

### BACKGROUND

- Instituting an “integrated comprehensive approach to transgender healthcare and human rights” as part of the New York Ending the HIV Epidemic Blueprint remains challenging partially due to underascertainment of transgender identity within healthcare and public health systems, the lack of integration of disparate data systems, and barriers to accessing affordable, non-stigmatizing healthcare.

- Matching Medicaid to HIV Registry data could address some of these gaps and lead to better health outcomes among transgender persons.

### OBJECTIVES

1. Develop an algorithm to identify transgender persons in Medicaid claims data.
2. Estimate the prevalence of HIV among transgender persons accessing Medicaid by matching to the HIV Registry; and
3. Describe their socio-demographic characteristics.

### METHODS

- An algorithm was developed that combined transgender-related diagnosis codes, sex, prescription drugs, and transgender-related restriction and exclusion (R/E) codes (Validation Steps under Table 1) to identify transgender persons in Medicaid claims from 2013 to 2017.

- Individuals determined to be transgender in Medicaid were matched against the NYC HIV Registry to identify those with and without transgender identity.

- Numbers enrolled over time and socio-demographic characteristics were assessed descriptively from transgender persons’ Medicaid enrollment data.

### RESULTS

- 6,335 unique transgender persons accessing Medicaid in NYC from 2013 to 2017 were identified.
- 21% of transgender persons with HIV by identified by the algorithm were misclassified as cisgender in the Registry. More PWH were older, resided in the Bronx, were Black, had male sex on their Medicaid card, were deceased, and had been enrolled longer in Medicaid than heterosexual persons.

### TABLES AND FIGURES


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Medicaid Coverage</th>
<th>HIV Status</th>
<th>Transgender Status</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>50-59</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### FIGURE 1: Steps in an algorithm to identify transgender persons in Medicaid claims data and a match with the HIV registry, NYC 2013-2017.

#### FIGURE 2: Transgender persons enrolled in Medicaid by year, all enrollees and enrollees living with HIV, NYC 2013-2017.