

# Health Department Initiative to Increase Public Health Partner Services for Human Immunodeficiency Virus in New York City



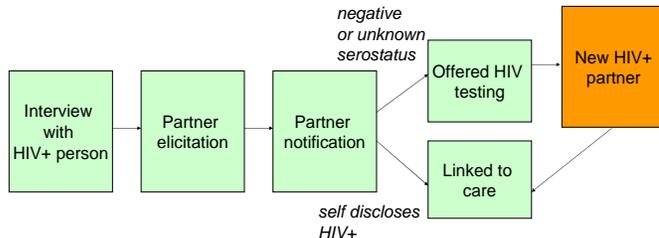
C. Udeagu, MPH; A. Tsega, MPH; J. Eavey, MPH; A. Bocour, MPH; E. Begier, MD, MPH; T. Renaud, MPH; R. Gutierrez, BA; C. Shepard, MD  
Bureau of HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control, New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

## Objective

The NYC Health Department's Field Services Unit (FSU) was established in July 2006 to increase HIV partner services and linkage to care for newly diagnosed patients.

## Methods

- Highly skilled disease intervention specialists (DIS) are located onsite in 8 large hospitals in areas of high HIV prevalence and mortality
- DIS interviewed patients for partner elicitation or delivered partner notifications at clinical sites or in the community
- Notified partners are offered HIV test in the field immediately following notification or referred to clinical facility for HIV testing and linked positive partners to care
- We compared outcomes of partner elicitation, notification, and testing pre (2003-2005) and post (2007-2009) intervention



## Results

	2003-2005 n (%)	2007-2009 n (%)	p
<b>All new cases</b>	2,195	1,610	
<b>Sex</b>			
Male	1247 (57)	970 (60)	0.01
Female	948 (43)	640 (40)	--
<b>Age range</b>			
0-12	29 (1)	0 (0)	--
13-29	482 (22)	514 (32)	<0.0001
30-39	624 (28)	305 (19)	<0.0001
40-49	621 (28)	414 (26)	0.08
50+	439 (20)	377 (23)	0.01
<b>Race/ethnicity</b>			
Black	1456 (66)	1062 (66)	0.81
Hispanic	671 (31)	466 (29)	0.28
White	56 (3)	42 (3)	0.91
Other	12 (1)	40 (2)	<0.0001

## Limitations

We did not compare the proportions of partners tested or newly diagnosed with HIV due to incomplete reporting of these indicators by providers pre intervention

	2003-2005 n (%)	2007-2009 n (%)	P
<b>All new cases</b>	2,195	1,610	
Patients naming partners	274 (12)	895 (56)	<0.0001
Partners elicited	324	1,721	
Partners notified	187 (58)	805 (47)	0.0003
Partners Tested	4	425 (53)	NC
Newly diagnosed	0	53 (12)	NC

## Conclusions

- Availability of DIS onsite HIV clinics led to large scale increases in the proportions of partners elicited and tested for HIV at participating sites after the implementation of the program
- Through September 2010, the program has been implemented at 31 sites, their satellite clinics and NYC jails

Contact: cudeagu@health.nyc.gov  
+1 212 442 3382