

2014. Demographics, symptoms at presentation and subsequent management were collected.

**Results** 132 records were returned with 89% (117/131) identifying as men who have sex with men (MSM). 55% (72/132) were HIV positive, with 3 new HIV diagnoses. 70% (89/128) had symptoms of acute syphilis; with an ulcer, 87% (41/47) had herpes simplex virus (HSV) PCR which was positive in 7% of cases. Dark ground microscopy was performed in 38% (20/52) with one third being positive. 42% (56/131) were treated for syphilis on their initial visit (14% if seen by a technician, 31% if seen by a nurse and 51% if seen by a medic,  $p = 0.006$ ). 90% had been treated by 2 weeks.

**Discussion/conclusion** MSM comprised the majority of acute syphilis with high rates of new HIV diagnoses, reinforcing the importance of routine HIV testing. There was a high co-infection prevalence of HSV. Dark ground microscopy was positive in a third of samples, perhaps due to technical difficulties in the clinic. Only 4 in 10 patients were treated at the first visit indicating a lack of awareness of symptoms of acute syphilis. More education on recognising and treating acute syphilis, especially in high risk groups, is needed.

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#### SURVEY OF HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS' KNOWLEDGE AND ADHERENCE TO NATIONAL CHLAMYDIA SCREENING PROGRAMME GUIDANCE

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**Background** The National Chlamydia Screening Programme (NCSP) aims to prevent and control chlamydia through detection and treatment of infection. The NCSP recommends that under 25 year-olds test annually, upon change of partner and re-test three months after treatment. Healthcare professionals' (HCP) knowledge of and adherence to NCSP guidance is unknown.

**Aims** To establish HCPs' knowledge of and adherence to NCSP testing guidance, among those working in genitourinary medicine (GUM) and sexual and reproductive health (SRH) in England.

**Methods** Participants were invited through the BASHH newsletter and snowball sampling to complete an online survey (December 2015 to February 2016).

**Results** One hundred HCPs responded (82 medics, 17 nurses, 1 health adviser). Twelve percent knew the NCSP age limits (15–24 years). Among respondents, 25% identified screening criteria for annual testing, 70% for testing on change of partner, 59% for re-test following a positive and 16% identified all three screening criteria. Of those who correctly identified screening criteria, 75% would always do it in practice, 19% sometimes and 2% never. Of those who did not recognise screening criteria, 41% would still always screen appropriately in practice; 34% sometimes; 10% never.

**Discussion** Knowledge of NCSP testing guidelines among healthcare providers was variable. While knowledge of NCSP was associated with testing in accordance with recommendations, knowledge did not automatically lead to adherence to testing recommendations. These findings will help to inform future development and dissemination of NCSP guidance.

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#### SERVICE EVALUATION OF PERCEIVED NEEDS OF WOMEN LIVING WITH HIV IN THE OUTPATIENT SETTING

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**Background/introduction** Gender plays an important role in determining vulnerability and ability to access appropriate HIV care. Services must adapt to meet the needs of their population. Our HIV outpatient service provides care for 2400 people: <15% are women

**Methods** A pilot plus follow up patient survey of the women attending the HIV outpatients.

**Results** 16 women completed the pilot questionnaire; 5/16 (31.2%) aged 17–45 years, 11/16 (68.75%) aged > 46. 4/16 (25%) disclosed a disability. 16/16 (100%) had no difficulty accessing our service. 3/16 (18.8%) of households had children living in them <16 years of age which 2/3 (66%) attended with mother: 2/2(100%) were comfortable bringing their children into clinic. 1/3 ( 33.4%) had an option to leave children someone else. 10/16 (62.5%) thought a service for women only would be useful: only 7/16 (43.2%) were aware of the nurse led Women only HIV service. Women found the following services most useful: counselling support/psychology 9/16 (56%), cervical cytology 9/16 (56%), menopausal advice 6/16 (37.5%), benefits-support 6/16 (38%), sexual health screening 3/16 (19%), fertility advice 3/16 (18.8%), contraception advice 1/16 (6%), and pregnancy advice 2/16 (13%).8/16 (50%) preferred a female HCP. 2/16 (13%) reported violence or abuse from a partner or family member: 1/2 (50%) of those discussed with a HCP.

**Discussion/conclusion** Preliminary results suggest that the women attending our clinic have no issues with child care, language barriers or disabilities. Women over 45 years were more likely to take part in our study (70% response). Of concern is a reported lack of knowledge about services already available which we are pursuing.

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#### MANAGING RECTAL GC : ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

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**Background/introduction** Most (~60%) rectal gonorrhoea (GC) occur in MSM with 25% symptomatic at presentation. Those with rectal GC are at increased risk of other STIs. BASHH provide guidelines on GC management and targets to be achieved in testing, treatment and partner notification.

**Aim(s)/objectives** To compare our clinic's performance in managing rectal GC compared to the national recommendations.

**Methods** Retrospective case-note review of confirmed cases of rectal GC on NAAT between 1<sup>st</sup> November 2011 and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015. Data were obtained from clinic notes, the clinic database and laboratory results. Audit standards were based on BASHH guidelines in managing GC.

**Results** 184 cases from 156 men: 61% White, 12% Black, median age 31 (IQR 26,37) years, 71% MSM 29% bisexual, 58% symptomatic. Triple site testing was done in 91%. Rectal GC cultures were taken in 55%. Adequate treatment was given to 94%. Quinolone resistance occurred in 31%. Partner notification was done in 43%. 14% had other STIs (syphilis, LGV,