

HIV Partner Notification by the health care provider: results from STI clinic Amsterdam

Authors: T. Heijman¹, F. van den Heuvel¹, E. Tahar Kooijman¹, M. van Rooijen¹, G. de Bree², E. Hoornenborg¹, A. Hogewoning¹, M. Dijkstra¹, M. Schim van de Loeff^{1,2}

1. Department of infectious diseases, Public Health Service of Amsterdam, the Netherlands
2. Amsterdam UMC, University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands

✉ frvdheuvel@ggd.amsterdam.nl

Background

Partner notification (PN) is effective in detecting HIV in persons unaware of their HIV infection. The STI clinic of the Public Health Service (PHS) of Amsterdam has intensified PN since 2017.

Objective

To increase the uptake of testing by sexual partners at risk (SPAR) for HIV at the STI clinic by intensifying PN and actively offering notification by the provider. We compare HIV test positivity ratio from 2010 to that of 2018 and present the outcomes of PN in 2018.

Conclusion

- When the HIV test positivity ratio is decreasing, more effort is necessary to reach the remaining undiagnosed population
- Any type of PN (especially provider notification) is an important tool in HIV elimination
- Invest in PN counseling and follow-up: working together with respect for autonomy and compassion for the index to improve the uptake of testing of partners at risk.
- Tailor the PN by offering multiple options to the index per SPAR.

Results

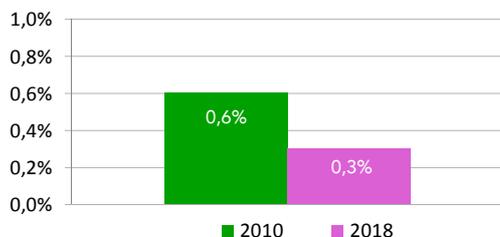


Fig 2 The overall HIV test positivity ratio STI outpatient clinic Amsterdam



Fig 3 HIV test positivity ratio among SPAR notified for HIV (by provider and patient)

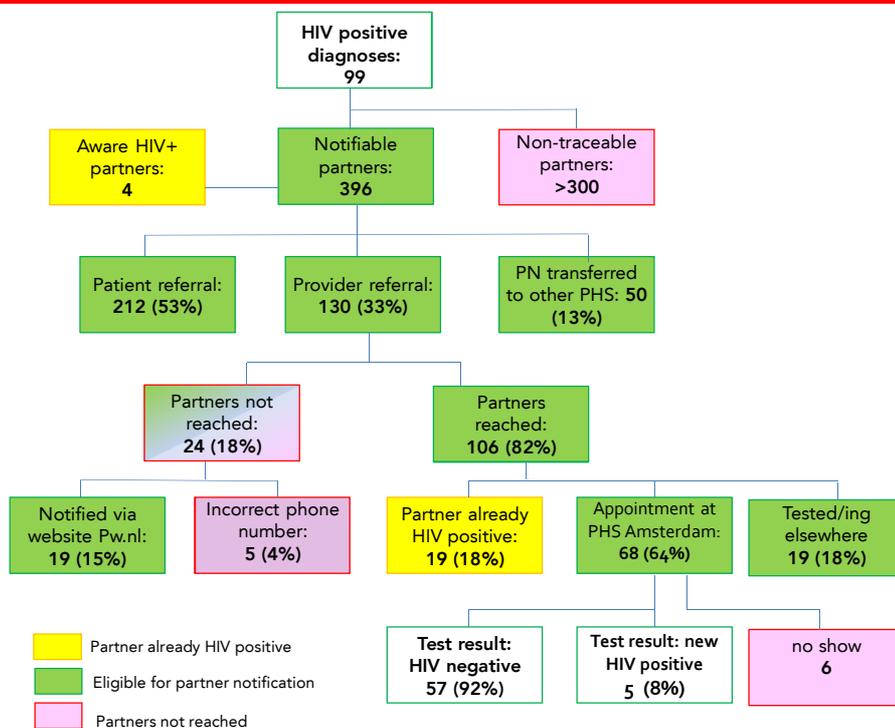


Fig 1 Results HIV partner notification, STI clinic Public Health Service Amsterdam, the Netherlands, 2018

Method



From 2017 onwards the recommended method for PN of patients diagnosed with HIV or HCV is PN by the provider. Index patients can also opt for notifying self, or notifying using a PN website. The importance and options of notifying the SPAR are explained to every patient newly diagnosed with HIV (index).

For each SPAR, index and health care provider decide together on the most suitable PN method of choice using motivational interviewing. Furthermore, a standard follow-up contact with the index is scheduled.