

MISSED OPPORTUNITIES IN HIV TESTING IN NEW YORK CITY

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Background

National and local recommendations promote HIV testing in New York City

- **2004:** New York City (NYC) introduces a policy to improve New Yorkers' health in ten steps—one of which is “**Know your HIV status.**”
- **2006:**
 - The NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) **funds expanded HIV testing activities.**
 - The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) **recommends routine HIV screening** in healthcare settings for all patients aged 13-64 years.
- **2010:** New York State (NYS) law **mandates the offer of an HIV test** to all patients aged 13-64 receiving hospital and primary care services, with limited exceptions.

Methods

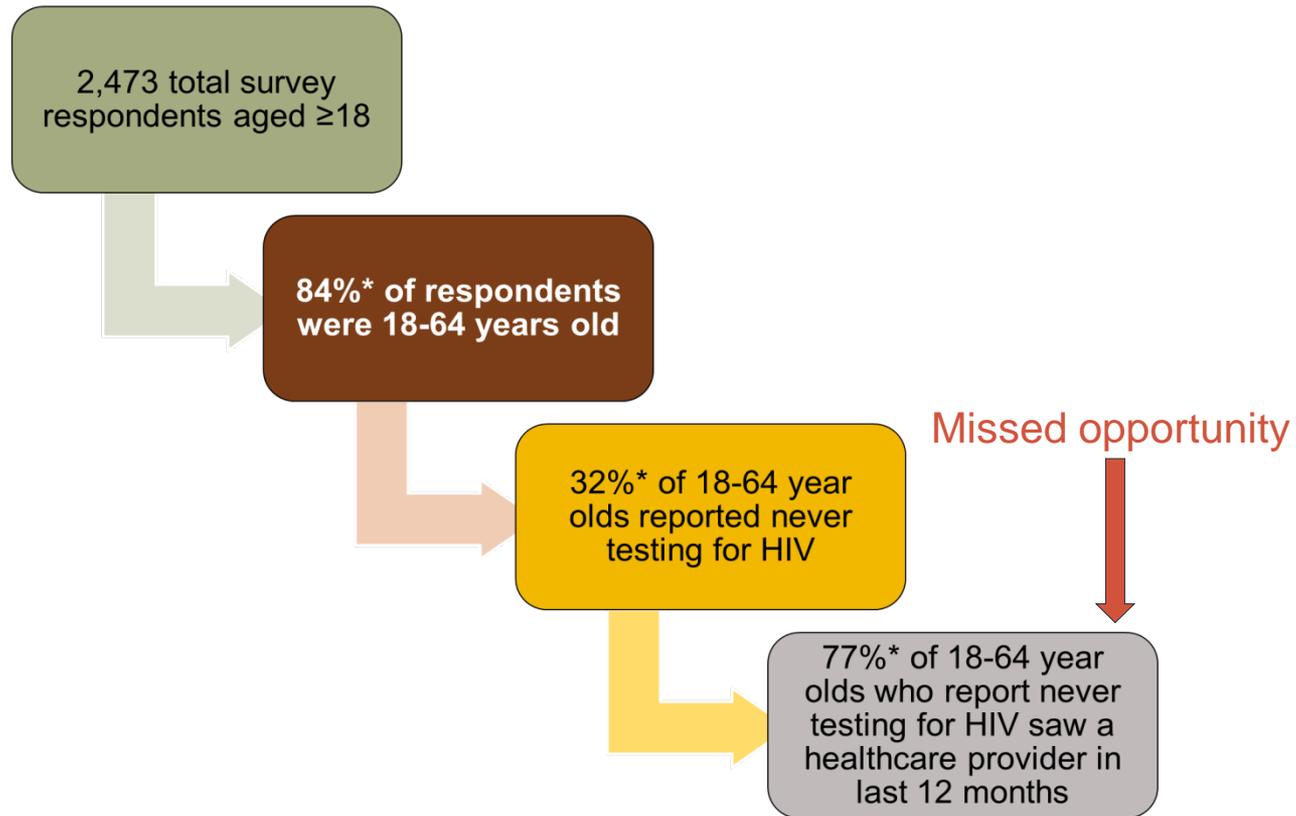
Evaluation of how well NYC healthcare providers are implementing CDC & NYS guidance

- NYC DOHMH collaborated with Baruch College to evaluate HIV testing activities in NYC
- First round of multi-year telephone survey: June-August 2011
- CATI interviews of 2,473 non-institutionalized, adult (≥ 18) NYC residents in English or Spanish
- Data weighted against the 2009 American Community Survey and analysis done using SPSS

Results

Are NYC healthcare providers offering all patients aged 18-64 an HIV test?

A majority of 18-64 year olds who have never tested for HIV saw a healthcare provider in the last 12 months



* Weighted percentages

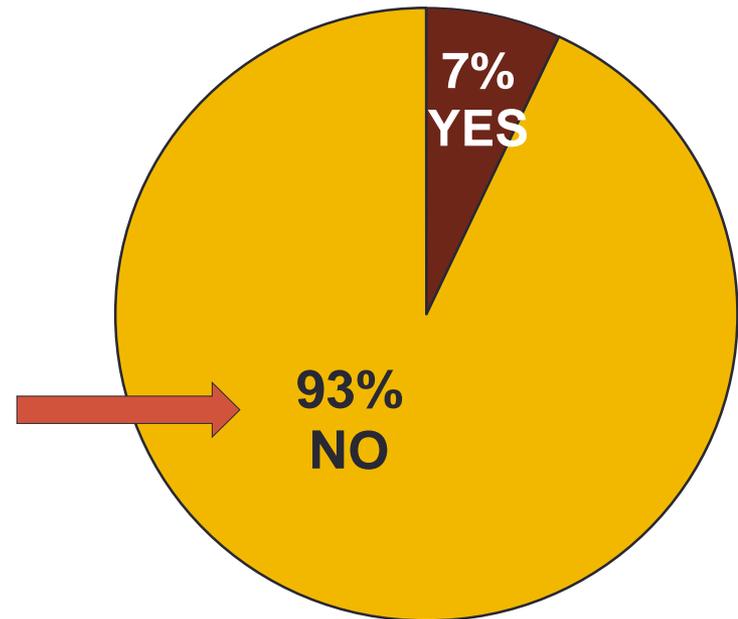
Results

Are NYC healthcare providers offering all patients aged 18-64 an HIV test?

18-64 year olds who have never been tested for HIV and saw a provider in the last 12 months were asked:

“The last time you saw a doctor, nurse or other health professional, were you offered an HIV test?”

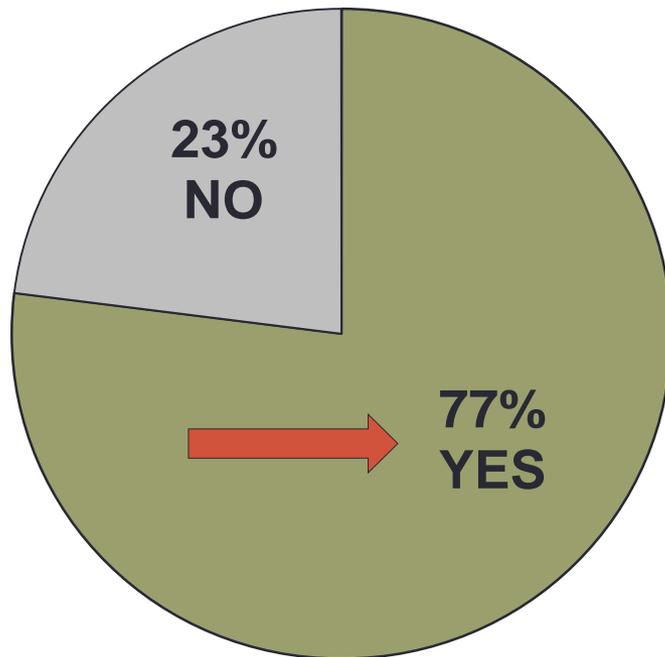
- ❖ Few respondents were offered HIV testing by their healthcare provider.



Results

Are NYC healthcare providers offering all patients aged 18-64 an HIV test?

Those who were *not* offered an HIV test at their last healthcare visit were asked:



“If your doctor recommended that everyone get tested for HIV, would you get an HIV test?”

- ❖ **Most patients would accept an HIV test offer.**

Limitations

- Data collection occurred less than one year after the change in NYS HIV testing law
- The survey was only conducted in English and Spanish
- Small sample sizes for some demographic groups
- Accuracy of respondent memory

Conclusions

Incomplete implementation of CDC & NYS recommendations represents **missed opportunities** for NYC residents to learn their HIV status.

- Full provider implementation of an HIV test offer to all patients aged 18-64 in healthcare settings could lead to an estimated:
 1. **955,000** 18-64 year old NYC residents **testing for HIV for the first time**, and
 2. **6,500 persons*** with previously undiagnosed HIV infection **learning their HIV status** and promptly linking to care

* Estimate assumes a testing seropositivity of 0.6%, equivalent to the 2011 NYC DOHMH funded HIV testing contract seropositivity.

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Additional Slides

Overall Survey Sample Demographics

- Gender
 - 47% male, 53% female
- Race/ethnicity
 - 27% Hispanic
 - 72% non-Hispanic
 - 30% Black, 53% White
- Age distribution
 - 12% 18 to 24 years
 - 41% 25 to 44 years
 - 31% 45 to 64 years
 - 16% 65+ years

Calculations

# NYC adults 18-64	≡	5,413,864 (2010 census)
x 32% never tested	≡	1,732,436
x 77% saw a hc provider	≡	1,333,976
x 93% <u>NOT</u> offered test	≡	1,240,598
x 77% would get test if provider recommended it	≡	955,260 additional New Yorkers aged 18-64 would be HIV tested if their healthcare providers implemented the mandate of the law