



HANOI MEDICAL UNIVERSITY  
CENTER FOR RESEARCH AND TRAINING ON SUBSTANCE ABUSE - HIV



# THE HANOI MSM (HIM-Hanoi) STUDY: EVIDENCE FOR ACTION ON HIV EPIDEMIC AMONG MSM

September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019





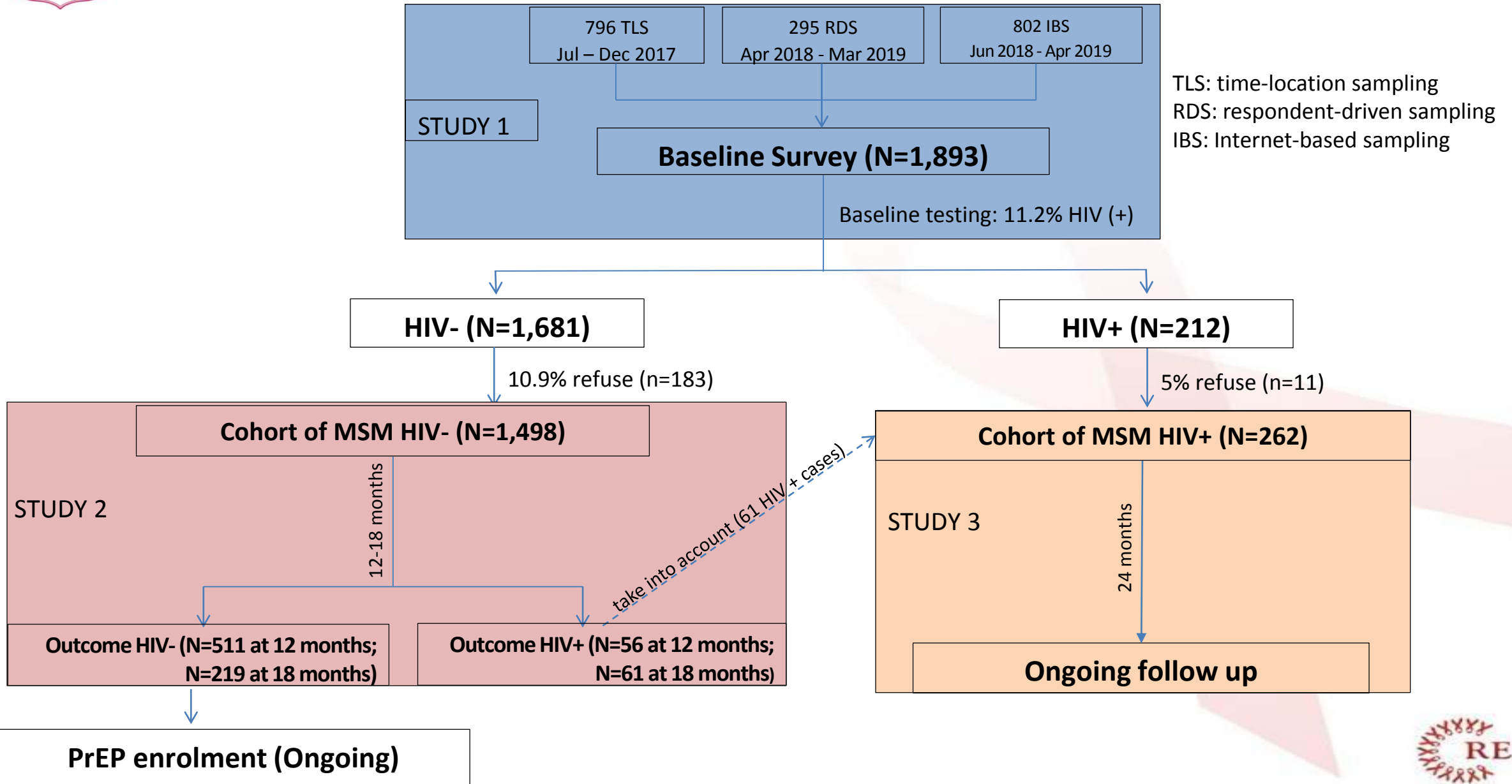
## Overview of HIM-Hanoi

### **A prospective cohort of MSM living in Hanoi aims to:**

1. Determine the prevalence of HIV, HCV, HBV, other STIs and identify risk factors associated with HIV and STIs prevalence
2. Estimate the incidence and determinants of HIV, Syphilis, NG, CT and HCV over 24 months
3. Investigate temporal changes in behavioral and social determinants of HIV infection among MSM over 12 months
4. Profile MSM sub-groups who are recruited through different strategies in terms of their socio-demographic characteristics, sexual practices, drug use, network size and factors associated with HIV infection
5. Assess uptake and retention in HIV care, including antiretroviral therapy (ART), and document facilitators and barriers to uptake of HIV treatment in HIV-positive MSM over a period of 24 months
6. Determine annual follow-up rates and completion of the 3-dose hepatitis B vaccination series.

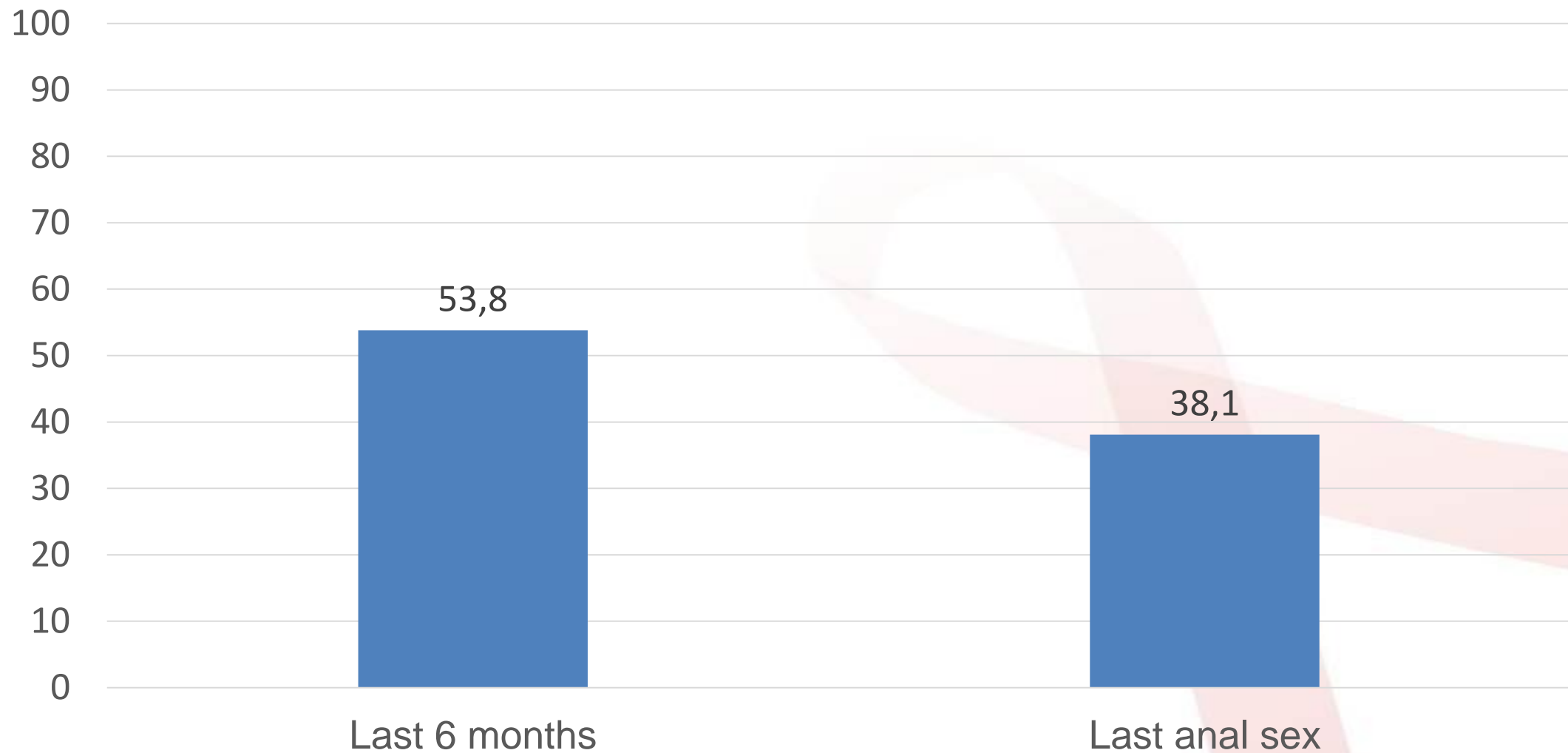


# HIM-Hanoi recruitment and retention - at Sexual Health Promotion Clinic, Hanoi Medical University



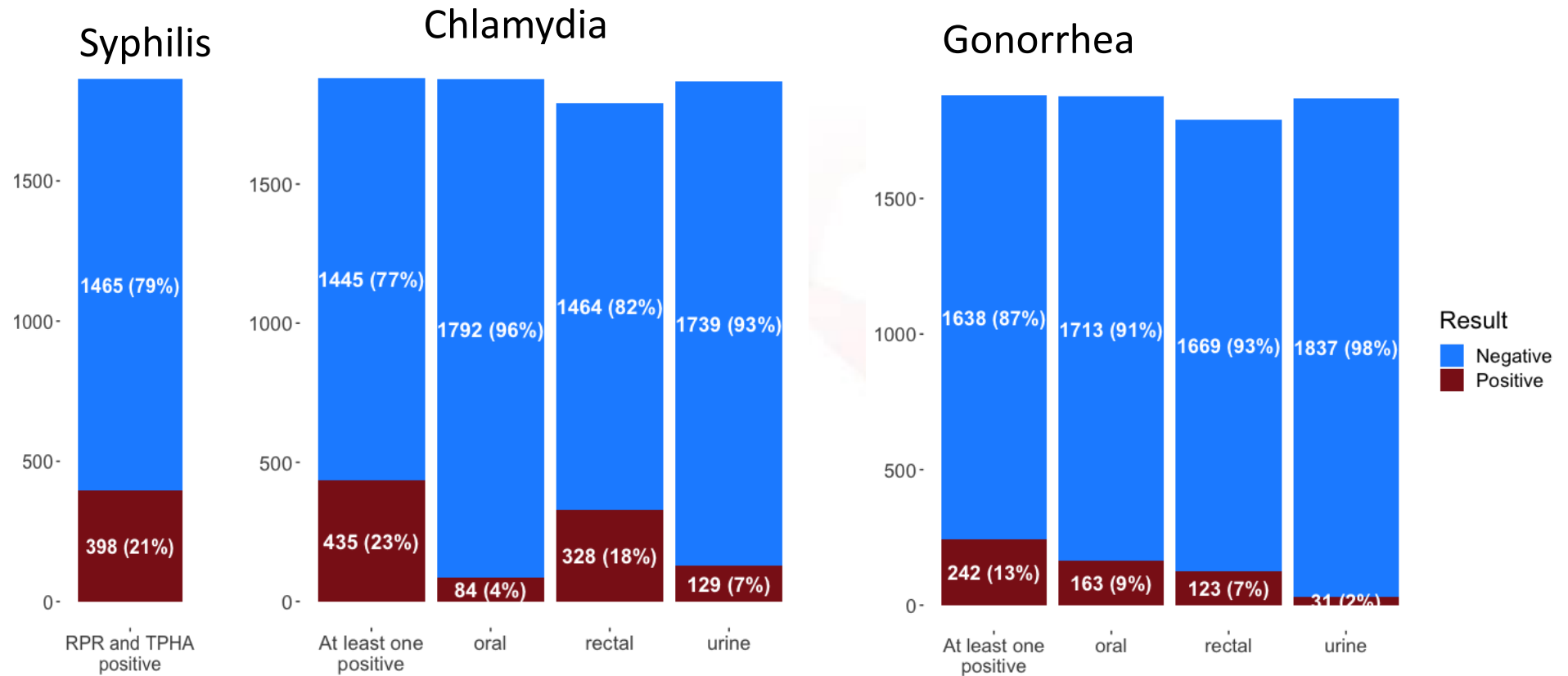


## High prevalence of condomless anal sex with male sex partners at baseline (N=1,893)





# High prevalence of STIs at baseline (N=1,893)

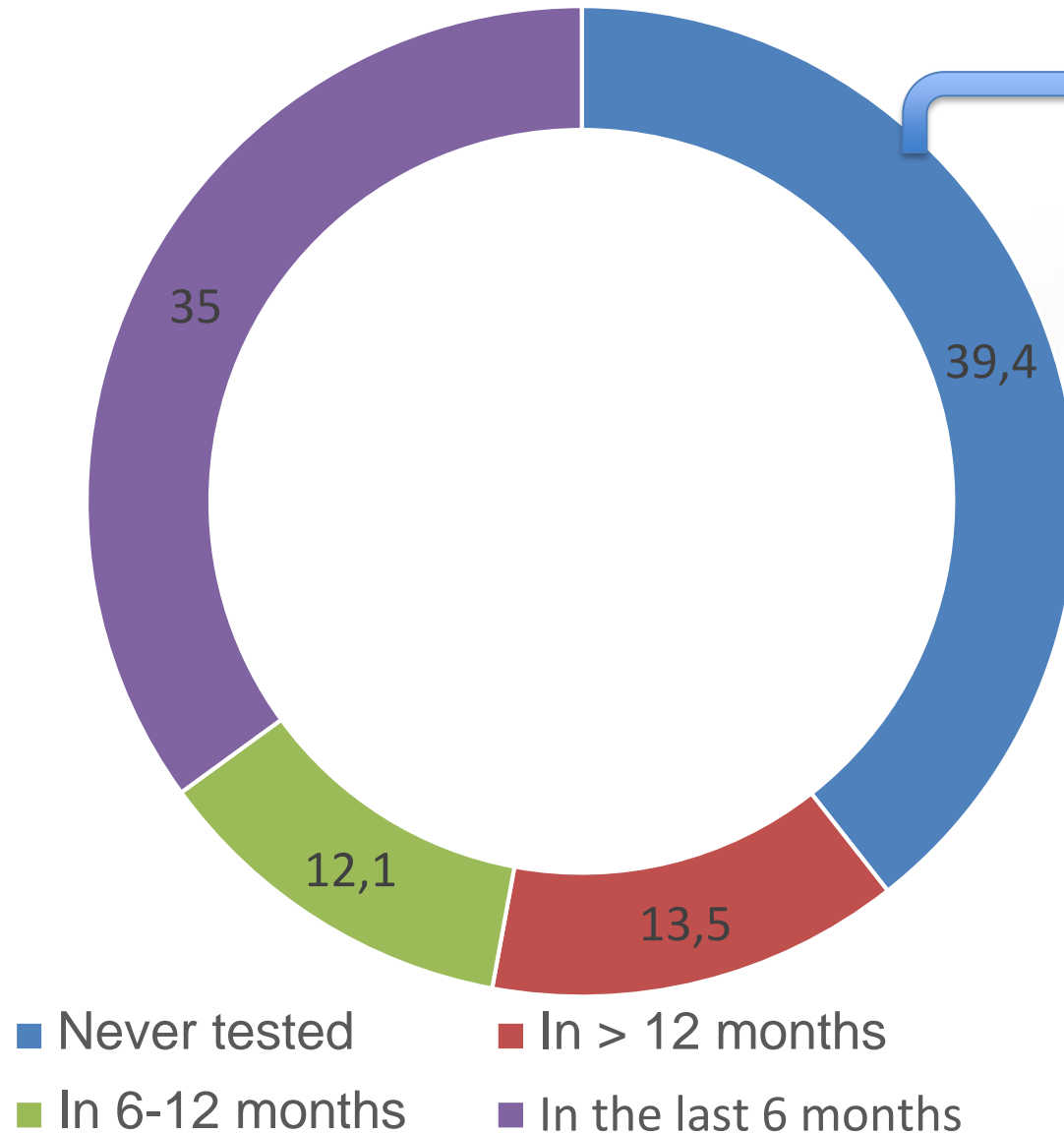


- 6 out of 1889 are positive for HCV





## Sub-optimal prior HIV testing uptake (N=1,893)



Of 745 men (39.4%) who reported never been tested for HIV prior to the baseline survey:

- 62 (8.3%) were diagnosed with HIV at baseline survey
- 22 (3.0%) were diagnosed with HIV at follow-up visits



## High HIV prevalence and incidence

Age group	HIV prevalence at baseline survey	Cumulative HIV prevalence *
16-24 (n=1,249)	118 (9.5%)	163 (13.1%)
25-29 (n=403)	57 (14.1%)	67 (16.6%)
>=30 (n=241)	37 (15.4%)	43 (17.8%)
Overall (N=1,893)	212 (11.2%)	273 (14.4%)

Age group	Time of following up (person-years)	Number of HIV seroconversion cases	HIV incidence rate (per 100 person-year)
16-24	599.2	45	7.5
25-29	164.6	10	6.1
>=30	114.6	6	5.2
Overall	878.4	61	6.9

\* As per June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019



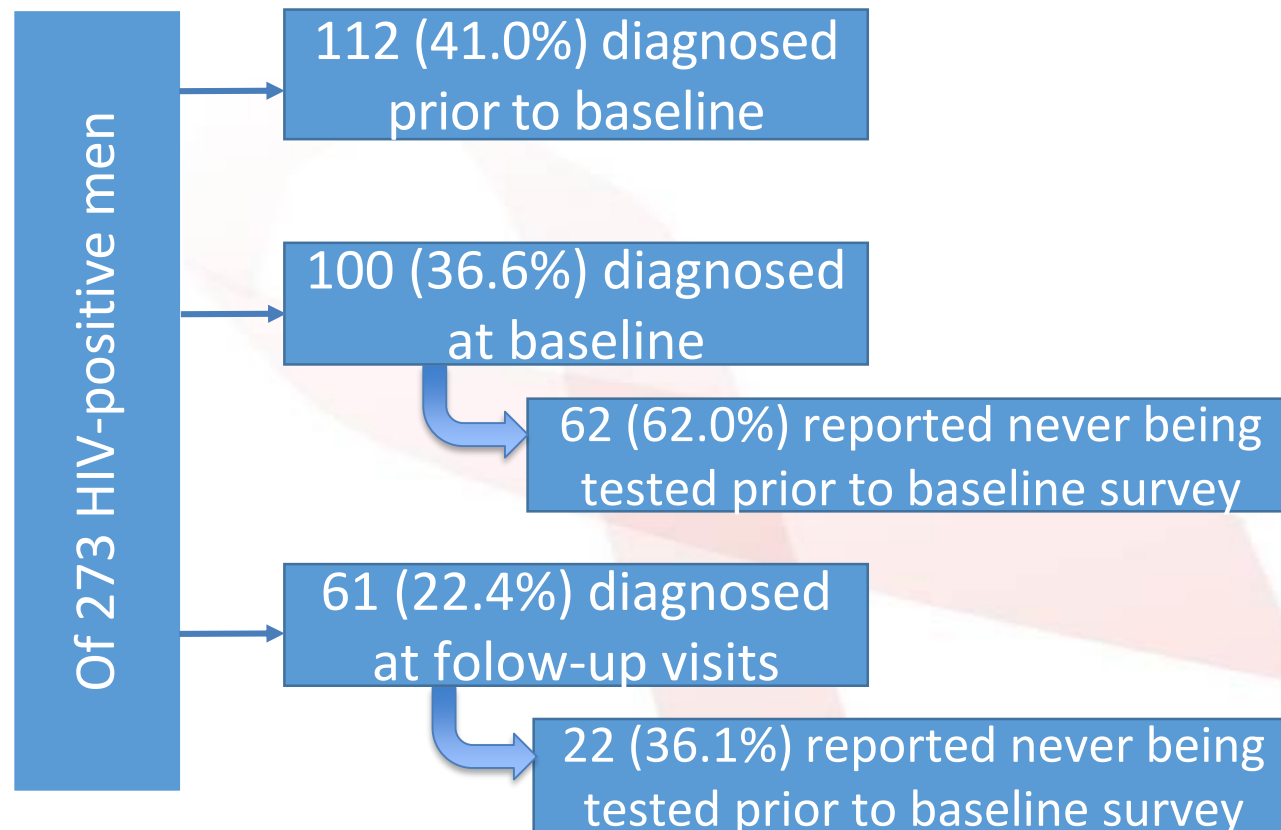


# HIV-positive men: STI and HIV diagnosis

## High prevalence of STI/HIV history & diagnosis at baseline survey (n=212)

- 73.5% tested positive for STI (syphilis, gonorrhea, chlamydia, herpes)
- 59.2% self-reported STI symptoms in the last 6 months
- 44.5% ever been diagnosed with STIs (syphilis, gonorrhea, chlamydia, herpes, HPV/warts)
- 11.3% tested positive for HBsAg

## HIV diagnosis



^: Includes 212 tested positive for HIV at baseline plus 61 HIV seroconversion cases during following-up

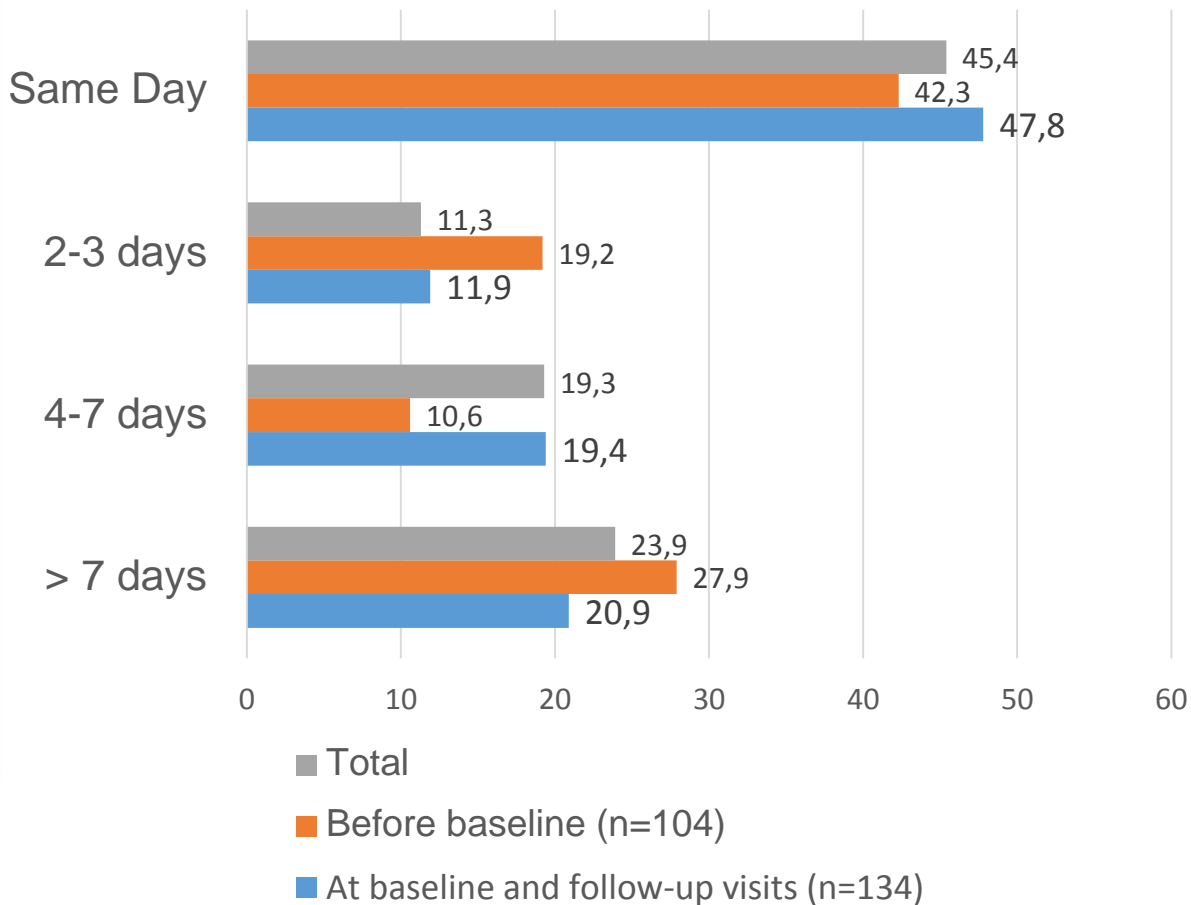






# HIV-positive men: Time to ART initiation

**High same day ART initiation among men diagnosed at baseline and follow-up visits (n=238<sup>£</sup>)**



£: Number of HIV-positive men on ART whose data from OPCs are available

**Youth were significantly less likely to experience rapid ART initiation (n=120<sup>^</sup>)**

Age (years)	Days to ART (n=120)		p-value*
	0-7 (days)	> 7 (days)	
15-24	38 (57.6%)	42 (77.8%)	0.020
25+	28 (42.4%)	12 (22.2%)	

**48% of youth vs 70% of those aged ≥ 25 years experienced rapid ART initiation**

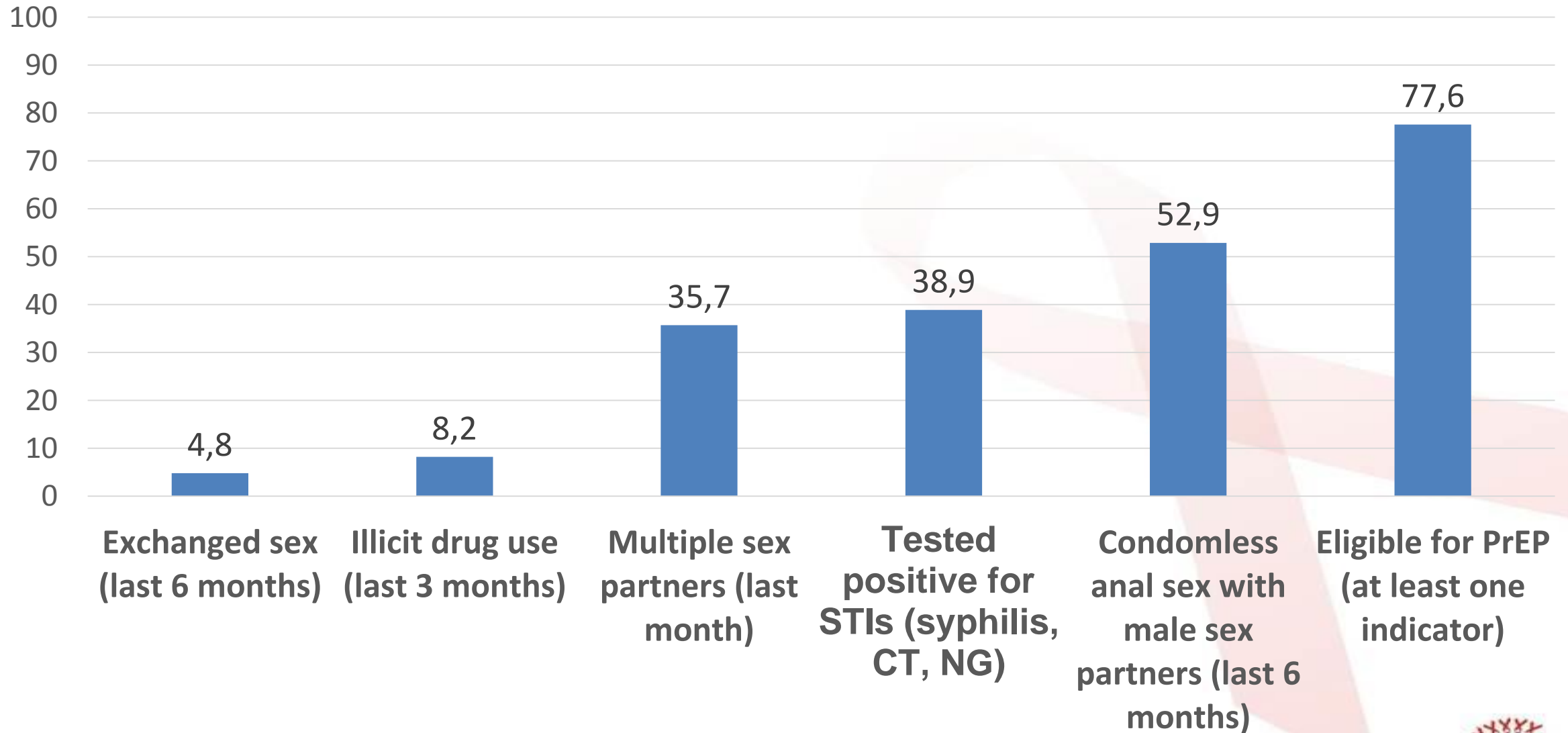
<sup>^</sup>: Number of consenting men diagnosed with HIV at baseline and during follow-up with available data from OPCs

\*:  $\chi^2$ test was used





## HIV-negative men at baseline: Indicators for PrEP\* (N=1,681)

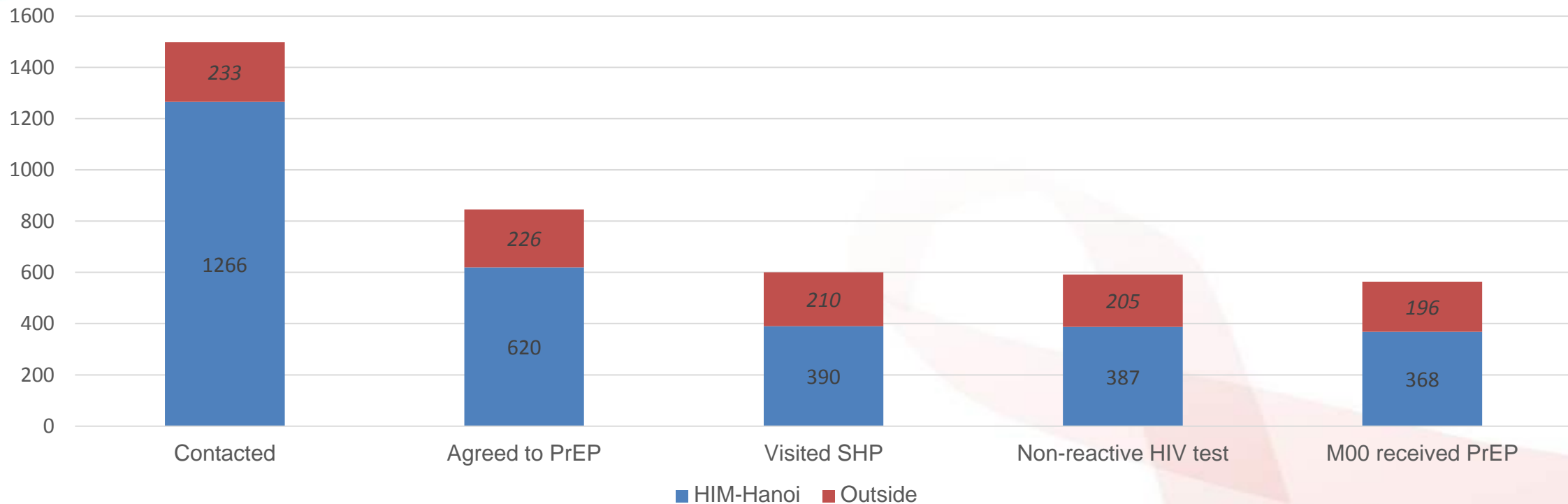


\* based on 2017 CDC and 2019 Vietnam guidelines





## PrEP Implementation among HIV-negative (May 22, 2019 – September 25, 2019)



As of August 23, 2019, 70% (256/365) were from the cohort study. The most frequent eligibility criteria included condomless sex (161/365, 44%), and STI (97/365, 27%); 53% (193/365) had >1 PrEP criterion.

On average, clients initiated PrEP within 2.6 days (range 0 – 43) of the first appointment, and 59% (215/365) initiated on the same day.

Among the 219 expected to complete the first follow up visit by August, 78% (171) returned. Adherence was reported as very good or perfect by 80% (135/167). Seven clients discontinued PrEP at one month because of side effects (6) or allergic reaction (1).



# Acknowledgements

- Study participants
- HIM-Hanoi research team
- HIM-Hanoi PIs: Associate Professor Giang Le and Dr. Diep Vu
- Colleagues at CREATA and IPMPH, HMU, and collaborators at US CDC Vietnam & Atlanta
- Dr. Ramona Bhatia, Dr. Hong Nguyen, Dr. Yen Le, Dr. Truc Thai, Dr. Van Hoang, Dr Hao Bui and Khoa Tran.



The research has been supported by the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official position of the funding agencies. All authors declare no conflict of interest

