

FORUM FOR COLLABORATIVE HIV RESEARCH

2010 National Summit on HIV Diagnosis, Prevention, and Access to Care

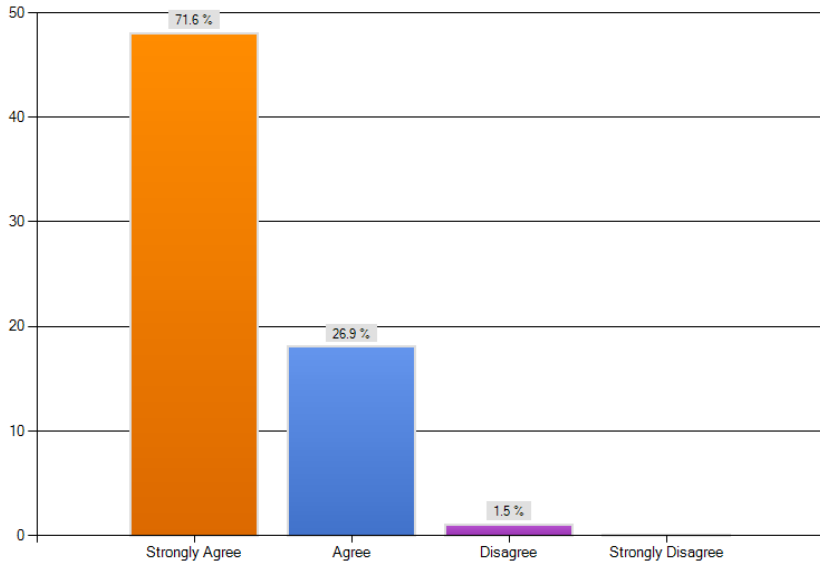
Participant Evaluation

2010

1608 RHODE ISLAND AVE, NW. WASHINGTON, DC 20036

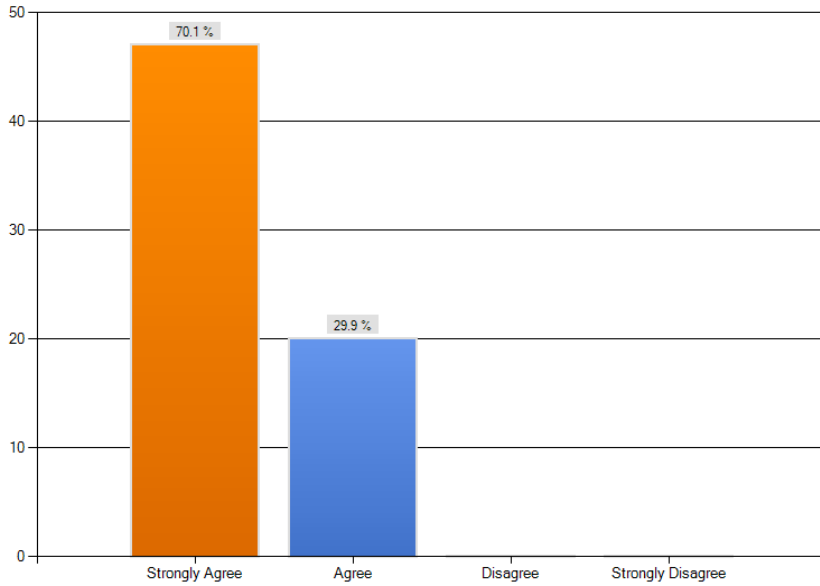
Question 1

Would you agree that the National Summit was valuable to your education, career advancement and/or work?



Question 2:

Would you plan on attending the 2012 Summit?



Question 3: Overall, what did the Summit provide for you?

Networking

- Good networking and excellent presentations.
- An interesting insight into the future direction of working in HIV prevention, i.e. with the arrival of microbicides and PrEP. It also provided great networking opportunities.
- Excellent innovative information one can utilize within site/program and great networking opportunities.
- Networking and updates on common programs
- Contact with both colleagues and opinion leaders
- Excellent expert discussions on HIV issues, nationally and internationally. Great networking. Honorary time with Dr. Koop, Dr. Fauci, Dr. Benjamin and White House and best national public health experts
- Close connection with other key actors in the HIV/AIDS world; a comprehensive update on the current issues; an opportunity to network, plan, and collaborate with influential people across the country; solidarity, inspiration, and positivity.
- Opportunities for networking and sharing my research with colleagues.
- Great networking opportunity. Wonderful meeting for engaging with people involved in HIV prevention at many different levels (research, clinical, community).
- Networking, up to date scientific information.
- An opportunity to network with others in the field and get first hand information and knowledge on trends, challenges and advancements
- Networking and interesting presentations, both plenary and breakouts.
- Opportunity to network with colleagues and government officials and company personnel. Learned some new things and an excellent experience to hear from Dr. Koop.

Information/Knowledge

- A wealth of information, great access to experts, and an opportunity to network with colleagues
- It provided a wealth of information and I learned quite a deal. I was also profoundly touched and inspired by many of the presenters. After being in this field for over 20 years, I was feeling hopeless and tired. After having had the honor of hearing Dr. C. Everett Koop and Anthony Fauci, I was renewed and inspired. It was an overwhelmingly positive

emotional journey. It was a privilege to hear the real heroes of this epidemic: Dr. Koop, Dr. Fauci, and the rest of the presenters.

- I gained valuable information about the national HIV strategy and learned about evaluation methods and possible research projects that can be applied to our local health department.
- More information regarding the body of knowledge that exists regarding HIV testing. Information about future directions of routine testing and strategies for linkage to care.
- A wide variety of poster/presentation topics relevant to my work (policy, HIV screening, partner services, etc) that will assist in informing future projects and provided me with a wider network of contacts for potential guidance and technical assistance in those areas.
- New knowledge about HIV/AIDS, clear vision of national HIV/AIDS strategy, and ideas for local action.
- New information, new contacts, new ideas, motivation

Implementation Strategies

- Updates on research projects and insight into federal regulations and approaches for implementation of testing and prevention programs
- Comparative information for increasing HIV testing services using different models and approaches. The workshops and plenaries were targeted and well coordinated.
- The Summit provided me a great opportunity to meet others in the field and more importantly exposure to some great ideas and initiatives that we're not currently doing at my facility. Plus it gave me the chance to share our work where I received feedback and opportunities for collaboration, etc.
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- Updates on the National HIV/AIDS Strategy
- Research updates, national strategic plans, practices on HIV testing and linkage to care.
- Forum for interacting with and understanding the position of government leaders in HIV.
- An update on the NHAS, and a sense of what some health departments are doing.

General

- Broader understanding of the issues.
 - A lot of best practices and innovative methods from other jurisdictions on implementing and evaluating routine testing programs, retention in care programs, and use of surveillance data in program planning.
 - A positive outlook on the future of HIV.
 - Exposure to latest in HIV research. Interaction with leaders in the field.
 - The Summit provided an open platform for the leaders and diligent workers in the forefront of HIV prevention, diagnosis, and care to come together to share ideas regarding what is/isn't working in various communities and develop solutions for the future. The tract designations were on target and both the break-out and plenary sessions were up to date and thought-provoking.
 - Updates in policy trends.
 - The Summit allowed me to focus on issues of routine testing and linkage to care, and provided a science and expert-based sense of urgency. It was good to hear from people other than Dr. Branson that testing is important and that this is a way to really stem the epidemic.
 - Cutting edge concepts
 - Interaction with experts from multiple disciplines/fields that usually do not interact.
 - Insight into the current landscape of efforts around HIV care and an opportunity to meet thought leaders.
 - Valuable updates on the field and an important sense of engagement
 - Much more insight on where the process of universal screening stands in the US
 - A forum for researchers and community leaders to speak forum where we can present and speak to policy makers in the government.
 - Excellent overview on efforts around the country pertaining to prevention, testing, linkage and retention in care.
 - The fantastic presentation by Dr. Koop. Many reviews of very important topics that are not discussed in any other conference. Many authorities who are not at most of our meetings, but need to be heard.
 - General impression of what is going on nationally. Some contacts.
 - It was a conference for smart people :-). I often feel like, as a CBO worker, at national conferences, things are quite dumbed-down, but not at the summit. Every piece of information and each session was relevant and at a level where I feel I was challenged. It was also a phenomenal networking opportunity.
 - A fresh Perspective, a new Insight, Updated Evidence and networking opportunity
 - Opportunity to discuss prevention issues with colleagues, hear about new research and trends, connect research with policy and program
 - I was very interested to see how other locations were increasing HIV testing and to discuss methods with other poster presenters.
 - As an IVD manufacturer, it allowed me to hear from practitioners about how they use the tests we manufacturer and what other assays or equipment they need to deliver the best care possible. It's important, as manufacturers, that we have a greater understanding of the constraints within our healthcare system so that we can help provide better solutions.
 - Chance to meet with national leaders and implementers advancing the practice of routine testing.
 - The Summit was amazing. The talks were fascinating, engaging and informative and I appreciated the chance to discuss HIV testing with a variety of colleagues.
 - It was an opportunity to learn about successful prevention and testing efforts in the HIV field.
 - It provided a new level of insight
 - A good concise understanding of the US situation.
 - A very good overview of national priorities, and of debates about issues such as mass screening and integrated services.
 - Little intellectual value.
 - Motivation, multiple ideas for research projects.
-

Question 4: How does the Summit compare to other meetings that you have attended for networking and learning new information?

Favorable

Favorable – Size

- I enjoyed the Summit for its small and intimate size. I think that helps it be an easier forum for networking.
- Compares very favorably. The group is small enough that it is possible to meet people of various disciplines and not get overwhelmed by the size of the conference. The sessions are structured to provide the most amount of information from the greatest number of perspectives.
- Very informative meeting since we were all directed to the one topic (HIV). Meeting was also a nice size to interact with others and to have good discussions.
- More substance, smaller number of participants to actually have meaningful discussions
- The Summit was small enough to be welcoming but large enough to provide a good range of topics and minds.
- Heads above. It was also really nice that all meals were provided, that's when a lot of networking goes on, and the summit was small enough that I got to meet a lot of people.
- Excellent - better than many other larger meetings
- Excellent. Small size and narrow focus aides in networking.
- I like that a smaller number of people attend and there are not so many concurrent sessions that it's overwhelming. The format and smaller groups in sessions made discussion and idea sharing easy.
- It was more intimate and focused than the RWCA All-Title's meeting, which is my very favorite meeting. I really enjoyed the fact that the physicians were with us, and there was more health department/surveillance representation.

Favorable – Organization

- This conference felt very well organized. The number of tracks and workshops offered was very manageable: it did not feel overwhelming like other conferences.
- Exceptional presentations by the speakers on Wednesday evening and on Friday morning. Well organized program connecting past efforts to the future actions.
- Focused, objective driven on target.
- Excellent, up to international HIV conference standards and beyond! It was more close neat, very organized and intense but stimulating HIV discussions! A lot of dialogue and real life issues! The

conference was really well planned and well orchestrated! It was really an incredible experience! Thank you!

- This summit was very well organized and time keeping was excellent.

Favorable – General

- This was one of the best meetings I have been to for networking and meeting others in my field.
- Excellent
- Much more informative.
- Excellent.
- Far exceeds any other meetings that I have attended
- An excellent opportunity to network with a new set of colleagues.
- Favorably.
- One of the best
- Highly
- Having just returned from APHA, I have to say that the Summit was a much better experience for me. I am a new researcher and APHA was overwhelming and I found the majority of the HIV related sessions to be interesting yet not in line with my current work and therefore not replicable/useful to my professional life.
- Excellent. There seemed to be a genuine effort to link discussions from one session to the next. The Rapporteur session was quite useful to hear what the results of sessions I couldn't attend.
- It is highly informative in areas that we need to hear about: Challenges to HIV testing, selection of the test, economic realities, new methods to retain patients in care, QA programs that make sense, data management, etc
- High; one of the more productive and informative HIV meetings that I have attended. Well worth my time!
- This forum provides a venue to actually network since all food is provided and you can have a chance to talk to others more than in CROI or IAS etc...
- Ranks highly
- Similar to early CROI
- Excellent; one of the most useful meetings I have attended.
- Very lively and topics are not repetitive.
- The speakers were awesome
- I have never been to a meeting specific to HIV, so it was very helpful to network and learn about other programs. I thought the information presented in poster and plenary sessions was very practical and it

provided an opportunity to learn about best practices.

- Great
- This was the best meeting I have attended.
- There were many more program people present and this helped make it more practical.
- Focuses on policy needs.
- This was my first time attending this summit. By far it has been the best conference/summit that I have ever attended in my 20 years of working in this field.
- Through the breakfast, lunch, dinner sessions, and poster session, the Summit allowed ample opportunity for networking, more so than other conferences I have attended. Also, allowing time for audience questions/response at the end of each session was a valuable part of the conference as it enabled the audience and panelists to engage in meaningful discussion regarding the current problems and possible solutions.
- Excellent panel discussions.
- Very high.
- B+/A-
- Many of us attending felt it was far better than other conferences/ meetings we have been to...

Unfavorable

Unfavorable – Timing/Scheduling

- Not enough networking time, pretty grueling schedule, and tracks are tough as you would logically want to attend more than one that are running
- Simultaneously, not enough time for q/a and discussion after presentations
- The fact that speakers usually went over meant that time was cut short for asking questions and networking. This was my main critique of the summit.

Unfavorable – General

- The Summit lacks impact with regard to providing new information or data. The Summit sessions is little more than 'best-practice' sewing circles.
- It was less scientific than meetings I typically attend.
- More government and less pharma involvement

Neutral

- Not as much but there is a greater focus on this meeting on testing than others.
- More intimate, smaller, and better for networking. Not much new information shared as in larger more research-oriented conferences.
- Fair
- Less scientific, more policy and implementation focused
- This was my first summit.
- Same

Question 5: How does the Summit rate at the national level for focusing on US specific HIV issues?

Favorable

- Excellent; small size is a real benefit.
- Excellent.
- This is the premiere conference in this focused subject area. If you aren't at this conference, you aren't current.
- Excellent
- Very high marks for US focused information and issues
- High rating
- It was a great conference with information and representatives from across the US.
- Wonderfully. It was terrific to have a variety of stakeholders present at one meeting- government officials, state and local health departments, CBO staff, clinicians - the variety

really strengthened the scope of discussions and provided a unique forum to interact with persons interested in HIV testing at every level of the process.

- One of the best - again, a great meeting for hearing different facets of HIV prevention.
- Excellent
- Rates high.
- Quite high. It was very informative.
- Perfect.
- Pretty good
- The US focus was very helpful, especially the discussion of new metrics (e.g., CVL) and the incidence of new cases in the South.
- A+
- The best! It's great to have the experts speak and let us know what they're up to.

- Outstanding. 5/5.
- Unique perspective
- It is important, and covers topics that are not covered well in other conferences.
- Very well! It is the experts' panel and everyone including participants contributed on critical real time issues in HIV!
- This is the best forum to do this, similar to CDC's prevention conference
- Very high - truly allowed to separate National issues from the worldwide picture
- Well
- Unique in its focus
- Excellent.
- Excellent. Topics weren't too broad; focus on the topic was maintained.
- Very well; most of the information was focused on domestic issues, but I enjoyed the few parts that brought an international focus as well.
- Great
- I would rate the Summit 5 out of 5 on US specific HIV issues. There are obviously regional issues that require more attention, but this level of detail can be achieved at more local conferences.
- Excellent- narrow focus is key.
- Excellent
- 10 out of 10
- Very Good
- There are lots of national HIV conferences, and I really thought that this meeting was true to its purpose of being a diagnostic summit. I consider myself a public health professional, and this meeting more than others really focused on HIV as a public health issue. This is the ONLY HIV meeting with an outright public health

focus. It was also FANTASTIC to get to be with Dr. Koop, and I appreciate that the organizers did not just talk about him and give him an award, but allowed him the time and space to share his story with us. That was priceless.

- Good
- Excellent.
- Good.
- The summit rates "over the top" on a national level. It was a very "high end" summit" which included representatives of the White House, State, and many renowned speakers. They all addressed the HIV crisis. It was also quite enlightening to meet the current Surgeon General, Regina Benjamin.
- Highly
- Top 5
- I thought it was quite relevant to US specific HIV issues.
- High. The information from the breakout sessions were applicable to all jurisdictions and the speakers were also very accessible to share best practices
- Excellent overall
- The Summit rates very high
- Good.

Unfavorable

- Well below CROI.

Neutral

- OK, but would like a great focus on testing, it seems that this year the conference expanded its focus and therefore it seemed more like other conferences

Question 6: Are there any aspects of the Summit that you believe could be improved?

Timing (for speakers; overall conference)

- Holding presenters to the allotted time.
- More networking time both formal (more time at posters) and informal (wine and cheese, etc.) the quality of speakers on the main plenary panels was

uneven....there is a tendency to overly highlight the latest speaker on a new program or idea, yet some of those speakers are not well versed the breadth of the topic, have a narrow view point, and/or are not highly expert, and/or are not adept at public speaking. Would suggest limiting speakers of narrow background to

narrow topics, and limiting highly expansive commentary to those with the broad expertise and track record to provide it

- I believe the information presented at the Summit was wonderful. However, I think that future participants would benefit from spreading out the conference a bit. I felt that every speaker was rushing through their presentation in order to meet the time requirements which took away from my ability to really think critically about the topics that were presented. At the next conference, I think the amount of time allotted for summary on Friday could be cut back and replaced with one of the sessions from Thursday.
- I would have liked the opportunity to attend more presentations- one more day of talks would have been ideal.
- I would maybe consider extending it a day so that there was just a bit more breathing room. But I can also understand keeping the days to a minimum as it's often difficult for attendees to get away. The days were a bit long, but that's to be expected at a conference so certainly not seen as a negative (and plus, I was dealing with a 3 hour time difference and maybe contributed to my fatigue!).
- A bit more time for breakout presentations. I understand the value of ample discussion time, but the tradeoff was that some of the presentations themselves seemed rushed because the presenter was trying to cram 20-25 minutes of discussion into 10-15 minutes.
- Maybe two full days (I know that's hard for a lot of people to swing). There were sessions I wish I could have attended, but I do not regret going to the session I chose.
- More time for networking.
- As above. Keep speakers to time allotment.
- More Q & A time for the tracks consensus documents that can be published
- Three concurrent sessions running at the same time, not able to observe in variety of topics.
- Perhaps a longer break during the full day session
- There was a lot crammed into only a few days. Even to space it out even half a day more might be helpful.
- Timing. The speakers were very rushed. I would like to have had the PowerPoint in hand to make notes on.
- Ending the days earlier.

Poster Session

- I would recommend breaking the poster session into the tracks so that there could be a better opportunity for those presenting to see other posters. Otherwise if it is all at the same time, you have to leave your poster in order to see anyone else's work and it does not allow networking.
- Stagger poster sessions - many participants had a poster and could not visit with other presenters and create more networking opportunities for those with similar or cross-topic interests.
- more time for poster session-- can only see/absorb a fraction in the 2 hrs allotted
- More opportunity to view posters. The days were long and it was hard for people with posters to find time to view others'.

Location

- Perhaps a more central location for the meeting. It is difficult to come from the West Coast as there are very few direct flights.
- Meeting location was sort of far from anything else in DC.

Slide availability

- Yes, the PowerPoint presentations could be available at the start of the conference and presenters contact information should be provided either in the participant list or under a separate document. There were several people I would like to contact and now I have to wait for the contact information to be provided at a later date.
- It would have been nice to have more detailed information on the program and speakers earlier in the registration period. I realize with the professionals on the program it may be difficult to do that.
- Slide sets should be made available.

General

- More focus on testing
 - More intellectual rigor and data. The same slides and data were used by a multitude of presenters.
 - Perhaps have a less tightly controlled message that seems to be targeted to the media.
 - Not so much "activism"...AKA The presentation from the presenter from Alabama...from New Zealand
 - Have the non-HIV leaders of hospitals, clinics, medical societies present. Invite them to do a roundtable on challenges/barriers. Too much just talking to ourselves and not meeting/engaging the folks who actually have to do this work.
 - The CDC HIV/AIDS presence during the meeting was somewhat weak.
 - Little more work on collaboration between public and private sectors at the local level. We have much better collaboration in international work than we have here at home.
 - It was really perfect! Thank you!
 - I would propose the oral abstracts session - the speakers were great, but it would be important to give the voice to a younger generation as well - they will be moving it forward in the US
 - Since there are many concurrent sessions of interest, it might be useful to have more extensive documentation (i.e., video) of the presentations in the breakout rooms as well as the plenaries
 - Financial/economic presentations on HIV didn't really help to answer any questions; only posed new ones...reimbursement of costs for screening and prevention and other items still looming...
 - None...Great Job!
 - None. As I stated before, it has been the best summit I have ever attended.
 - The need to be inclusive resulted in lots of people talking about "their issue" that often were quite obvious to most people or had little relevance.
 - I wish there had been more balance between government (less), academia/industry, and community-based programming (more). More emphasis on other impacted minority populations to match the focus on African American MSM. At the end, I realized the trend is towards medicalizing prevention and care (PREP, PEP, ARV therapy, reducing community viral load, etc) and given the nature of HIV traditional public health approaches are not enough. We need to continue to value and improve culturally-specific, community-based interventions and approaches.
 - None. As I stated before, it has been the best summit I have ever attended.
 - The need to be inclusive resulted in lots of people talking about "their issue" that often were quite obvious to most people or had little relevance.
 - Two Suggestions: 1) I would like to see more ACTION coming out of the Summit. This was a group of extremely knowledgeable, motivated, influential people and it was great to hear about and share the projects we are all working on. I think the next step is to collectively make a commitment, recommendation, or call to action so that this group is heard outside the AIDS bubble, i.e. in government/health care system, etc. 2) engage stakeholders that are not currently involved in HIV/AIDS. Executive Directors of hospitals and emergency departments, primary care physicians, policy makers in state and local governments, etc.
 - Too many tracks/ineffective reporting back. A better summary of tracks would be helpful. More time to discuss across tracks would be useful. Less time with keynote speakers who do not contribute substantially to the discussion (talking heads) I would say plenaries (with the exception of Dr. Koop) were not useful.
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Question 7: How will the information presented in the meeting, poster and plenary sessions assist you in the work that you do?

Research & Implementation

- Collaborators, guiding research and practice agenda
- It will help me better define the design of solutions my company can produce for the use of the programs that were represented there and others that are just now coming together.
- We will definitely give thought to bringing on the 4th generation HIV Ab+Antigen test sooner.
- The discussion of linkage to care has stimulated my interest in studying the overlap of linkage models with the medical home concept.
- I have already shared a lot of the stats and information with coworkers. It was such an inspiration to be with such distinct people in the field; it reminds me how important all the work we do is. It's also fun to brag that I saw Dr. Koop's last talk AND was in the same room as Dr. Benjamin.
- Provides basis for the next steps in research, practice
- Improve background in my writing
- Provided ideas to assist with completing a paper I have in progress. I will also use the information regarding what works and what has not been successful to guide my next research project on HIV testing.
- The information provided from the national HIV strategy plenary sessions will guide my efforts to align our statistical reports with the national strategy. In addition, I would like to replicate several research projects to provide data specific to our local area. I'm particularly interested in analyzing community viral load and implementing a survey with providers to determine access to routine HIV testing.
- Try incorporating some of the lessons learned and practices in my program practices.
- A lot of the information will be helpful in formulating ideas for an upcoming HIV prevention proposal.
- In providing guidelines on how to do continue with HIV impact evaluations. Strategies on how to use surveillance data to improve program provision. Different methods in implementing routine testing in clinical settings.
- We grabbed many ideas from the presentations and posters and will work to incorporate aspects of them into our own work. Further, we were able to make connections with colleagues to follow up with and collaborate. We have already emailed and exchanged ideas for several different projects

Networking

- I have already (and will continue) to reach out the contacts that I made there. I am confident that some partnerships or sharing of information will take place that will help expand my work. Also, I am already thinking of ways to incorporate what I learned from the conference into our work here and future projects. I am especially interested in developing a partner services department or partnering with a local agency to create and/or expand this service at our facility. In addition, I was very intrigued by the idea of performing HIV rapid testing in a pharmacy setting and see this is being a realistic plan for our facility. I hope to work with my team to flesh this idea out some and look into a project in the future.
- Many new contacts and experienced have been shared
- Increase professional network

Policy

- I hope to lobby the NIH to be more open to public health projects that does impact science and the public health agenda, The NIH reviewers are still not on the same page as Dr. Fauci
 - Policy needs.

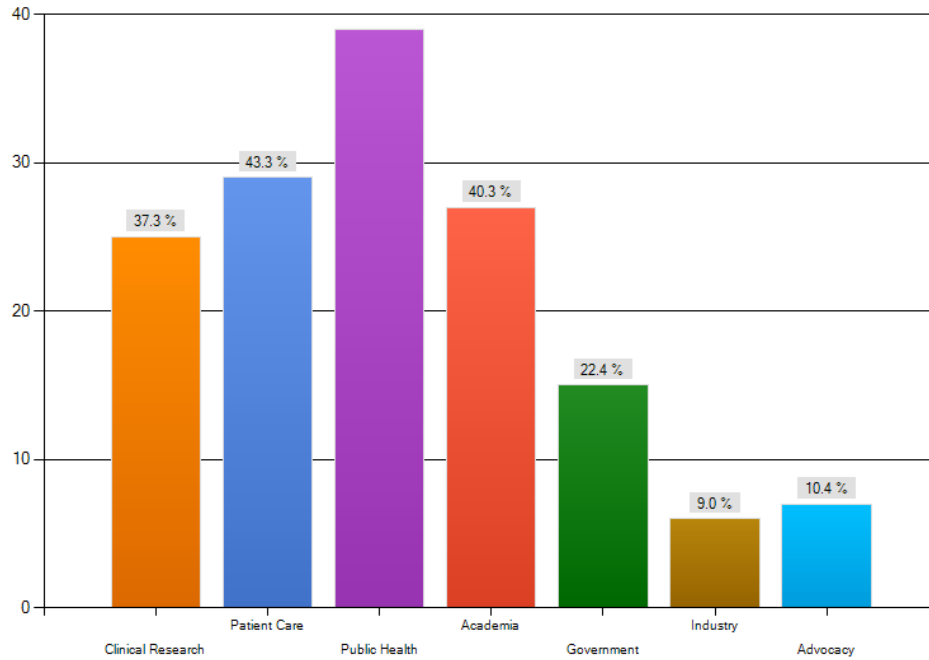
Educational

- Feedback to my colleagues when I return to work, but also especially as can easily refer to slides and poster sessions as needed! The information discussed was really very useful! It was also interesting to meet other colleagues from other states working on same issues we are working on in the south!
- I'm able to bring the information back to my staff and present new ideas.
- Educate my patients regarding the rest of the country.
- Great materials for educational sessions with health professional students and ideas for the plan of action (with the new mayor) to deal with the epidemic in the city.

General

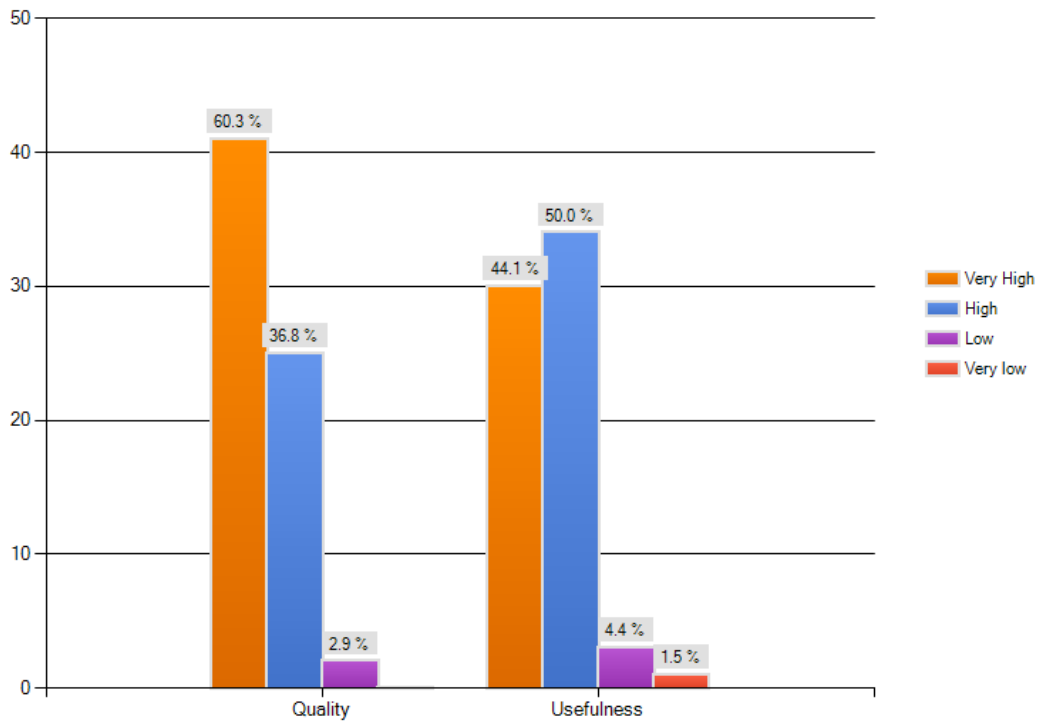
- More up-to-date on HIV testing lab tests, which will help me in clinical setting.
- Confirms biases.
- Will provide a basis for my work.
- It was good
- Have not quite figured that out, but there was a lot of information provided on PowerPoint presentations that I don't have
- I have already incorporated some of the information that I learned about in the projects that I am currently working on at this time.
- The information presented in the Summit has already sparked numerous conversations among colleagues at the health department and our community partners about how best to implement and routinize HIV testing in our community.
- Was happy to see several posters from our area and learn about interesting programs in other areas. Liked the poster session with food and drink - allowed for a relaxed and informal format.
- Yes, immensely.
- Better understanding of the impact of healthcare reform
- Too much to say here.
- Greater commitment to increasing HIV testing; sharing resources and making connections with others who have been successful in other places.
- It was great to see other projects in other states and the posters made it fun...
- Besides the specific content, the conference and sessions overall created more urgency for me to work for routine testing, tracking, and linkage to care. I am fascinated by the concept of community viral load, and Dr. Kimberly Smith's presentation was also important.
- Although I am now more knowledgeable about new trends in HIV, the most important thing I walked away with was the inspiration and the renewal I received. This in turn will help me work better with my patients and my staff. When hope is reawakened, this hope can move mountains.
- The Summit pushed me to consider ways in which I can incorporate tools/strategies that have worked in other cities/regions/settings which were presented at the meeting into my current and future practice settings. Deficits were also identified, providing some guidance into which way to direct efforts. On a personal note, the Summit revitalized my motivation to continue in the fight for increased HIV testing, access and retention to care and, especially, elimination of disparities.
- Greater understanding of wide range of issues.

I am involved in (check all that apply):



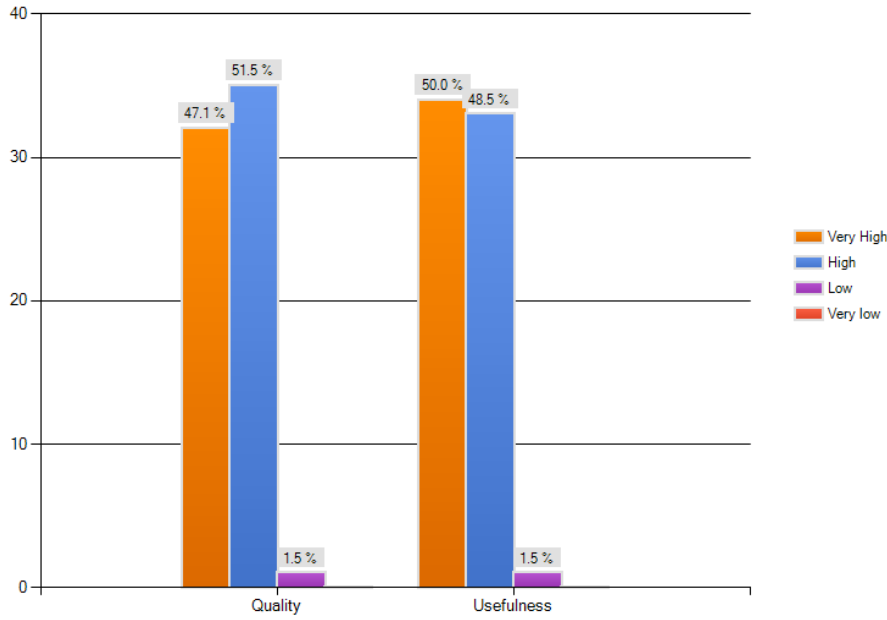
Question 9:

Overall, how would you rate the Quality and Usefulness of the PLENARY SESSIONS at the 2010 HIV Summit?



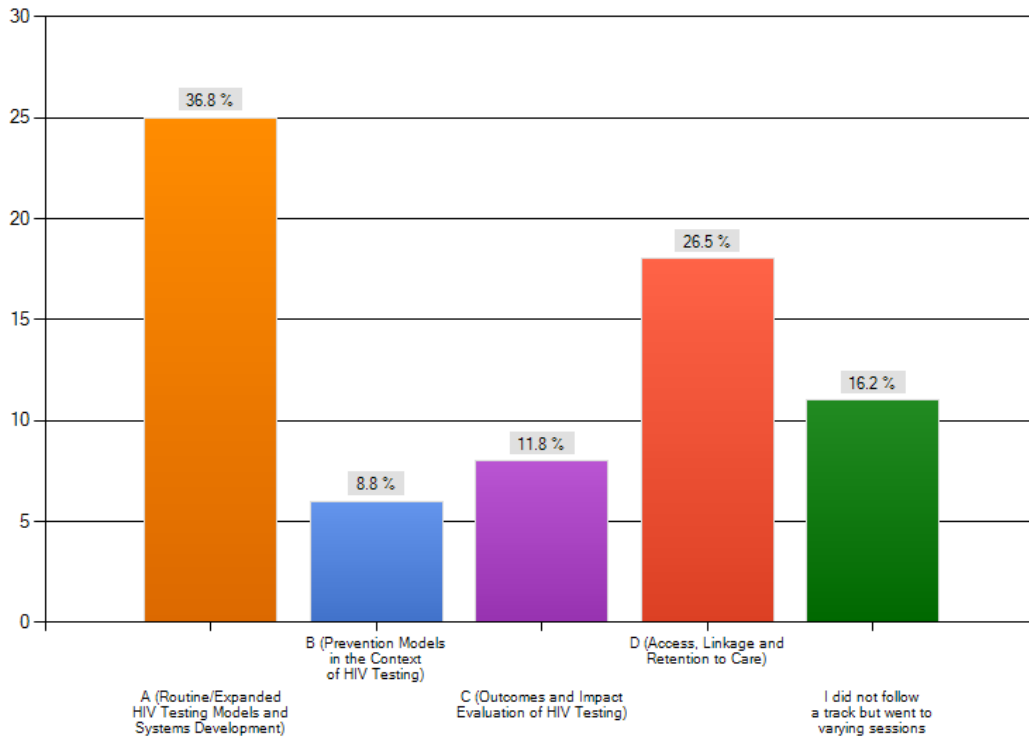
Question 10:

Overall, how would you rate the Quality and Usefulness of the TRACK BREAKOUT SESSIONS at the 2010 HIV Summit?



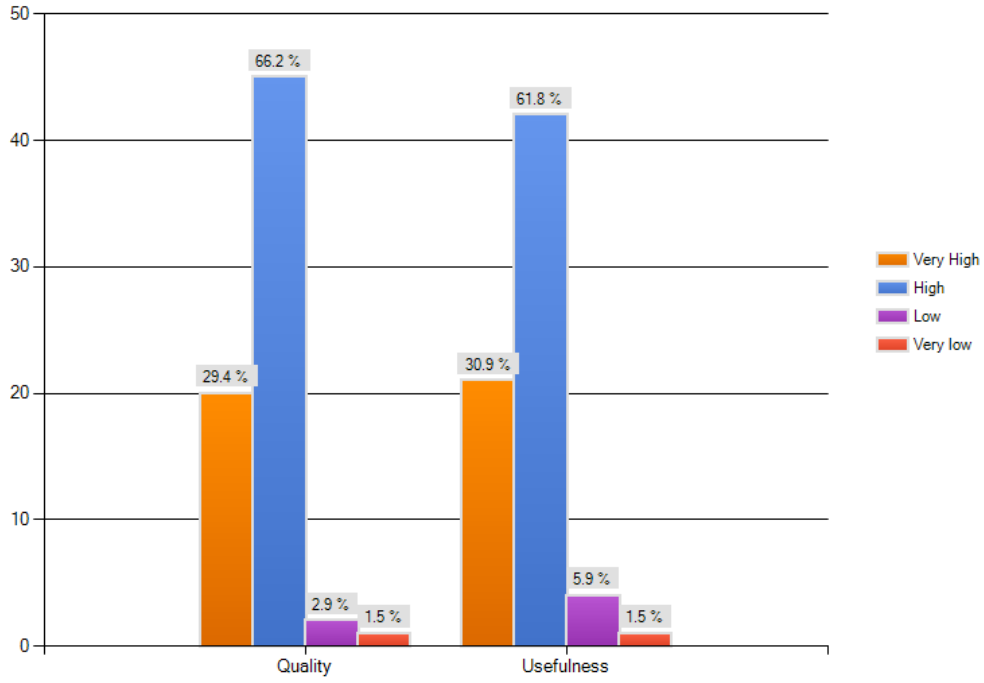
I generally attended Track:

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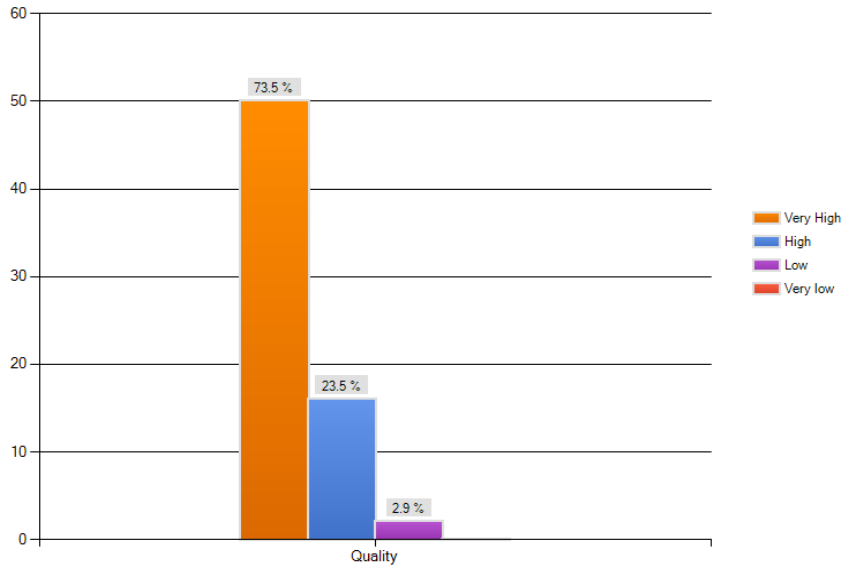
Question 12:

Overall, how would you rate the Quality and Usefulness of the POSTER SESSION at the 2010 HIV Summit?



Question 13:

Overall, how would you rate the Quality of the Venue for the 2010 HIV Summit?



Question 14: If you presented a poster, what benefits did you perceive that you achieved from the opportunity to present a poster?

- Disseminating real-world applications.
- Meeting individuals interested in similar work.
- Some networking, but not exceptional.
- I enjoyed getting feedback from the conference participants.
- It was a great opportunity to meet fellow attendees.
- Great way to interact with attendees.
However, attendance at the poster session seemed to be a little light, perhaps because it occurred at the end of the day between the end of sessions and dinner. Providing the appetizers definitely helped, though!
- Very good opportunity to discuss testing programs with others from different institutions.
- Others presented and I was an author on two
- Networking.
- I enjoyed the opportunity to present both of our posters. It gave me the chance to discuss our work with a number of people and develop relationships that I am certain will lead to future partnerships and/or sharing of information moving ahead. The only critique I had was that as a poster presenter, I was not left any time to view the other posters myself. I did leave my poster a few times to go check out other posters but this time was very brief. I would like to see a designated time where poster presenters could view posters without feeling guilty for leaving their own unattended.
- I think there were too many posters, and as a presenter with no other team members, I had to balance looking at other posters and talking to their authors and manning my station. There was such a wealth of information in the posters; I would have loved to go to sessions on many of them.
- Allowed me to attend
- Discuss data, many had not seen prior similar presentations
- 1. Showcase my work! 2. Share experience and HIV testing models with participants and other HIV experts 3. Networked and met other colleagues across the country working on the same issues. 4. Motivation to public abstract
- Always beneficial to become more comfortable speaking in the public arena about your research findings. Also a great opportunity to meet folks with similar interests in the field.
- I don't believe I achieved much by presenting a poster. Rather, I would have preferred to use the time to walk around and learn about the other poster presentations. Two hours is a long time to stand by your poster; I used about 30 minutes to learn from others about their work and presentations and achieved much more from that half hour than the 1.5 hours standing by my poster.
- The ability to network and find collaborators doing similar work that would be interested in applying for grants that will fund difference states to expand best practices.
- Contact with other sites
- Being a presenter allowed me to attend (need to have an oral or a poster to get approval). Met others doing similar work and was able to share ideas with them.
- I enjoyed hearing feedback and learning about several similar projects implemented in different areas of the country. It's a great way to network and build professional relationships.
- Suggestions for improving study/research and networking opportunities
- To help others obtain the same goals
- Networking
- Opportunity to discuss research and network with likeminded researchers
- We made specific connections that will help us improve our HIV testing events. But also, we've been asked to assist several other groups in their HIV testing events because they saw our poster and networked with us at the poster session.

Question 15: Do you have any comments on the venue that would help us to make future meetings a greater success?

Distance from DC

Unfavorable

- Once you got there it was a great location, but living in dc had to drive there 3 days in a row.
- Nice hotel, good food and facilities, but too out of the way from rest of Washington.
- Something more central to a city would have been preferred.
- Too far away from everything- difficult to access
- Location was a little far out of the city.

Mixed

- I liked the large hotel/conference center layout where all events and meals were in one location. I flew into Dulles and did, however, find that it was time consuming to get to the hotel. Perhaps it would be nice if site were more accessible.
- Too far out of the way. Nice place, however.
- It was a lovely venue but it would be nicer to be more in town.
- Great place but hard to find on a rainy night.
- Given that all of the meals were included with the conference (which was a nice benefit) the venue was fine. I prefer to be in Washington DC proper because of the walking and dining possibilities, but the national harbor place was ok. The food was very good, the rooms were comfortable, and it wasn't far from the airport.

Favorable

- The hotel and accommodations were gorgeous. No complaints at all. I also liked that the meeting was outside of DC- it seemed that everyone stayed on site for the duration of the Summit.
- The Gaylord is absolutely beautiful, the staff was very helpful. I think it is a great idea to be able to have a conference in an area that has sufficient enough dining that attendees (or spouses) have choices. I really felt no need to leave the property to do anything. It was very self-contained.
- It was great and convenient with no distractions from the city!

General

- Unfortunately the length of the overall day beginning so early and then going through dinner in the evening does not allow one to enjoy the venue at all. This venue was beautiful and apparently had fitness facilities and a spa, but the length of the day doesn't allow one to take part in those. I would advocate shortening the day a little to give a tiny bit of free time towards the end of the day before dinner.
- It is fine
- Congratulations to the organizers for a wonderful Summit. The event was the most well organized and informative that I have attended. Everything worked to a "T".
- Several maintenance issues in the hotel room, and hard to make early travel arrangements when the details of the agenda are so delayed
- Love that registration, food, lodging were all included in the registration. Love the idea of everyone eating together....a mix and match at the table and great opportunity to exchange ideas and meet new colleagues. Thank you for Dr. Koop and the current Surgeon General. Memorable and historic. Loved the hotel.
- Don't change it--the Gaylord was a wonderful venue.
- It was fun being in DC's little Disney World.
- It does not have to be so upscale.
- The food could have been better.
- I know the Summit was videotaped (at least the plenary sessions). Will these sessions be available to watch online? I would like to be able to access some sessions again!
- Please continue to provide scholarship opportunities as we would not have been able to attend without the support.
- Excellent venue, great food; room/lighting great.
- Loved this hotel!
- The venue was extraordinary. I want to thank all those responsible for putting together a summit that was so fantastic. As I stated above, the speakers were excellent and some have left quite an impression and imprint in my mind and heart.