

INTEGRATION OF HIV TESTING WITHIN MEDICAL CARE IN A LARGE PUBLIC HOSPITAL SYSTEM

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New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation (HHC)

- Public benefit corporation created in 1969
- Largest municipal healthcare delivery system in US
 - 11 acute care hospitals with State Designated AIDS Centers
 - 6 diagnostic and treatment centers (D&TCs)
 - 4 long-term care hospitals
 - 95 extension clinics
 - MetroPlus (health maintenance organization)
 - Partnership in Care (HIV-specific managed care plan)
 - Home care agency

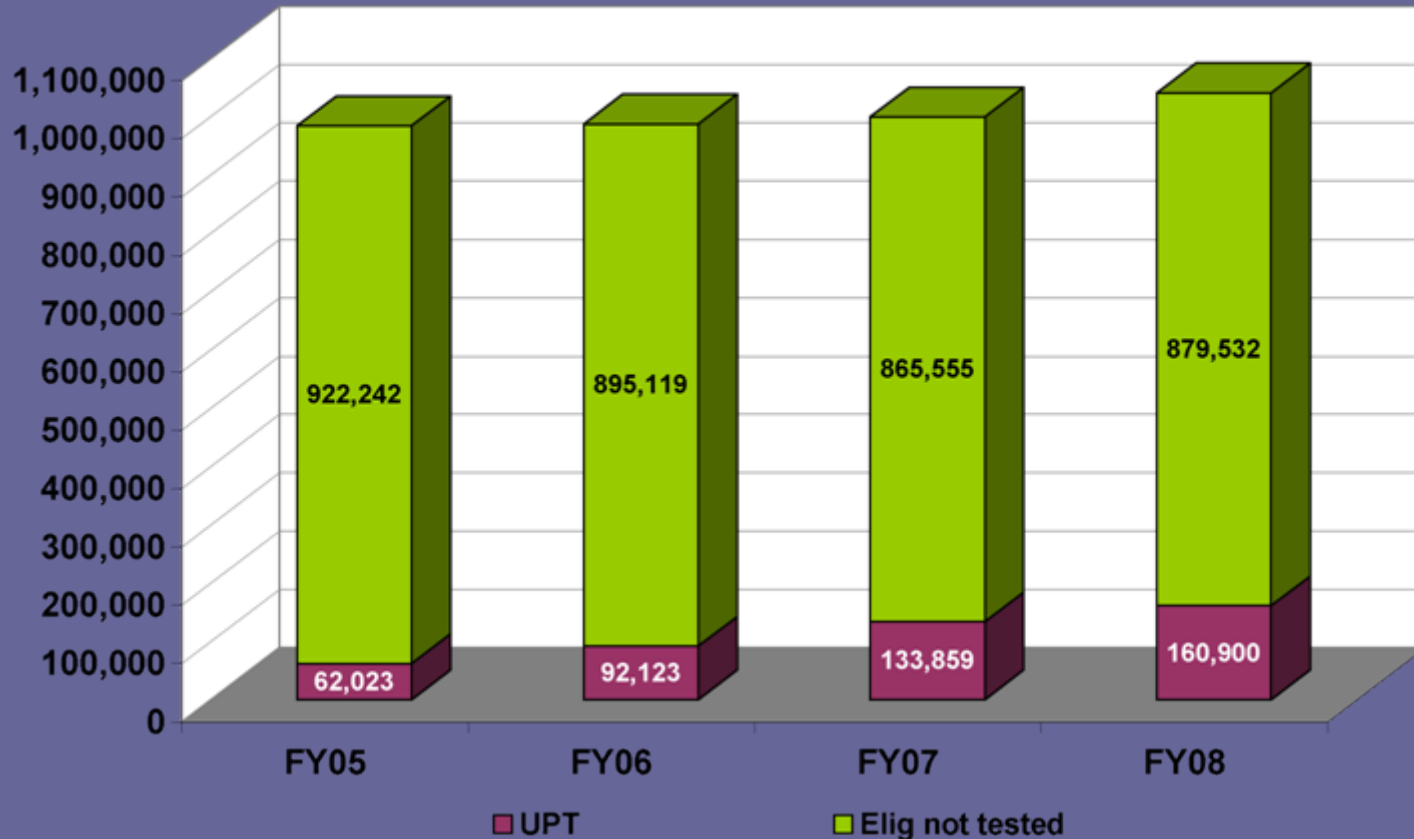
HIV Testing Expansion Initiative:

Integrate HIV testing within routine medical care

- Increase the number of patients who know their HIV status
 - *Test 150,000 unique patients in FY08*
- Increase the proportion of patients who enter care early
 - *Reduce the number of concurrent AIDS diagnoses*
- Once in care, retain patients in care
 - *≥80% of patients will have 2 medical visits in the last 12 months, with at least one visit in the last 6 months*

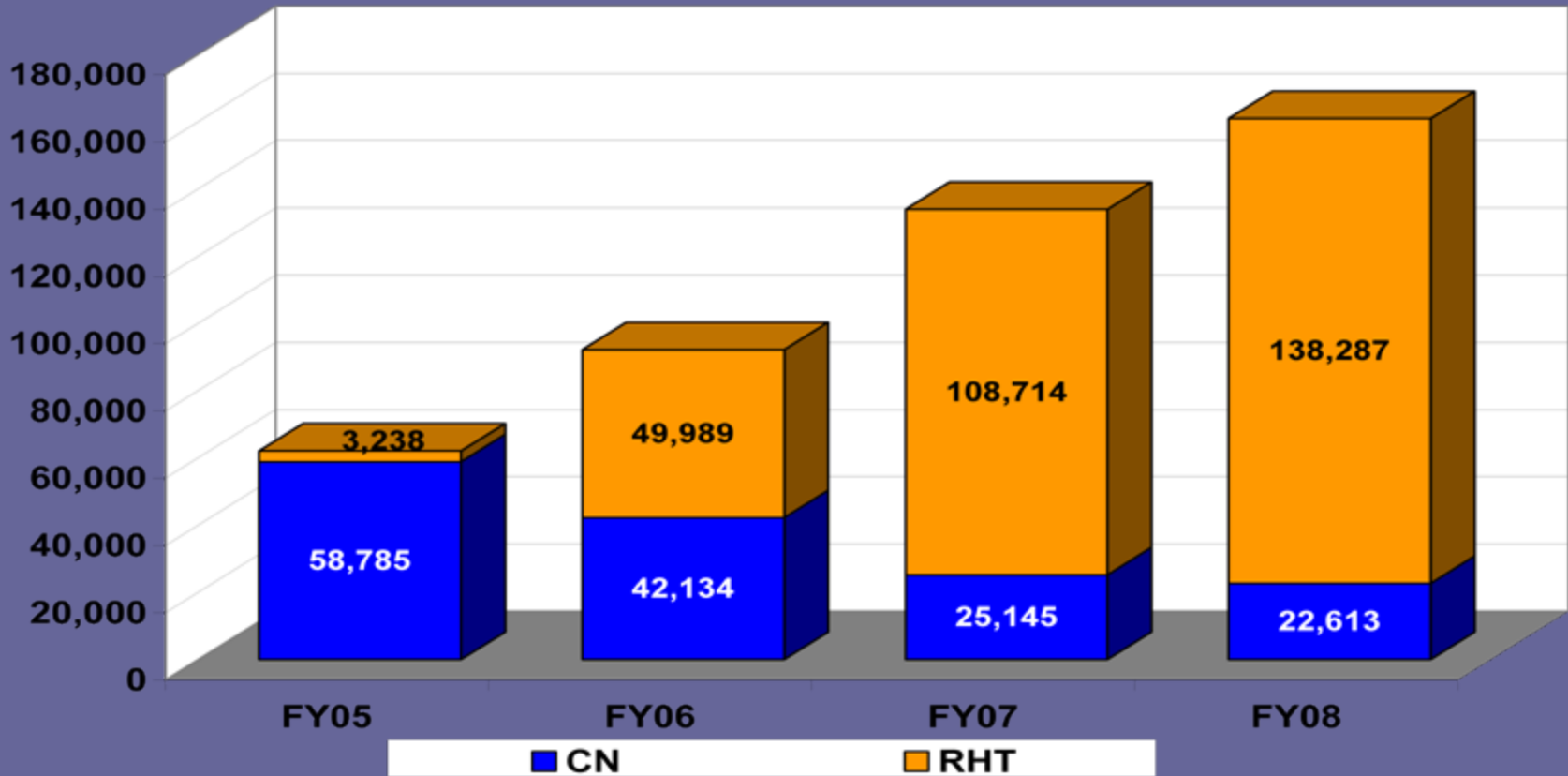
Proportion of Eligible Tested (>13)

Proportion of Eligible - FY05 through FY08

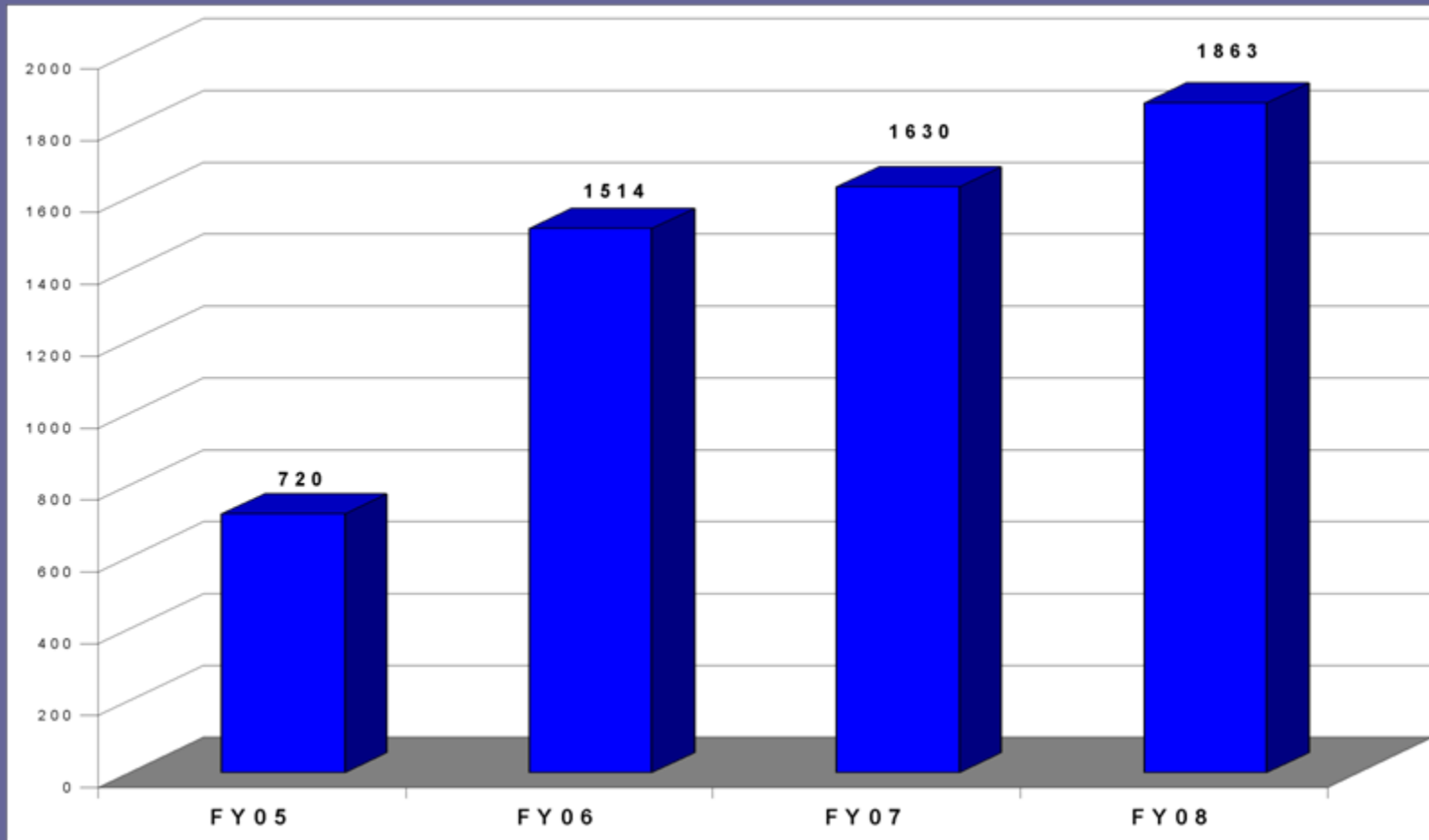


HIV Testing Progress

All Unique Patients Tested - FY05 through FY08 RHT v CN



HIV POSITIVE UPT FY05-FY08



Funding

- FY05: NYC DOHMH and NYSAI funded pilot in 5 ERs
- FY06-08: NYC City Council provided 3 million in base pay. NYSAI provided 1.7 million. Additional RW grants and special grants
- Medicaid billing (including ER)

Accomplishments

- Large-scale implementation led to the identification of a significant number of individuals who would not likely otherwise have taken the opportunity to test.
- Rapid HIV testing is now available at all HHC acute care hospitals and D&TCs (17 sites).
- All HHC acute care hospitals now offer HIV testing in multiple venues: ED, inpatient units and at least three outpatient clinics (including Dental, Medicine, Women's Health Services, Adolescent Health Services and Chemical Dependency).

Variables that impact the expansion of testing across HHC

Drivers

- Widespread use of a rapid, easy-to-use HIV test
- Consistent use of the streamlined HIV counseling model with regular monitoring and evaluation
- Clinical and executive level commitment to expand testing within the facilities

Variables that impact the expansion of testing across HHC

Inhibitors

- Number of clinicians offering and conducting testing at some facilities must be increased in order to continue the current rate of expansion
- Availability of interdisciplinary teams 24/7 is limited
- Lack of dedicated spaces for counseling HIV-positive patients in all venues results in logistical barriers for HIV testing teams

Summary messages

- Encouraging patients to know their HIV status is a message that resonates with health care professionals.
- The presence of clinician champions and well functioning, interdisciplinary teams can significantly improve testing rates.
- Inpatient testing provides significant opportunities as well as challenges in complex teaching facilities.
- Best practices for successful expansion of HIV testing will look different at each facility – one size does not fit all.
- Written informed consent has not been a significant barrier to achieving exceptional increases in the number of unique patients testing for HIV.

Points for Discussion - Operational

- HHC identified a corporate-level, project director to synchronize the efforts of many facilities. What is the capacity for a similar role to be created within other healthcare systems?
- HHC has an organizational commitment and clinical capacity to test adolescent patients. What is the capacity within other healthcare and community based systems?
- Would eliminating written informed consent increase the number of patients learning their HIV status?