immediately after integration when clinic accommodation, pathways and staffing were in a state of change. The reduced completion rates of a 3-dose course post-integration suggest that clinic access, availability and acceptability for MSM as well as recall arrangements should be explored.

**Discussion/conclusion**

Despite upheavals patients must remain at the centre of NHS care. We found BASHH support helpful and suggest dissemination of our experience to others. Highly regarded and well-functioning services are not immune to change and an uncertain future may be expected.

**Methods**

An anonymous paper survey was offered to all patients attending outpatient-HIV clinic June–July 2014. Data collected: age, gender, ethnicity, sexual-orientation; perceptions of self-taken samples; whether they tested that day, and why.

**Results**

121 surveys were returned. Median age = 45 (20–69) years; 86% male; 68% white British; 73% homosexual. 61/121 (50%) rated STI screening as ‘very important’, 48/121 (39%) as ‘worthwhile’. 117/121 (96%) found offering self-taken samples in routine HIV clinic as appropriate. 86/121 (71%) found the instructions ‘easy’ to follow and 4/121 (3%) ‘difficult’. 78/121 (64%) said that they thought that self-taken samples are as reliable as clinician-taken and 10/121 (8%) thought they were more reliable. 60/121 (50%) said self-taken samples were as comfortable as clinician-taken; 30/121 (25%) said more comfortable. 33/121 (27%) responders did self-sampling that day; 78/121 (64%) did not. Participants’ reasons for accepting self-taken samples included: ‘It’s easier/ quicker than going to a GUM clinic’ (37%); ‘I prefer doing the swabs myself’ (25%). Reasons for not self-sampling included: ‘I haven’t had any sex since my last sexual health screen’ (26%); ‘I was not offered a STI screen today’ (20%); ‘I prefer to go to a GUM clinic’ (16%).

**Conclusions**

The self-swab STI screens are acceptable to patients attending HIV outpatients, and are perceived as being as reliable and as comfortable as clinician-taken samples.