

Abstract P5-S4.03 Table 1 Participation and selection in three screening rounds

	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Overall
Invited	13 269	25 189	38 395	76 853
Filled in questionnaire (% of invited)	2973 (22%)	3825 (15%)	4381 (11%)	11 179 (15%)
Average score* (95% CI)	6.16 (6.07 to 6.25)	6.41 (6.33 to 6.48)	6.31 (6.23 to 6.38)	6.30 (6.26 to 6.35)
Sufficient score (% respondents)	1851 (62%)	2480 (65%)	2777 (63%)	7108 (64%)
Package returned (% package requests)	1477 (80%)	1927 (78%)	2149 (77%)	5553 (78%)
Positive test (% of tested)	74 (5.0%)	103 (5.3%)	90 (4.2%)	267 (4.8%)

*Average score of all persons who filled in the questionnaire.

sufficient score of 6 or more could proceed and receive a testkit. Mailed samples were tested at a regional laboratory with NAAT. A sample of excluded participants received an acceptability questionnaire.

Results The selection led to exclusion of 36% of potential participants and a positivity rate of 4.8% among participants (see Abstract P5-S4.03 table 1 Women scored on average higher than men (6.6 with 95% CI 6.5 to 6.7 vs 5.8 with 95% CI 5.7 to 5.9, $p < 0.001$). Higher scores were clearly related to higher positivity rates. Persons who were excluded from participation in the first year because of a low risk score had a significantly lower response to the invitation the second round (21% vs 29%, $p < 0.01$). The acceptability questionnaire among excluded participants ($n=67$, response 34%) revealed disappointment about exclusion in 30% of them but most approved of the screening set-up; 8% still went to a GP or STI centre for a Ct test.

Conclusions Systematic selection of screening participants by risk score in Chlamydia screening is feasible and successful in realising higher positivity rates than without selection. A previous study showed a population prevalence of 2% in the same population. Acceptability of selection is high but could still be improved by better communication on expectations.

P5-S4.04 THE INTERFACE BETWEEN HPV VACCINE IMPLEMENTATION AND STI PREVENTION: HPV VACCINE DISCUSSIONS AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO PROVIDE MESSAGES ABOUT SEXUAL HEALTH

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Background Early parent–child communication about sex is associated with healthier behaviour during adolescence. Understanding parents' cues to initiating these conversations may provide new opportunities for public health intervention. Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine is recommended for all 11–12-year-old girls and is highly acceptable to parents. We sought to characterise mothers' communication with their daughters about HPV vaccine and the potential for HPV vaccine discussions to provide an opportunity for discussions about sex.

Methods During December 2009, we conducted an online survey with a nationally representative sample ($n=900$) of US mothers of adolescent females aged 11–14 years (response rate=66%). We compared the proportion of all mothers using HPV vaccine discussions as a cue to talking about sex vs other potential cues using McNemar's χ^2 . We also assessed whether communication about HPV vaccine was independently associated with communication about sex using multivariate logistic regression. Estimates are weighted.

Results Sixty-five per cent of mothers reported talking with their daughters about HPV vaccine, of whom 41% said that doing so led to a conversation about sex. Thus, 27% of all mothers talked about

sex as a result of HPV vaccine conversations, similar to the proportion talking about sex as a result of some more widely recognised cues, such as their daughter starting menses (21%) or talking about alcohol or drugs (29%), but less than some others, such as their daughters showing an interest in boys (36%; $p < 0.05$) or having sex education at school (46%; $p < 0.05$). Mothers who had talked with their daughters about HPV vaccine were more likely than those who had not to have ever talked with their daughters about sex (92% vs 74%, $p < 0.001$), even after controlling for other cues and factors associated with communication about sex (OR=3.1, 95% CI 1.4 to 6.5). Among mothers who talked about sex when talking about HPV vaccine, many felt HPV vaccine provided a good reason to do so (64%) or that it made it easier to start a conversation (33%).

Conclusions HPV vaccine discussions provide an acceptable opportunity for mothers to talk with their daughters about sex at an age when such communication is most influential. It may be possible to capitalise on HPV vaccine discussions to promote parent–child communication about sex and provide messages about sexual health and STI prevention to early adolescents.

P5-S4.05 THE USE OF FINANCIAL COMPENSATION AS AN INCENTIVE FOR INFECTIOUS SYPHILIS CASE FINDING AMONG VULNERABLE POPULATIONS IN EDMONTON, CANADA

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Background Edmonton, Canada has been experiencing a rise in infectious syphilis cases since 2003, attributed to individuals engaging in transactional sex and substance use. As well, Aboriginal people had disproportionately higher rates of the infection. The results of a case study of primary syphilis cases were shared with community organisations serving vulnerable populations to ascertain their suggestions on strategies to increase testing for syphilis among this population. Agencies suggested that compensating clients for syphilis screening at a community organisation would increase testing rates. We sought to determine if more cases among the target population were diagnosed through outreach testing that provided financial compensation than by routine screening methods by other healthcare professionals.

Methods A data extract containing demographics, ethnicity, and risk behaviours for infectious syphilis cases in Edmonton between April 2007 and November 2008 was obtained from the provincial STI database. An additional database, which held demographic and risk group information on participants in the project, was also analysed. Client demographics and risk behaviours were compared using χ^2 or Fisher's exact test for categorical variables and Mann–Whitney for continuous variables.

Abstract P5-S4.05 Table 1 Comparison of characteristics of infectious syphilis cases (N=155)

Factor	Number of cases			p Value
	Outreach cases, n=10 (%)	Routine testing cases n=145 (%)	Total, N=155 (%)	
Gender				
Female	8 (80.0)	68 (46.9)	76 (49.0)	0.05
Male	2 (20.0)	77 (53.1)	79 (51.0)	
Ethnicity				
Aboriginal	7 (70.0)	58 (40.0)	65 (41.9)	0.10
Non-aboriginal	3 (30.0)	87 (60.0)	90 (58.1)	
Median age (IQR)	32.5 (21.25–37.5)	32 (24–43)	32 (24–42)	0.71
Risk behaviour				
Heterosexual	10 (100.0)	107 (83.6)	117 (84.8)	0.16
Injection drug use	2 (20.0)	11 (7.6)	13 (8.4)	0.20
Sex with an IDU	0	8 (5.5)	8 (5.2)	1.00
Sex worker				
Female	6 (75.0)	16 (23.5)	22 (28.9)	0.006
Male	0	1 (1.3)	1 (1.3)	1.00
Sex with a sex worker (males only)	2 (100.0)	22 (28.6)	24 (30.4)	0.09

Results A total of 931 testing visits were completed with 877 individuals. Three-quarters of individuals reported a history of substance use (77.1%; n=676) with more than one-quarter of individuals involved in transactional sex, either as a sex worker (n=204) or contact with a sex worker (n=110). Over half of the individuals (51.3%; n=450) were Aboriginal. Ten newly diagnosed infectious syphilis cases were found. The proportion of cases detected among female sex workers was 2.9% (6 cases out of 209 testing visits) and was 2.0% (2 cases out of 98 testing visits) among male sexual contacts of sex workers. Female cases were more likely to be a sex worker when tested through outreach (75%) than by routine testing sites (23.5%, p=0.006) see Abstract P5-S4.05 table 1.

Conclusions By offering testing at community agencies with financial compensation to individuals, a higher rate of cases were found among sex workers than through routine testing methods. By treating cases among individuals linked to high transmission activity, we aim to reduce the transmission of infectious syphilis.

P5-S4.06 STICKING TO IT: THE EFFECT OF MAXIMALLY ASSISTED THERAPY ON ANTIRETROVIRAL TREATMENT ADHERENCE AMONG A COHORT OF UNSTABLY HOUSED PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV IN BC, CANADA

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Background Housing is a known determinant of health behaviour, including adherence to antiretroviral therapy. Within the Longitudinal Investigations into Supportive and Ancillary Health Services (LISA) cohort, unstable housing is inversely associated with adherence. The Maximally Assisted Therapy (MAT) program uses a multidisciplinary approach to support people living with HIV/AIDS (PHA) who have a history of addictions, mental health disorders and homelessness. We investigated the efficacy of support services, including the MAT program, in improving adherence for unstably housed PHA.

Methods The LISA cohort is a cross-sectional study of individuals on antiretroviral therapy in British Columbia. Interviewer-administered surveys collect information regarding housing, drug use, utilisation

of health services and other clinically relevant socio-demographic factors. Clinical variables, such as CD4 count and viral load, were obtained through longitudinal linkages with the Drug Treatment Program (DTP) at the BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS. Logistic regression was used to determine factors associated with adherence ($\geq 95\%$ vs $< 95\%$) among unstably housed LISA participants (n=212).

Results Between 2007 and 2010 approximately 1000 participants were interviewed. This analysis is based on 644 interviews, of which the DTP reports optimal adherence [$\geq 95\%$ 12 month refill] for 367 (57%) individuals. Median age was 46 and 475 (73.7%) were male. We found that unstably housed participants attending the MAT program were 4.76 times more likely to be $\geq 95\%$ adherent [95% CI 1.72 to 13.13] than those who did not. Other factors associated with optimal adherence included recent incarceration (Adjusted OR [AOR]=0.20 [95% CI 0.05 to 0.80]) and not currently using illicit drugs (AOR=0.40 [95% CI 0.16 to 0.99]).

Conclusion The MAT program provides a model for other urban centers dealing with concurrent and interrelated adherence barriers: high-risk drug use, mental health disorders and homelessness. In the absence of sustainable housing solutions, programs such as MAT are crucial to achieving optimal treatment adherence in this population.

P5-S4.07 SMS REMINDERS INCREASE RE-TESTING FOR REPEAT CHLAMYDIAL INFECTION IN HETEROSEXUALS AT A SEXUAL HEALTH CLINIC

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Background Repeat infection with *Chlamydia trachomatis* following treatment is common. If left untreated it can lead to onward transmission and in females it increases the risk of pelvic inflammatory disease by fourfold. In late 2008, Sydney Sexual Health Centre implemented a reminder system using short message service (SMS) to improve re-testing rates following treatment of chlamydial infection. Clinicians were advised to set up SMS reminders to be sent out at 3 months after the visit.

Methods We evaluated the impact of this system in its first year of operation using a controlled observation design. Using logistic regression we assessed the association between a SMS reminder and re-testing within 1–4 months of chlamydia infection in Jan–August 2009 among all heterosexuals. The comparison group was heterosexuals diagnosed with chlamydia who received a brief recommendation to re-test in the same time period.

Results There were 230 heterosexuals diagnosed with chlamydial infection in the study period; 128 females (median age=24 years) and 112 males (median age=26 years). Of these, 47% were sent a SMS reminder (SMS group), and 53% received a brief recommendation (comparison group). The re-testing rate within 1–4 months of chlamydial infection was 58% in the SMS group, compared to 42% in the comparison group, OR=1.9, 95% CI 1.1 to 3.2, p=0.002. In females, the chlamydia re-testing rate within 1–4 months of chlamydial infection was 57% in the SMS group, compared to 40% in the comparison group, OR=2.0, 95% CI 1.0 to 4.0, p=0.05. In males, the chlamydia re-testing rate within 1–4 months of chlamydial infection was 59% in the SMS group, compared to 45% in the comparison group, OR=1.7, 95% CI 0.8 to 3.8, p=0.165.

Conclusion This low cost system substantially increased re-testing rates after chlamydia infection in heterosexuals at a large sexual health clinic. The clinic now plans to implement electronic prompts to remind clinicians to offer SMS reminders to all patients diagnosed with chlamydia.