

**HIGHLAND  
HOSPITAL**

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# **Nursing Barriers With Implementation of a Triage-based Public Health Screening Program in an Urban ED**

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# Research support

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- HIV Focus Program, Gilead Foundation

# Background

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- Universal HIV screening & Targeted HCV screening
- Triage based: screening performed by triage nurses
- Nursing participation critical to effective implementation

# Objective

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- To determine nursing satisfaction with the Public Health Screening program and identify potential barriers to implementation

# The Survey

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- Sent to all RN's in ED via email
- Survey Monkey, Inc.
- 55 questions
- Likert scale for satisfaction
- Designed by MD's/research team
- Domains: Perceptions, Attitudes, Satisfaction, Barriers

**41. I am uncomfortable asking patients their HIV status (or if they are HIV positive) at triage.**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- No opinion
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

**42. I am uncomfortable asking patients their Hepatitis C status (or if they are Hepatitis C positive) at triage.**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- No opinion
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

**43. I am uncomfortable asking patients whether they use injection drugs during triage.**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- No opinion
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

# The Results

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- 42% response rate (65/153)
- 75% of respondents worked triage

# Satisfaction

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- 96% felt that the PHS “benefited the entire community”
- 80% agreed that PHS “improved overall ED care”
- 57% were satisfied with the program



# Nursing experience

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- “Uncomfortable asking” at triage
  - HIV: 39%
  - HCV: 34%
  - IVDU: 45%

# Nursing experience

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- 72% felt that PHS “interfered with triage efficiency”
- 41%: PHS “adversely affected flow”

# Barriers to offering testing

<b>BARRIER</b>	<b>HIV</b>	<b>HCV</b>
Language Barriers	25%	24%
Lack of Privacy	22%	12%
Ineligibility	20%	29%
Too Busy	16%	19%

# Conclusion

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- Strong support for PHS
- Execution met with substantial staff barriers/dissatisfaction
- Goal: Improve satisfaction to improve implementation

# Acknowledgments

- Overcoming Health Disparities Conference
- Highland Hospital Nursing staff

