**OBJECTIVES**

- First, we developed an animated and live-action video to better inform Spanish-speaking Latinos about HIV and HIV testing.
- Next, we assessed the equivalence of the video to an in-person discussion with an HIV counselor regarding patient comprehension of HIV and HIV testing fundamentals.
- And finally, we evaluated if the video was more effective for those with lower health literacy.

**METHODS**

- First, we performed cognitive-based assessments to evaluate and refine the video with the assistance of 120 18-64-year-old Latino patients/clients and 30 Latino HIV test counselors at three community-based organization and three clinical study sites.
- Next, we conducted a non-inferiority trial among patients/clients at an emergency department, medical clinic, and community-based organization.
- Trial participants were randomly assigned to receive HIV pre-test information from a video or an in-person discussion prior to being HIV tested.
- Random assignment was stratified by health literacy level (lower vs. higher) by the SAHL-S.
- Comprehension of the HIV pre-test information was measured using a questionnaire.

  The **non-inferiority criterion** would be met if the 95% CI of the difference ($\Delta = \text{video} - \text{in-person}$) in questionnaire mean scores was < 10% decrease in the in-person discussion group’s mean score.

**RESULTS**

- Of the 150 participants, 63% were female, 78% had ≤ 12 years of formal education, 39% met criteria for lower health literacy, and 75% had previously been tested for HIV.
- Mean scores on the questionnaire for the video (20.4; 95% CI: 19.5~21.3) and in-person discussion (20.6; 95% CI: 19.7~21.5) groups were similar ($\Delta = -0.15; 95\%\ CI: -1.4~1.1$), which satisfied the non-inferiority criterion.
- Mean scores among lower health literacy participants were not greater for the video group (18.3 (video) vs. 19.6 (in-person discussion); $p<0.30$).

**CONCLUSIONS**

Among Spanish-speaking Latinos the video is a reasonable substitute for an in-person discussion in terms of patient comprehension of HIV pre-test fundamentals, but does not demonstrate an advantage among those with lower health literacy.