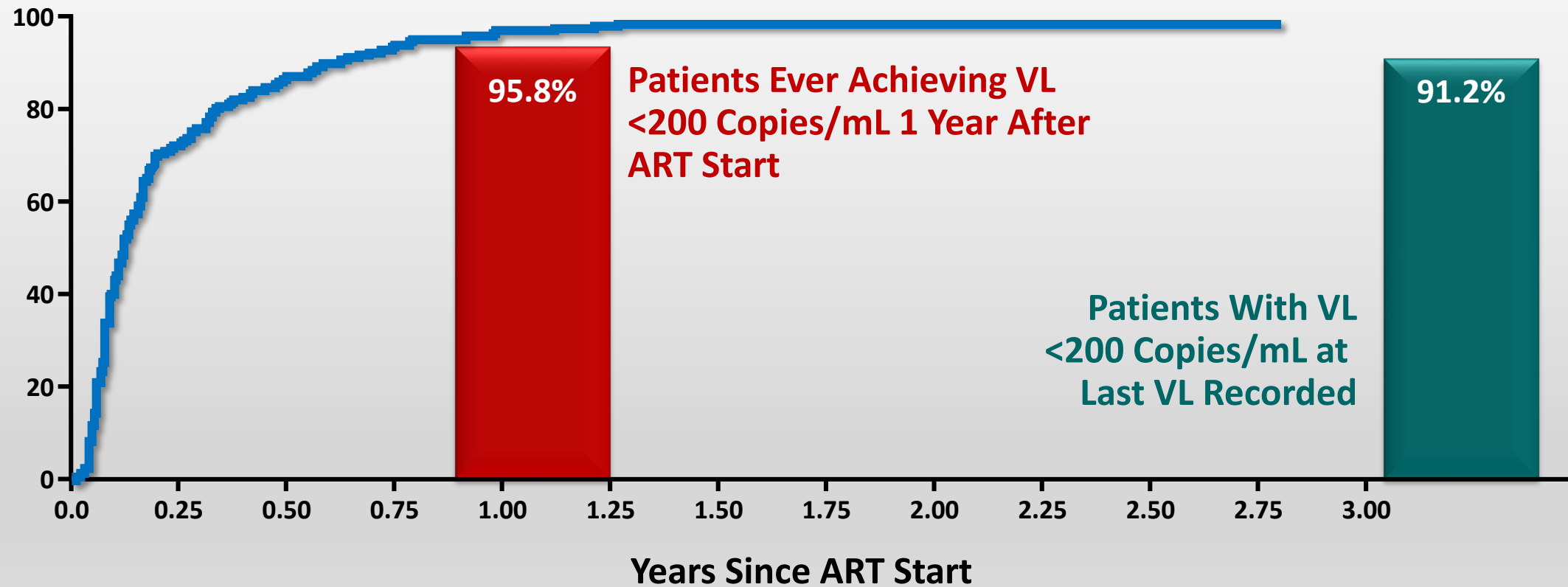
SFGH: RAPID – Uptake of Same day ART



Key Sociodemographics

	RAPID n=39	Universal n=47
Homelessness	11 (28%)	13 (25%)
Uninsured	39 (100%)	47 (100%)
Illicit Substance Use	18 (46%)	18 (38%)

RAPID: Quick and Durable Viral Suppression 2013 – 2017 SF DPH



N = 255

Grady Infectious Disease Program: The Ponce de Leon Center



Who do we serve?



- 71% Male, 28% Female, <1% Transgender
- 84% Black/African American, 9% White, 5% Latino
- 14% ≤ 24 , 35% 25-44, 51% ≥ 45 years of age
- 32% $< \text{FPL}$, 60% $< 2X \text{ FPL}$
- 42% uninsured, 26% Medicaid, 21% Medicare
- 64% Stage 3 (AIDS)

Medicaid NONEXPANSION State

REACH: Rapid Entry and ART in Clinic for HIV

Goals

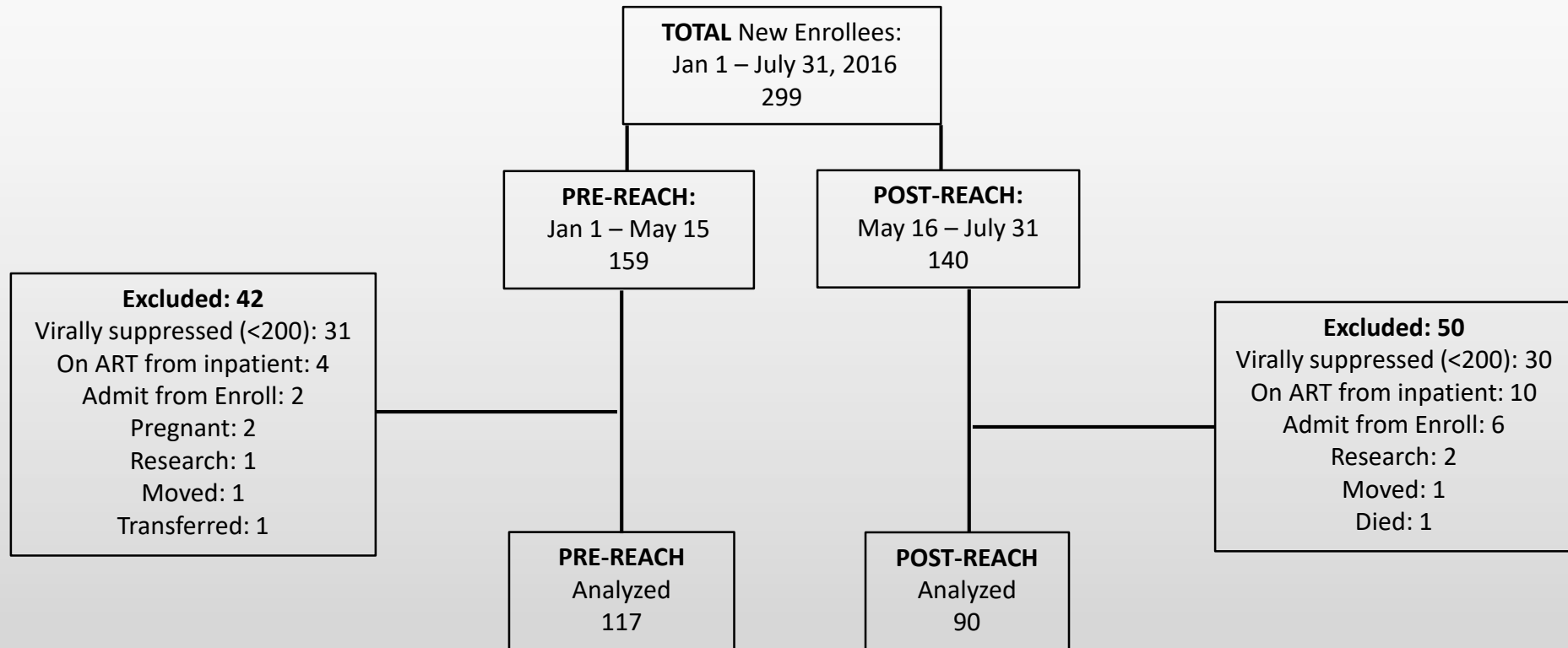
1. Clinician visit and ART access within 72 hours of clinic presentation
2. Decrease time to viral suppression



Health System Changes to Facilitate Program Implementation

ACTION	LEVEL
Remove eligibility restrictions for clinic enrollment	EMA Ryan White office
Loosen administrative requirements for clinic enrollment	EMA Ryan White office; hospital system
Remove TB skin test as requirement for clinic enrollment	Clinic administration
Enhance access to <i>New Patient</i> provider visits	Hospital system; clinic administration
Enhance provider education on <i>Rapid Starts</i>	Clinician
Enhance support for accessing ART, regardless of payer	Pharmacy administration
Continue access to ongoing ART-adherence education	Nursing

Figure 1



REACH Cohort Characteristics, N=207

	Characteristic	Median or n(%)
Young Black Men	Age	35 (25-45)
	African American	188 (91%)
	Male	165 (80%)
Socioeconomic Challenges	Uninsured (Ryan White only)	118 (57%)
	Unstable housing	126 (61%)
	Income	\$8,796
Psychosocial Challenges	Active substance use	91 (44%)
	Mental health disorders	54 (26%)
Biomedical Complexity	CD4 count	146 cells/ μ L
	ART experienced	83 (40%)

All patients newly enrolled in the clinic from January 1–July 31, 2016: **N=299**

Patients in 6 week REACH pilot: **N=90**



**SCALE IS A
CHALLENGE**

ARVs During Rapid Entry

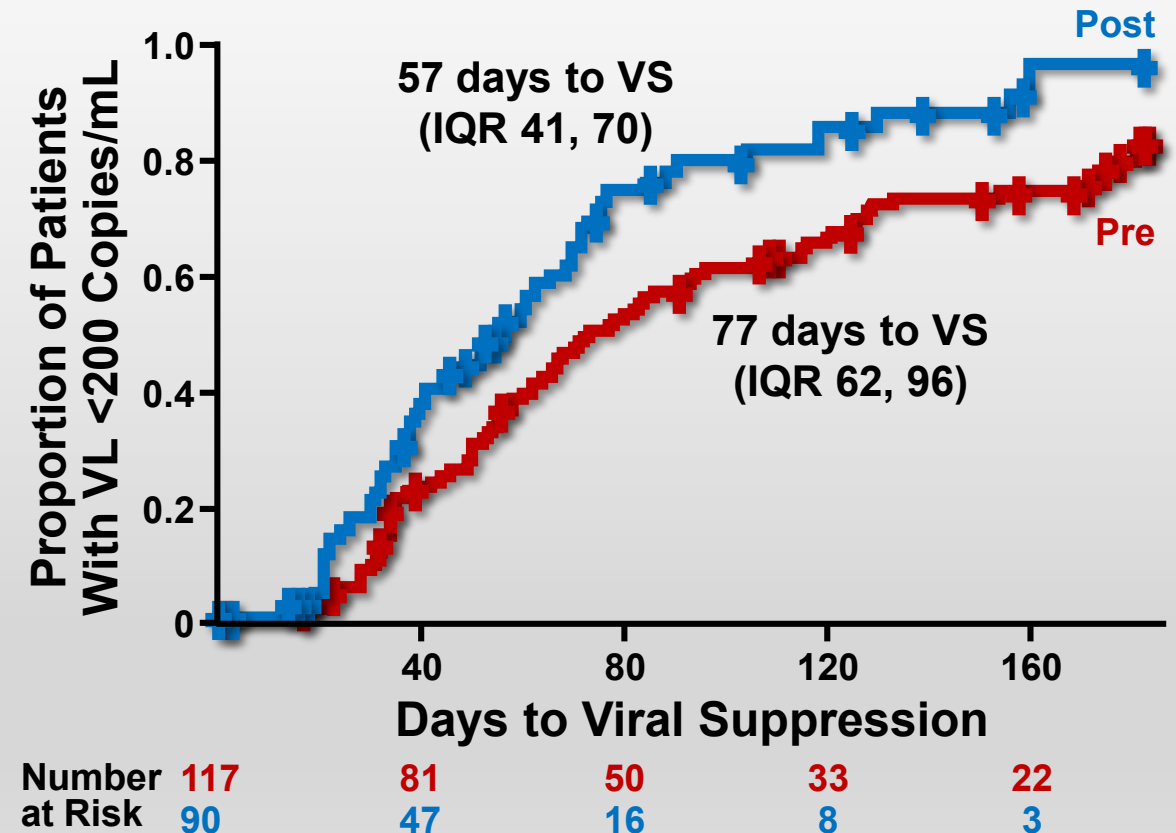
	Pre-REACH N (%)	Post-REACH N (%)
Initiated ART	111 (95)	85 (94)
Anchor		
TDF	67 (60)	36(47)
TAF	16 (14)	22 (24)
ABC	27 (24)	26 (29)
AZT	1 (1)	--
NRTI sparing		1 (1)
Backbone		
DTG	55 (49)	49 (59)
EVG	27 (24)	22 (26)
DRV	27 (24)	12 (14)
EFV	1 (0.8)	1 (1.2)
Lop/r	1 (0.8)	--
RPV	--	1 (1.2)

Results: Process Improvement ↓ Time to VS

Days to Clinical Events

	Pre-REACH N=117	Post-REACH N=90	
Event	Mean (95% CI) or n(%)	Mean (95% CI)	P value
Days to 1 st scheduled provider visit	14.0 (11.9, 16.2)	3.7 (1.1, 6.2)	<0.0001
Days to 1 st attended provider visit	12.1 (6.4, 22.8)	2.1 (0.9, 4.4)	<0.0001
Days to ART start	22.0 (12.7, 38.1)	4.4 (2.3, 8.4)	<0.0001
Attended 1 st scheduled visit	85 (73)	73 (81)	NS
Viral suppression	87 (74)	61 (68)	NS

Days to Viral Suppression



Late Presenters Need More

Early

Late

Outcomes	≤ 90 days after diagnosis			> 90 days after diagnosis		
	Pre-REACH n = 47	Post-REACH n = 29	P value	Pre-REACH n = 70	Post-REACH n = 61	P value
	Median (IQR) or n (%)			Median (IQR) or n (%)		
Days to 1 st scheduled provider visit	12 (4, 19)	4 (2, 7)	<.0001	17 (9, 21)	4 (1, 7)	<.0001
Days to 1 st attended provider visit	14 (6, 20)	5 (2, 7)	0.0003	20 (10, 29)	4 (2, 10)	<.0001
Attended 1 st scheduled visit	37 (79)	26 (90)	0.3480	48 (69)	47 (77)	0.2783
Days to ART initiation	17 (11, 27)	5 (3, 10)	0.0002	24 (13, 41)	7 (3, 22)	<.0001
Viral Suppression	41 (87)	24 (83)	0.7392	46 (66)	37 (61)	0.5489

86%

64%

Late Presenters Need More

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86%

64%

More needed...Especially Re-entry

Cox proportional hazard model: Time to VS

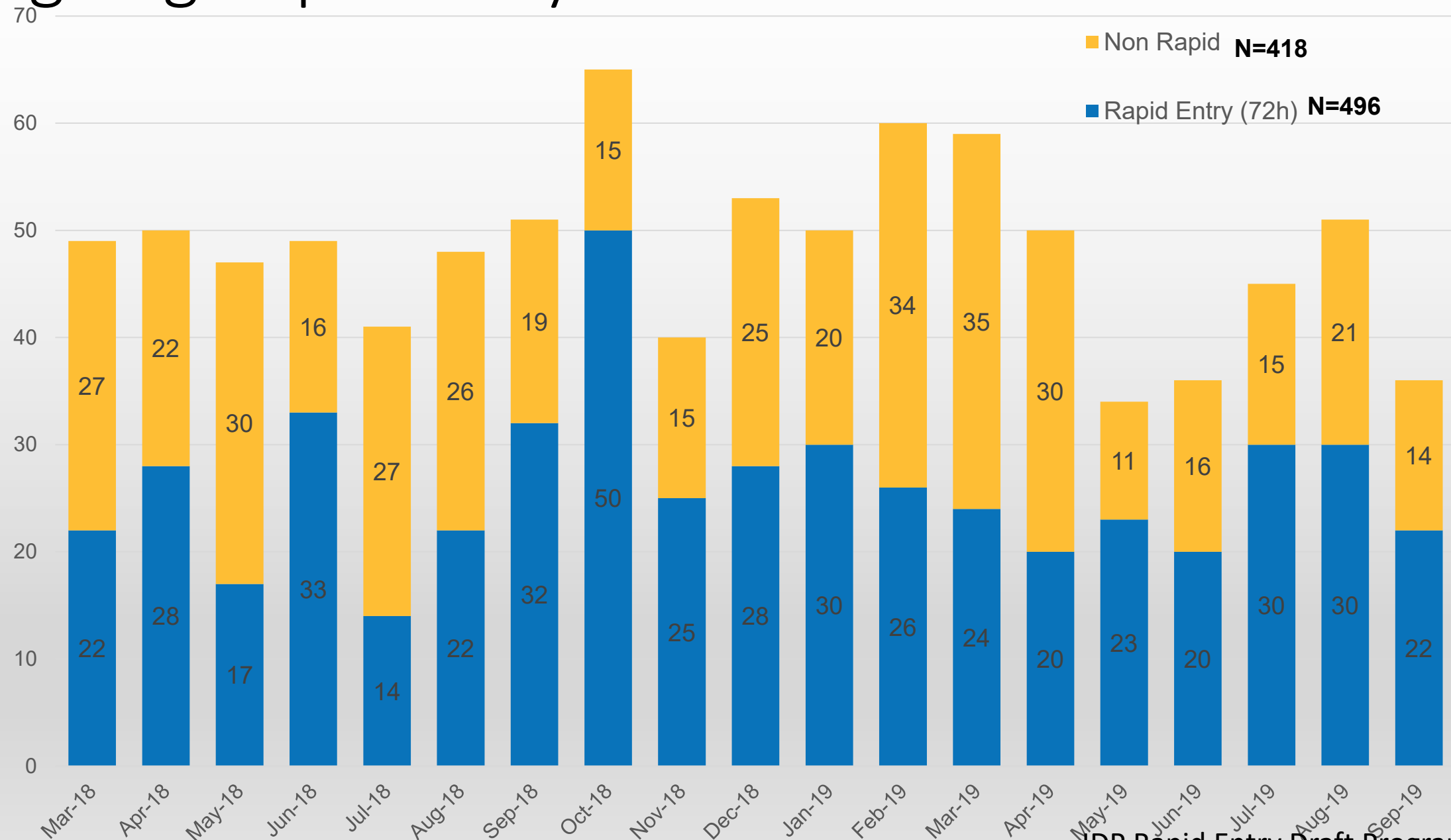
Variable	Adjusted Hazard Ratio	95% Confidence Interval		P value
Post-REACH	1.825	1.276	2.609	0.001
ART Naïve	1.733	1.192	2.518	0.004
INSTI use	1.477	0.925	2.358	0.103
Baseline VL	0.842	0.711	0.997	0.046

Adjusted Logistic Regression: Achieving VS

Variable	Adjusted Odds Ratio	95% Confidence Interval		P value
Post-REACH	0.821	0.418	1.611	0.5661
ART Naïve	2.231	1.131	4.400	0.0205
INSTI use	2.606	1.204	5.641	0.0150
Baseline VL	1.243	0.871	1.773	0.2303
Black/African American	0.484	0.127	1.852	0.2894



Ongoing Rapid Entry at IDP





CrescentCare Start Initiative December 2016



- FQHC (started as ASO) w/ robust support services available
- Medicaid EXPANSION

CrescentCare Start Initiative (CCSI):

Patients newly diagnosed with HIV are seen by a provider within 72 hours (optimally same-day) and provided 30 days of ART.

Early Intervention Services (EIS):

Same protocol but patients contacted our clinic over 72 hours since diagnosis.

Range: 4 days – 25 years

Procedures/Evaluation



Medical Provider Visit:

- HIV Lifecycle, importance of adherence, U=U discussed
- Comorbidities assessed
- Physical Examination
- TAF/FTC/DTG recommended by medical leadership (30 day-supply)
- Provider option to not rx, alter medications if suspected resistance
- First Dose DOT

Post-Provider Visit:

- Enroll in insurance programs
- Intake Labs obtained
- Social Work services for those with urgent needs

- Inclusion:
 - Enrolled 12/2016 – 2/2018
 - 6 month lab f/u at crescent care
- CCSI 126
 - 4 lost to f/u
- EIS 69
 - 1 died after hospital D/C
 - 1 declined ART on day #1

CrescentCare START: Baseline

	CCSI (n=126)	EIS (n = 69)
Age, median	29	29
Female	27 (21.4)	10 (14.5)
African American	81 (64.3)	48 (69.9)
Latinx	15 (11.9)	7 (10.1)
MSM	73 (57.9)	42 (60.9)
STI at entry	48 (38.1)	32 (46.4)
<100% FPL	49 (39)	25 (36)
Uninsured	65 (52)	38 (56)
Mental health Dx	25 (20)	23 (33)
Baseline CD4	444 (265, 640)	271 (124, 459)

P < 0.05

CD4 Count, Viral Suppression, Transmitted Resistance

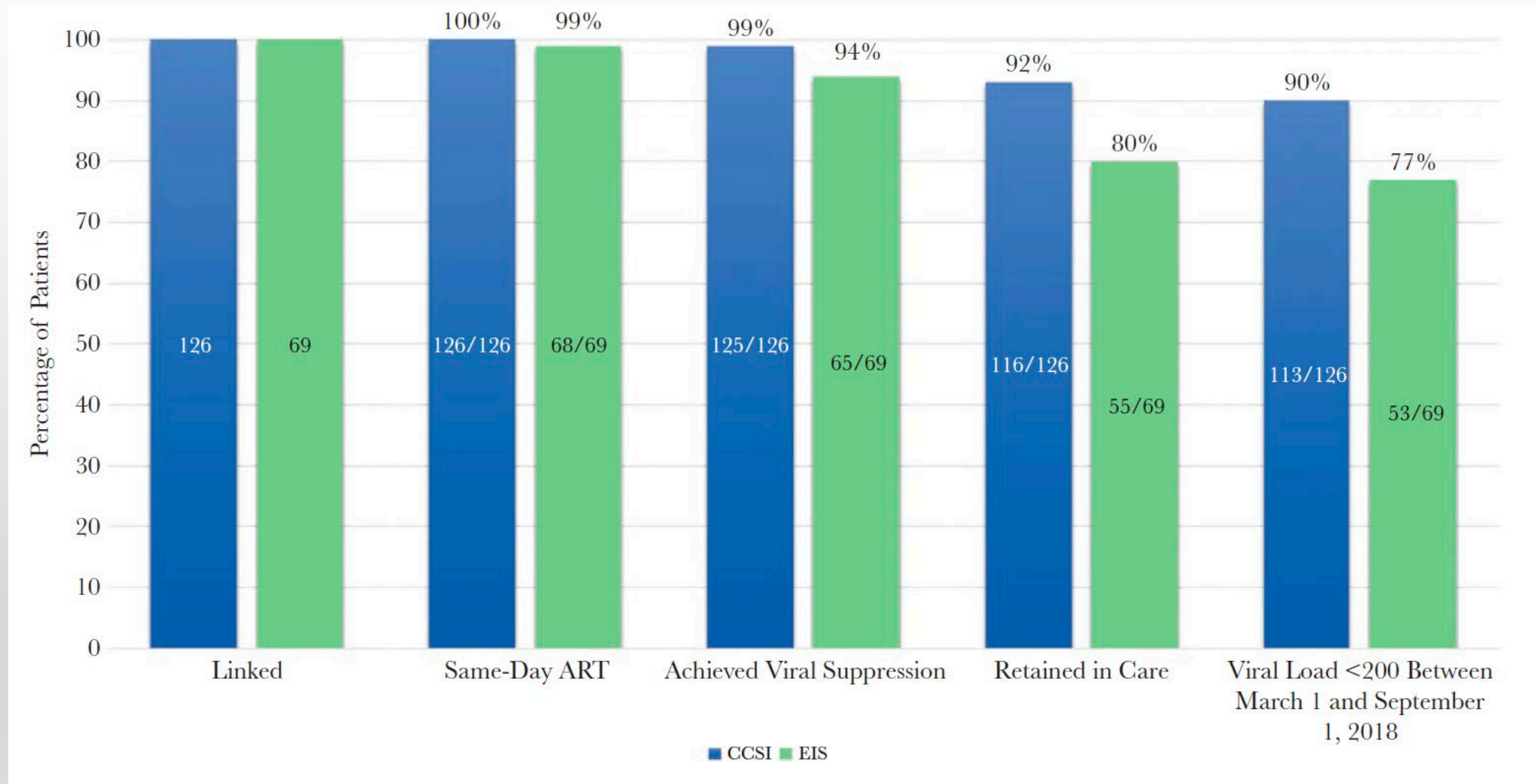
CCSI

- All but two patients received TAF/FTC + DTG
- 118/126 genotypes were performed and reviewed.
- 22/118 (19%) with transmitted resistance
- 18 with NNRTI resistance
- 3/22 with M184V/I with two previously on PrEP
- 4/22 with multiple PI mutations including L90M
- All patients with transmitted resistance achieved viral suppression.
- No ART changes due to renal/hepatic toxicity

EIS

- All but three patients received TAF/FTC + DTG
- 63/69 genotypes were performed
- 6/63 (9.5%) with transmitted resistance.
- 5 with NNRTI mutations
- 2/6 with M184V/I no previous PrEP exposure
- All patients with transmitted resistance achieved viral suppression
- No ART changes due to renal/hepatic toxicity

CCSI Continuum of Care



Barriers to Implementation

- **Structural/systemic**

1. HIV testing/diagnosis occurs off-site; ie, referral to clinic
2. Complex eligibility criteria - eg, CD4 count, income, residence
3. Access to medications without payer source
4. Scheduling and provider availability

- **Provider/staff beliefs**

1. “That’s how we’ve always done it.”
2. Preparatory lab results must be known; ie, serum creatinine, hepatitis B and C serology, genotype
3. Latent TB infection screening must be performed first

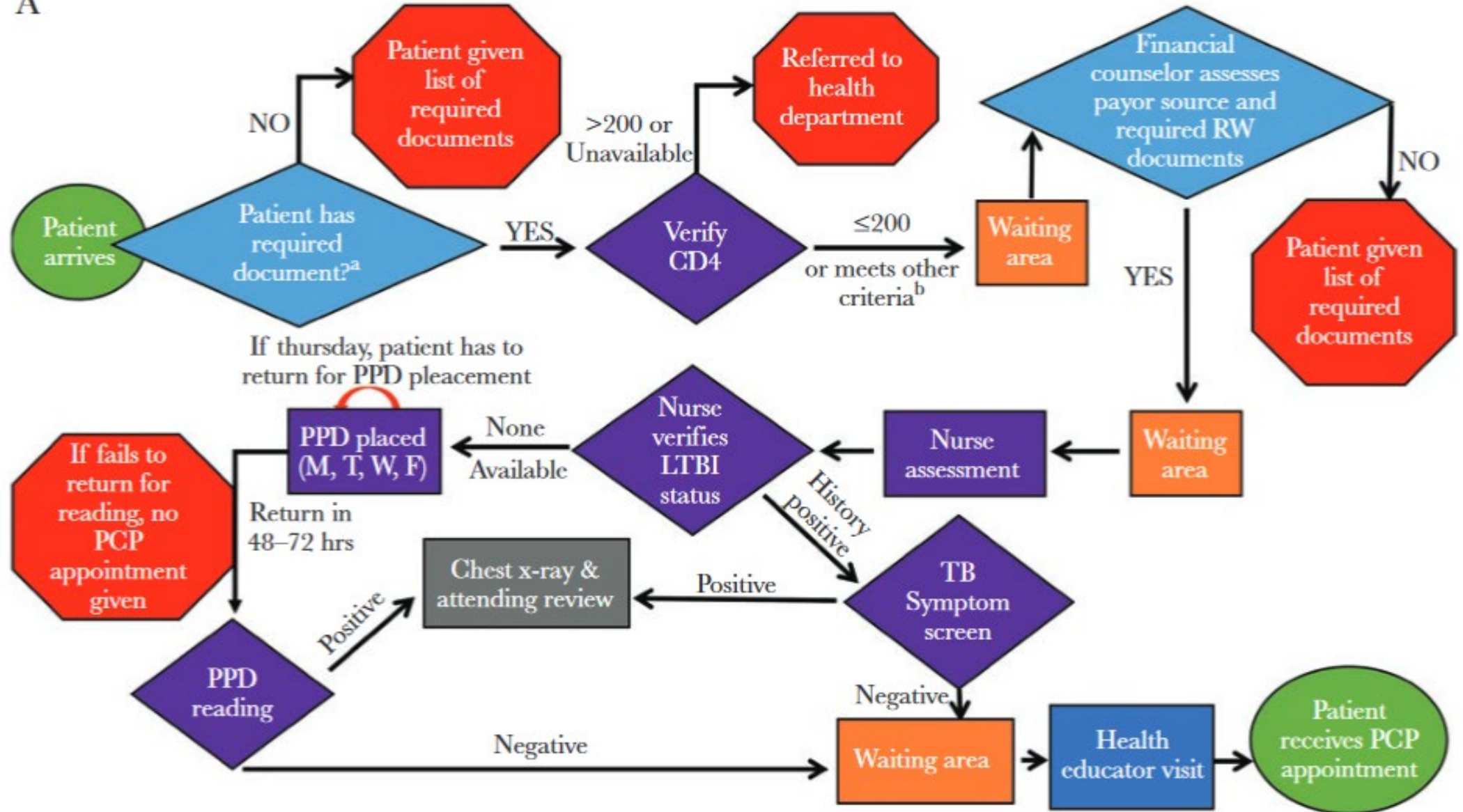
- **Patients’ attitudes and beliefs**

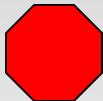
- **Patients’ psychosocial comorbidities**

1. Unstable housing
2. Food insecurity
3. Mental illness
4. Substance use

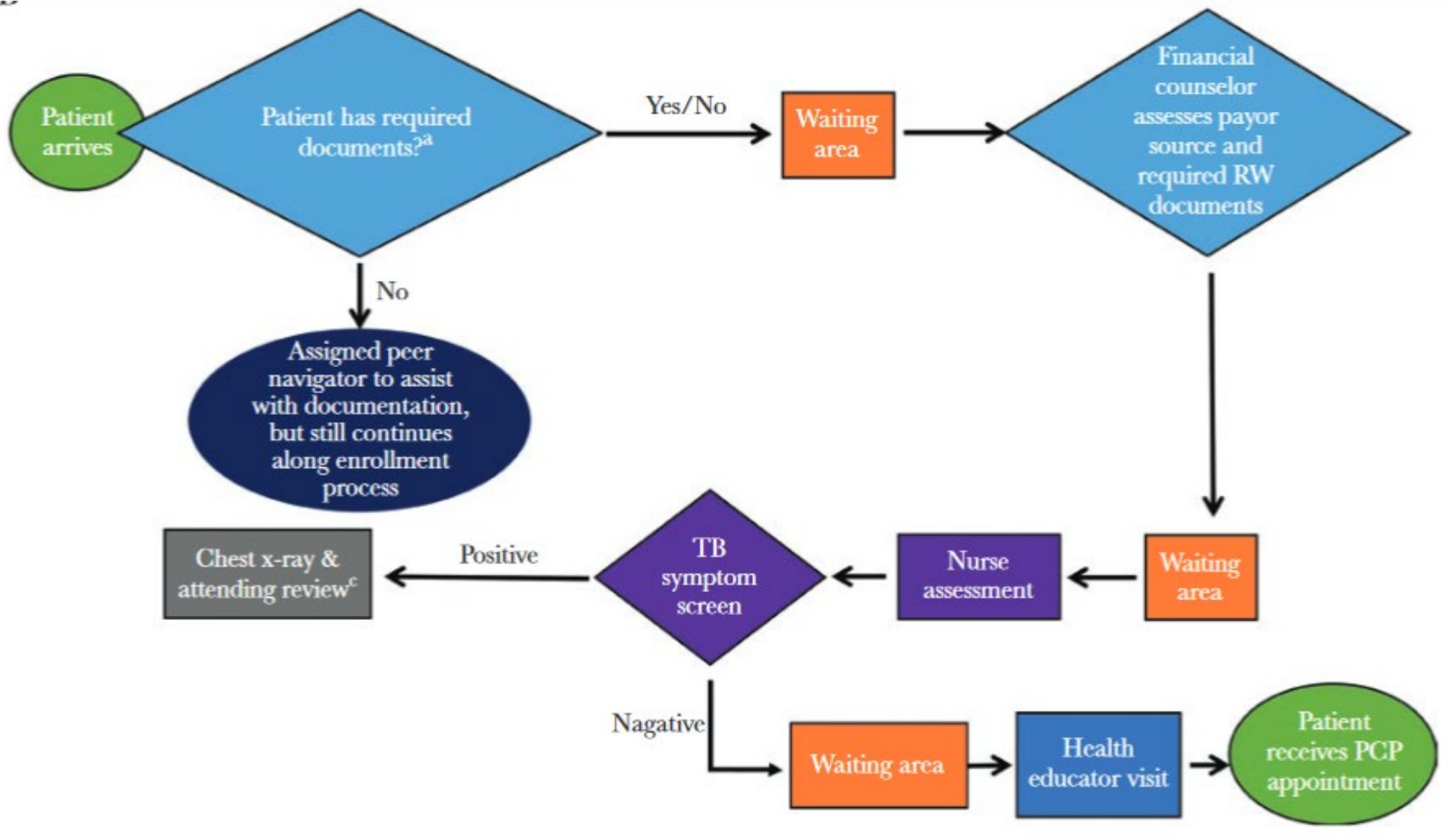
Pre-Rapid Entry Implementation

A



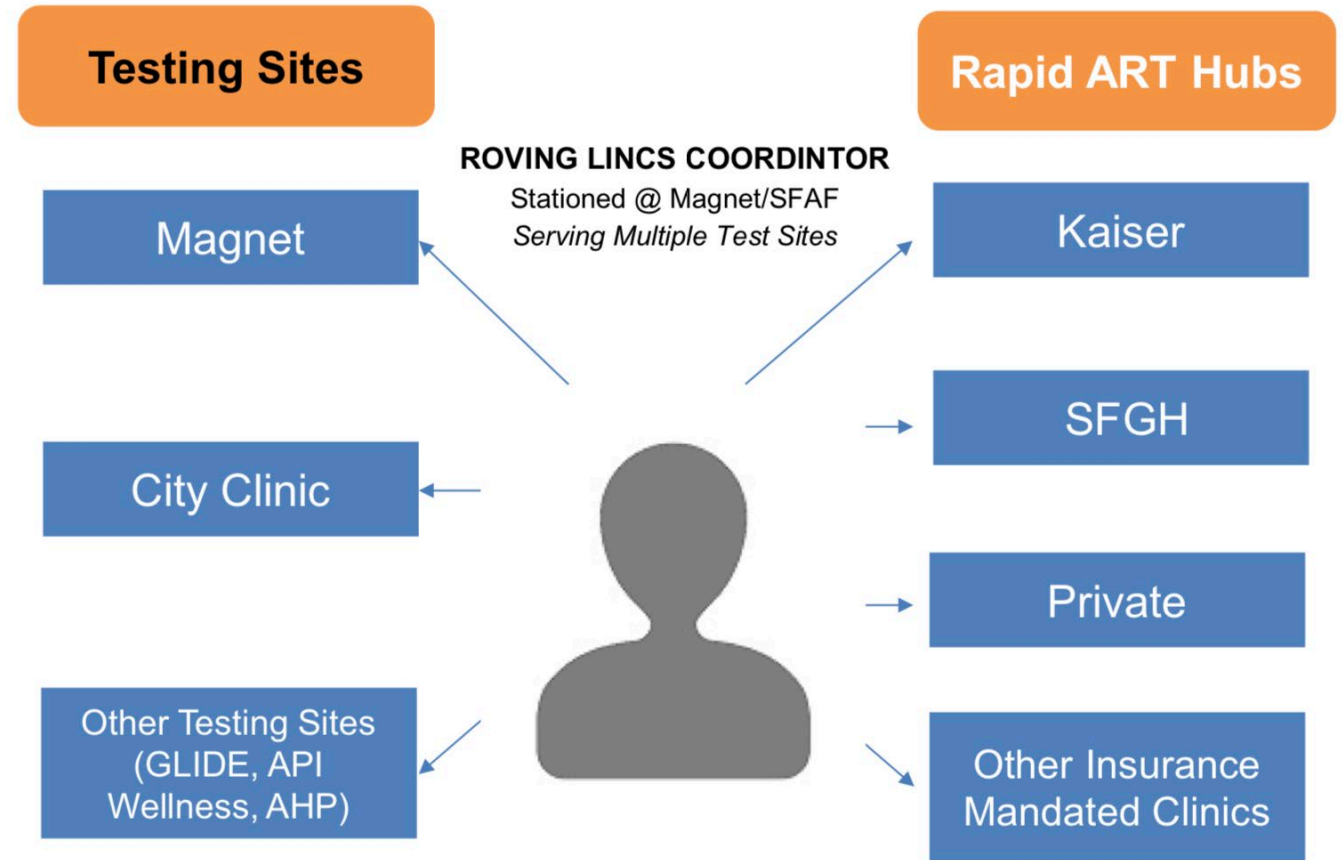
 = Step in enrollment process when patient could be turned away and not given PCP appt until step completed

Post Implementation Patient Enrollment



SF DOH: Community-wide coordination

Rapid ART Delivery



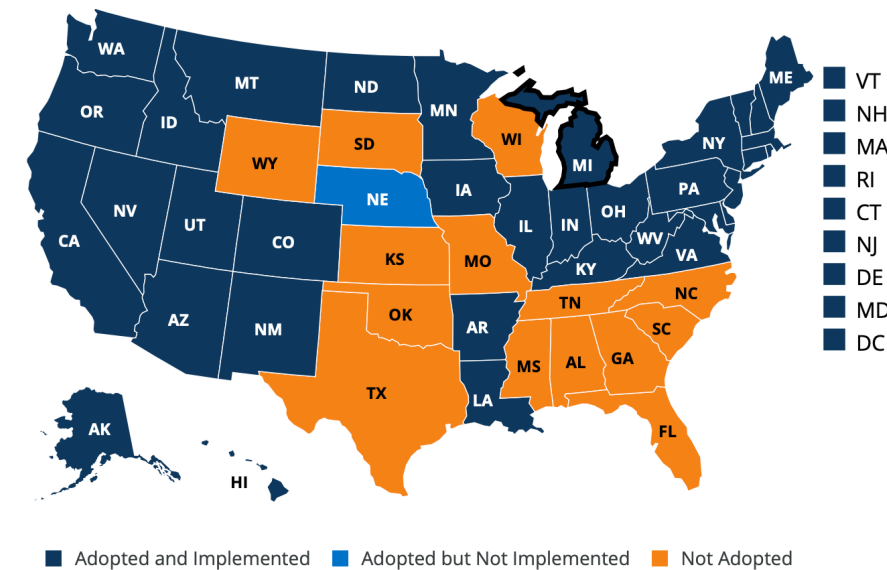
LINCS – linkage, integration, navigation, comprehensive services

Slide: adapted from Buchbinder S. Getting to Zero: <https://www.sfdph.org/dph/files/sfchip/GettingToZero-HIV.pdf>

How to get Antiretrovirals

- No payer source and no documentation to enroll in Ryan White (RW)
 - Manual patient assistance program
 - Can be time intensive, but not impossible
 - Starter packs: need to find funding source for this
 - Expedited insurance applications (eg, San Francisco)
- Enrolled in RW, but awaiting *AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP)* application completion
 - Stop-gap medications
 - Co-pay cards
- Medicaid expansion (eg, Louisiana)
 - “...a gift from the heavens.” –*Halperin*

Status of State Action on the Medicaid Expansion Decision



KFF 2019: state of Medicaid expansion

Clinical Guidance – what to start

DHHS^[1]

- Avoid NNRTI-based regimens
- Recommended regimens^a
 - BIC/FTC/TAF
 - DTG + tenofovir^c/FTC
 - DRV/r or DRV/c^b + tenofovir^c/FTC

IAS-USA^[3]



- Recommend unboosted INSTI regimens (other than DTG/ABC/3TC) as initial therapy
 - BIC/FTC/TAF *or* DTG + FTC/TAF

Key Facilitators of RAPID Intervention

- Same-day appointments
- Flexible provider scheduling (on call backup)
- ART-regimen preapproval prior to genotyping or lab testing
- Availability of ART starter packs
- Patient navigator
- Accelerated process for health insurance initiation
- Observation of first ART dose in clinic (recommended)
- Guarantee sustained access to ART

Some fearful of rapid entry – it's all about context

Too fast to stay on track? Shorter time to first anti-retroviral regimen is not associated with better retention in care in the French Dat'AIDS cohort

L. Cuzin , L. Cotte, C. Delpierre, C. Allavena, M-A. Valantin, D. Rey, P. Delobel, P. Pugon on behalf of the Dat'AIDS Study group 

Published: September 6, 2019 • <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0222067>

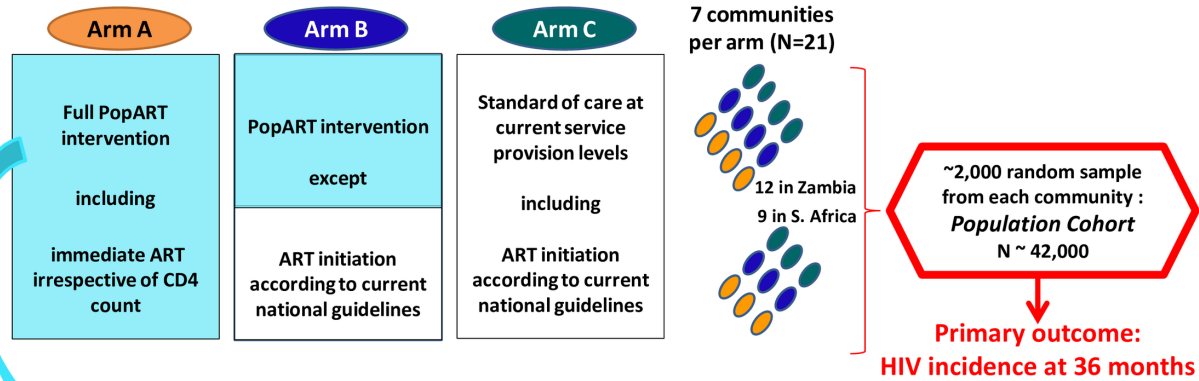
CD4 cell count at HIV diagnosis/ μ L		<200 N = 1594	200–350 N = 1589	350–500 N = 1593	>500 N = 1588	P
Age at diagnosis (Years, median, IQR)		41 (33–51)	37 (29–47)	34 (27–44)	34 (27–43)	<0.0001
End of study (%)	In care	75.2	76.4	75.5	77.8	<0.0001
	Changed place of care	7.7	9.2	10.7	9.3	
	Lost to follow-up	11.8	12.6	12.9	12.3	
	Dead	5.3	1.8	0.9	0.6	
Sex and way of acquisition (%)	MSM ^a	15.8	23.8	29.1	31.3	<0.0001
	MSW ^b	37.7	25.6	20.1	16.7	
	Women	29.6	26.4	22.4	21.6	
	Trans gender M>W	19.5	29.3	31.7	19.5	
ART 3 rd drug (%)	bPI ^c	69.7	58.0	51.2	44.2	<0.0001
	NNRTI ^d	8.5	22.0	25.7	30.7	
	INSTI ^e	13.7	14.5	17.2	20.1	

From diagnosis to first visit (days, median IQR)	9 (3–19)	12 (6–22)	12 (5–22)	13 (6–27)	<0.0001
Time from first visit to ART (days, median, IQR)	14 (7–27)	21 (7–56)	42 (14–144)	80 (18–364)	<0.0001
From diagnosis to undetectable VL (days, median IQR)	228 (150–300)	212 (132–336)	239 (140–419)	289 (142–634)	<0.0001

Time from first medical visit to first ART (days)		< 9 N = 1881	9–27 N = 1784	28–90 N = 1800	> 90 N = 1780	P
Alive and in care at month 12 after ART prescription (%)		79.9	84.5	85.9	85.2	<0.0001
Time from diagnosis to undetectable VL (days; median, IQR)		194 (108–351)	210 (130–361)	232 (152–357)	527 (311–924)	<0.0001
Length of first ART (months; median, IQR)		14 (5–32)	17 (7–35)	21.5 (7–39)	22 (7–42)	<0.0001
End of study situation	Dead (%)	2.2	3.1	1.9	0.9	0.002
	LTFU (%)	14.3	12.4	13.4	12.5	0.002
VL < 50 copies/mL after 6 months of ART (%)		72.1	69.8	78.9	79.6	<0.0001
VL < 50 copies/mL after 12 months of ART (%)		78.0	81.5	84.1	81.4	0.12
VL < 50 copies/mL after 18 months of ART (%)		83.7	85.5	86.9	87.9	0.15

HPTN 071: PopART -= Universal Test and Treat

3 arm cluster-randomised trial with 21 communities



PopART intervention package

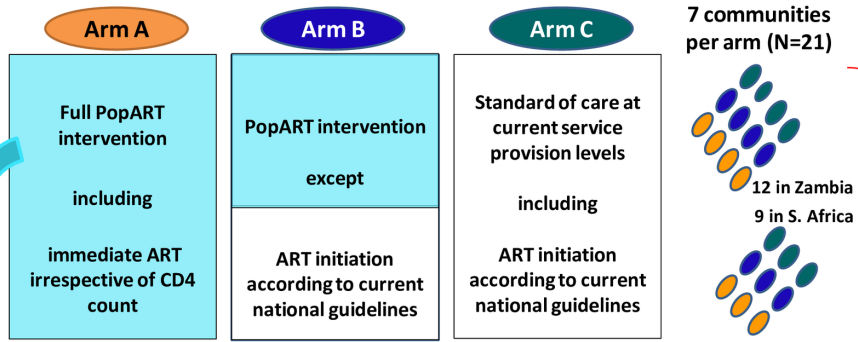
- Annual rounds of Home Based Voluntary HIV Testing by Community HIV-care Providers (CHiPs)
- Health promotion, Active Referral and/or Retention in Care support by CHiPs for the following:
 - Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision (VMMC) for HIV negative men
 - Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMCT) for HIV positive women
 - HIV treatment and care for all HIV positive individuals
 - Promotion of sexual health and TB services
 - Condom provision
- ART irrespective of CD4-count or immune-status provided at the local health centre in Arm A

Time from diagnosis to ART: 10 mo →
6 mo (7 communities)

- Group c

HPTN 071: PopART -= Universal Test and Treat

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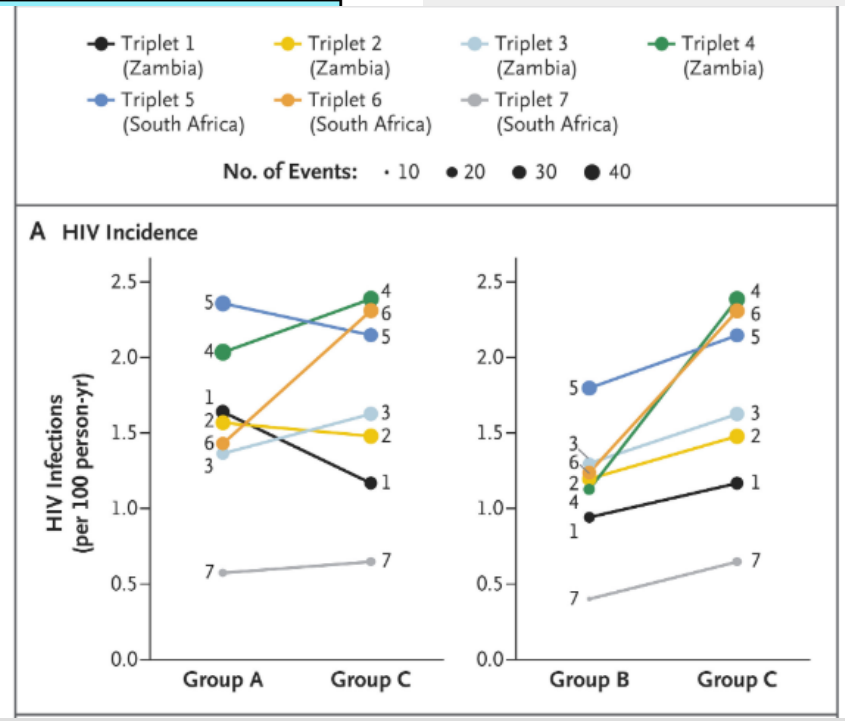


~2,000 random sample from each community:
Population Cohort
 N ~ 42,000

Primary outcome:
 HIV incidence at 36 months

PopART intervention package

- > Annual rounds of Home Based Voluntary HIV Testing by Community Health Promoters
- > Health promotion, Active Referral and/or Retention in Care support
 - Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision (VMMC) for HIV prevention
 - Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMCT) for HIV prevention
 - HIV treatment and care for all HIV positive individuals
 - Promotion of sexual health and TB services
 - Condom provision
- > ART irrespective of CD4-count or immune-status provided at the community level

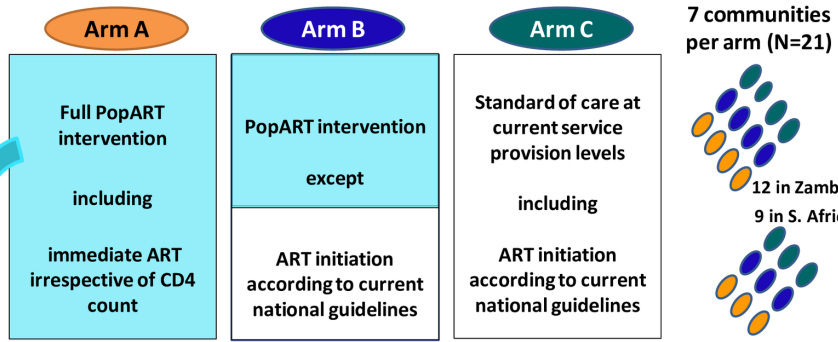


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HPTN 071: PopART - Universal Test and Treat

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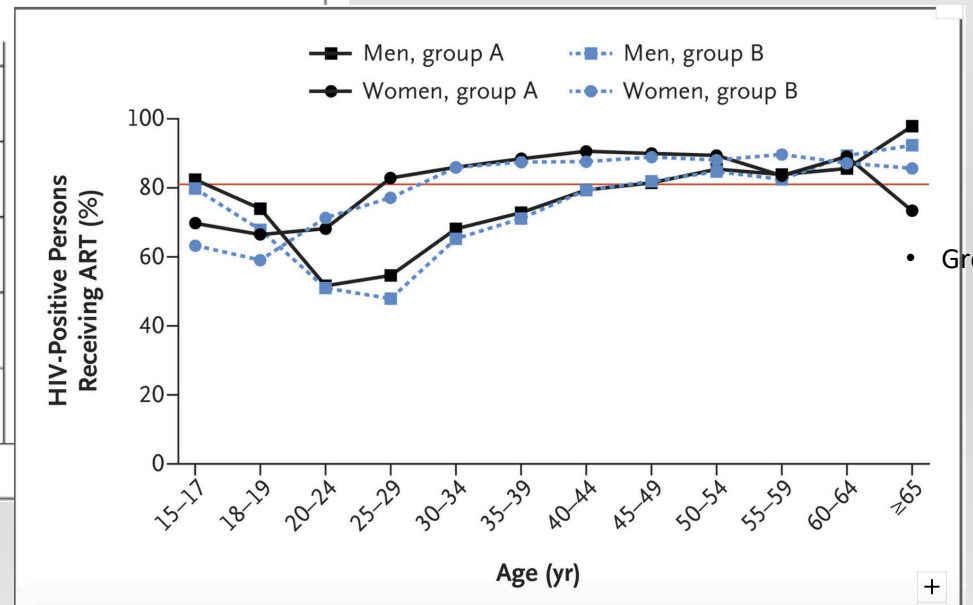
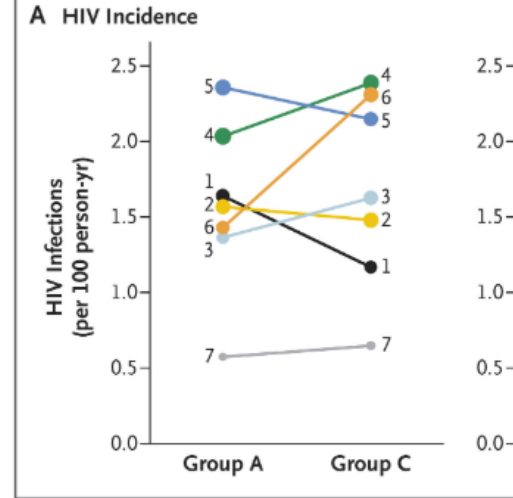
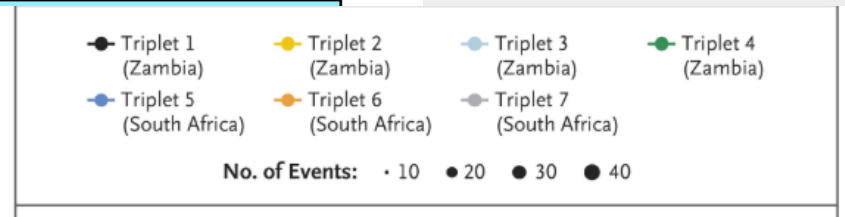


~2,000 random sample from each community:
Population Cohort
 N ~ 42,000

Primary outcome:
 HIV incidence at 36 months

PopART intervention package

- > Annual rounds of Home Based Voluntary HIV Testing by Community Health Workers
- > Health promotion, Active Referral and/or Retention in Care support
 - Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision (VMMC) for HIV prevention
 - Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMCT) for HIV
 - HIV treatment and care for all HIV positive individuals
 - Promotion of sexual health and TB services
 - Condom provision
- > ART irrespective of CD4-count or immune-status provided at the time of diagnosis



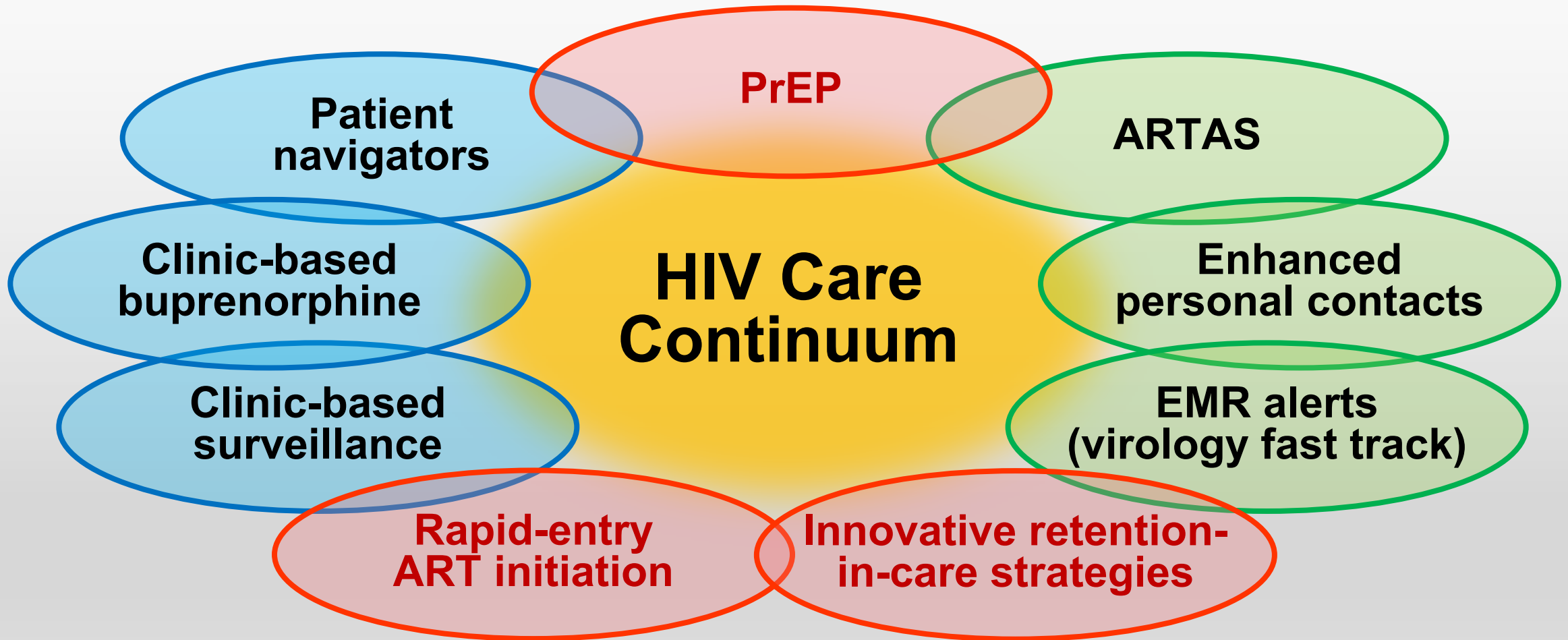
Time from diagnosis to ART: 10 mo → 6 mo (7 communities)



Rapid Start Supports Equity

- AA men are more likely to have delays in ART initiation even after seeing a prescribing provider.
- No better demonstration of commitment to a community than same-day immediate access to a provider.
- Dazon from Sister Love: “See my brothers and sisters as your own. If you do then, of course, you will see patients same-day, start same-day and love same-day .”

Rapid Entry is Part of a Package



Guide for Clinicians



Training Consultation

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Immediate ART Initiation: Guide for Clinicians

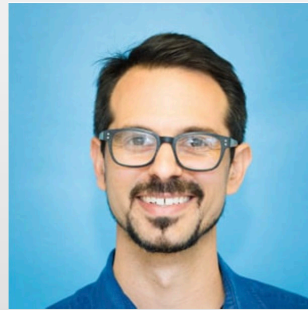
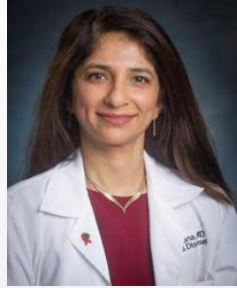
February 14, 2019

Susa Coffey, MD, AETC National Coordinating Resource Center, UCSF Center for HIV Information

Oliver Bacon, MD, MPH

<https://aidsetc.org/blog/immediate-art>

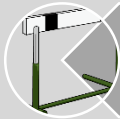
Domestic Rapid Start Consortium



- Boston
- New York
- Philadelphia
- Atlanta
- Miami
- New Orleans
- Baton Rouge
- Orlando
- San Antonio
- Austin
- Houston
- Alexandria
- Birmingham
- Washington D.C.
- San Francisco
- Phoenix
- Tucson
- Albuquerque
- Los Angeles
- Chicago



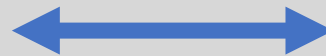
Best Practices



Logistical Hurdles



Research



The Third **U** = **UNIVERSAL**

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