



# **Evaluating the HIV Acquisition Risk Screening Tool in an Outpatient Substance Use Treatment Clinic**

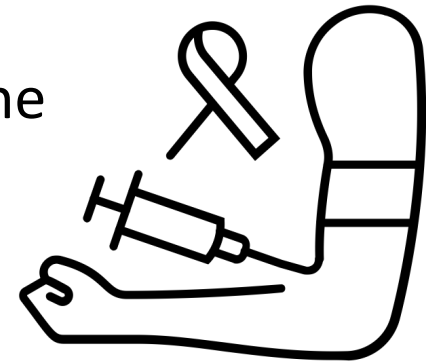
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**The authors report no conflict of interest**

- Define Pre-exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) and indications for use
- Review the clinic needs assessment and HIV Acquisition Risk Screening (HIVARS) Tool implementation
- Summarize results of and lessons learned during the HIVARS implementation
- Propose more future steps for the project and research



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- Truvada (tenofovir and emtricitabine) approved in 2012 for HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP)
- PrEP recommended for people who are:
  - (1) HIV-negative
  - (2) actively at-risk for acquiring HIV
  - (3) likely to adhere to the daily medication regimen

(CDC, 2017; CDC, 2019)

- When taken daily, PrEP considered:
  - 99% effective for preventing HIV acquisition through sex
  - 74% effective in preventing HIV acquisition through injection drug use
- No current research aimed at increasing PrEP access in Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Treatment

(CDC, 2017; CDC, 2019)

## BOX B3: RECOMMENDED INDICATIONS FOR PREP USE BY PERSONS WHO INJECT DRUGS

- Adult person
- Without acute or established HIV infection
- Any injection of drugs not prescribed by a clinician in past 6 months

AND at least one of the following

- Any sharing of injection or drug preparation equipment in past 6 months
- Risk of sexual acquisition (also evaluate by criteria in Box B1 or B2)

(CDC, 2017)

## BOX B1: RECOMMENDED INDICATIONS FOR PREP USE BY MSM<sup>2</sup>

- Adult man
- Without acute or established HIV infection
- Any male sex partners in past 6 months (if also has sex with women, see Box B2)
- Not in a monogamous partnership with a recently tested, HIV-negative man

AND at least one of the following

- Any anal sex without condoms (receptive or insertive) in past 6 months
- A bacterial STI (syphilis, gonorrhea, or chlamydia) diagnosed or reported in past 6 months

(CDC, 2014; CDC, 2017)

## BOX B2: RECOMMENDED INDICATIONS FOR PREP USE BY HETEROSEXUALLY ACTIVE MEN AND WOMEN

- Adult person
- Without acute or established HIV infection
- Any sex with opposite sex partners in past 6 months
- Not in a monogamous partnership with a recently tested HIV-negative partner

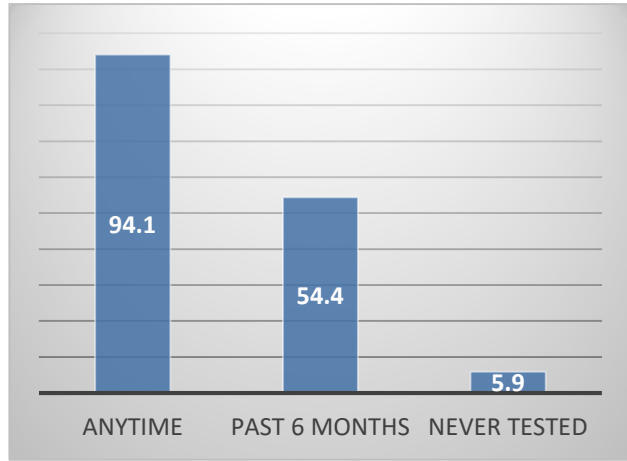
AND at least one of the following

- Is a man who has sex with both women and men (behaviorally bisexual) [also evaluate indications for PrEP use by Box B1 criteria]
- Infrequently uses condoms during sex with 1 or more partners of unknown HIV status who are known to be at substantial risk of HIV infection (PWID or bisexual male partner)
- Is in an ongoing sexual relationship with an HIV-positive partner
- A bacterial STI (syphilis, gonorrhea in women or men) diagnosed or reported in past 6 months



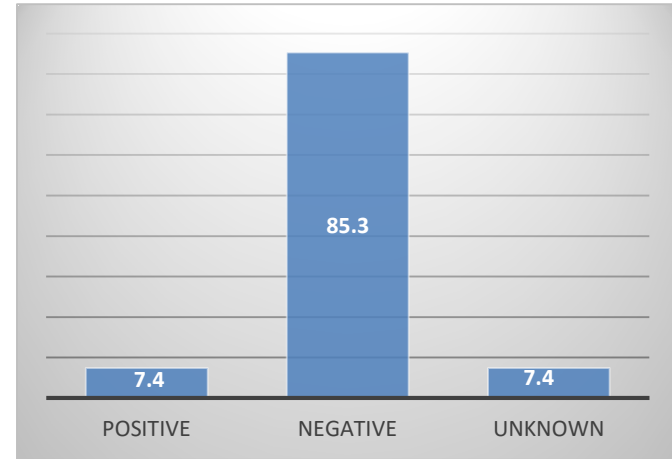
Based on a chart review,  
**39%** of clinic patients were  
eligible for referral to PrEP services,  
following 2014 CDC PrEP Guidelines

## HIV Testing



**54.4%** of patients had been tested within past 6 months

## HIV Status



**85.3%** of patients were HIV-negative when last tested

## Potential PrEP Referrals related to Drug Use

	Count	%
<b>At-Risk based on Drug Use Behaviors (Total)</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>35.3</b>
IVDU + MAT	20	29.4
IVDU + Shared Equipment	7	10.3
IVDU + Shared Equipment + MAT	3	4.4
<b>Unknown - Shared Equipment</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>66.2</b>

- Of patients that screened eligible, **92.3%** appropriate for referral based on their drug use history
- **Unknown** if **66.2%** of patients had history of sharing drug preparation equipment

## Potential PrEP Referrals related to Sexual Behaviors

Sexual Behaviors	Yes		No		Unknown	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Sex Without Condom	20	29.4	13	17.8	35	52.9
Sex in Exchange for Money or Drugs	1	1.5	0	0	67	98.5
Sex with and HIV-Positive Partner	0	0	1	1.5	67	98.5
High-Risk Sexual Partner	0	0	0	0	68	100

- Of patients that screened eligible, **<10%** appropriate for referral based on high-risk sexual behaviors
- **Unknown** if most patients participated in high-risk sexual behaviors

## Human Immunodeficiency Virus Acquisition Risk Screening Tool

**Script:** (To be read before completing the screening)

“The following questions can be very personal. I want you to know, we ask these questions to everyone and it is so that we can provide you with the best possible care. The information you share remains private and confidential and will not be shared with others without your consent in accordance with HIPAA. I also want you to know if at any time you are uncomfortable, you may refuse to answer a question. Do I have your permission to continue?”

1. Have you ever been tested to see if you have HIV? **Yes / No**

If **Yes:** (a) How long ago was your last HIV test? \_\_\_\_\_.

(b) Was the result HIV-positive or HIV-negative? **HIV-positive / HIV-negative**

- If **HIV-positive:** *confirm provider managing HIV care. SCREENING COMPLETE.*
- If **HIV-negative:** *go on to question 2.*

If **No:** *Register patient for next HIV testing session. Go on to question 2.*

2. Have you injected drugs that were not prescribed to you within the past 6 months? **Yes / No**

If **Yes:** (a) In the past 6 months, have you shared any needles, syringes, or other drug preparation equipment that had already been used by another person? **Yes / No**

If **No:** *Go on to question 3.*

3. Have you been sexually active in the last 6 months? **Yes / No**

If **No**: SCREENING COMPLETE

If **Yes**: If the client is:

(a) **Male**: Do you have sex with men, women, or both? \_\_\_\_\_

If **MSM**:

(1) Have you had sex without a condom in the past 6 months? **Yes / No**

(2) Have you had sex in exchange for money or drugs? **Yes / No**

(3) Have you had syphilis, gonorrhea, or chlamydia in the last 6 months? **Yes / No**

If **MSW only**:

(1) Have you had sex with someone who is HIV+ in past 6 months without using a condom?  
**Yes / No**

(2) Have you had syphilis, gonorrhea, or chlamydia in the last 6 months? **Yes / No**

(b) **Female**: Do you have sex with men, women, or both? \_\_\_\_\_

(1) Have you had sex in exchange for money or drugs in the past 6 months? **Yes / No**

(2) Have you had sex with someone who is HIV-positive in the past 6 months? **Yes / No**

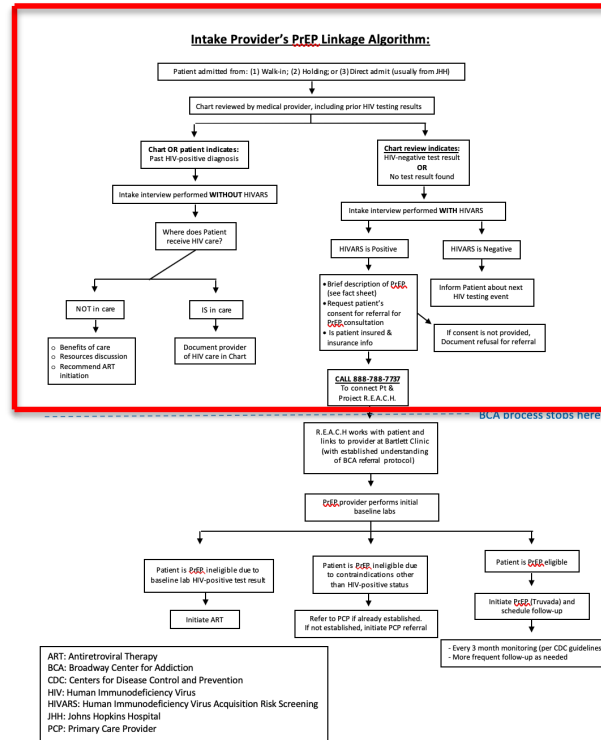
(3) Have you had sex without using a condom with anyone who is at high risk for HIV infection, meaning a person who inject drugs, a man who has sex with men, or a person who has had other sexually transmitted infections? **Yes / No**

(c) **Trans**: Do you have sex with men, women, both? \_\_\_\_\_

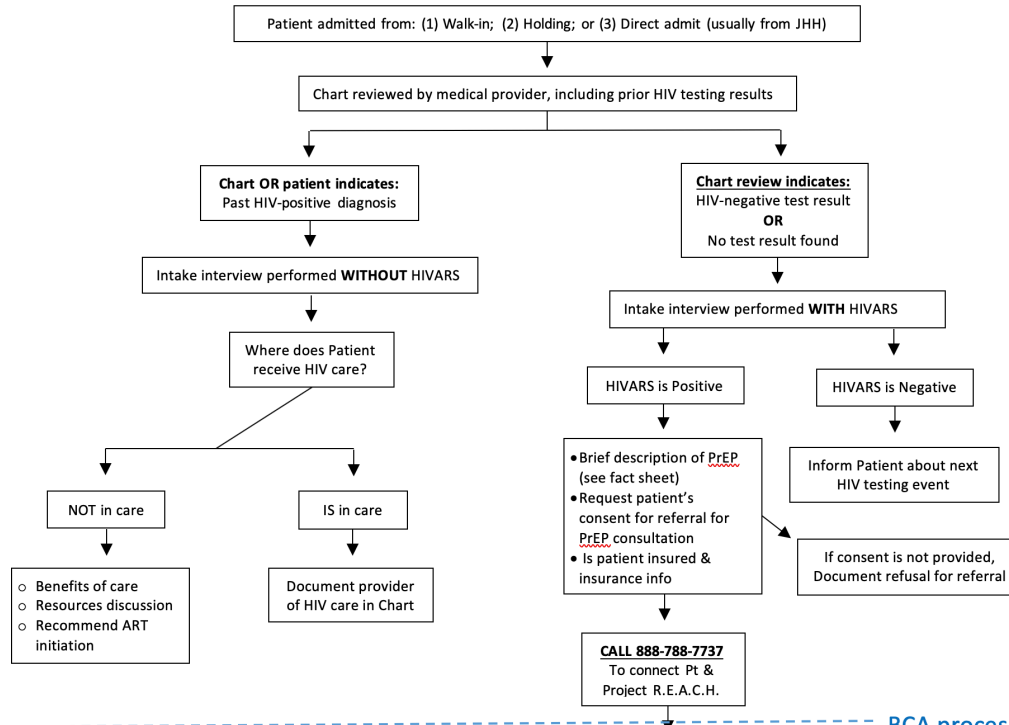
(1) Have you had sex in exchange for money or drugs in the past 6 months? **Yes / No**

(2) Have you had sex with someone who is HIV-positive in the past 6 months? **Yes / No**

4. If eligible for PrEP (indicated by a **red yes**), what do you know about PrEP for HIV prevention?



## Intake Provider's PrEP Linkage Algorithm:





Project purpose to implement standardized system to:

- Identify patients who might benefit from PrEP
- Link those patients to PrEP services
- Limit necessary change to organizational infrastructure

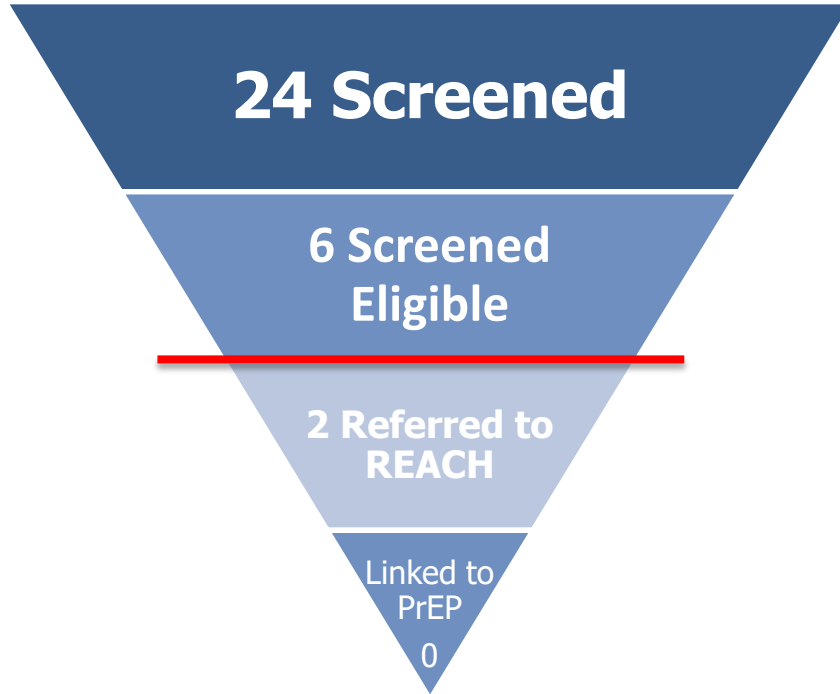
HIVARS added to electronic PDF forms used by providers to document patient's history & physical assessment

The following measures were evaluated,  
number of:

- Patients seen
- HIVARS screenings administered
- Patients who screened eligible
- Referrals to PrEP services



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- Patient Perceptions of Risk
- Timing of HIVARS Screening
- Cultural Considerations

## Within the Clinic:

- Reconsider timing of HIVARS administration
- Additional training for healthcare team administering HIVARS

## Outside the Clinic:

- Qualitative research on perceptions of PrEP during SUD treatment



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**The graphics used in this presentation were created by Andrei Yushchenko from the Noun Project**



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