



13-15 October 2024 | Maison de la Mutualité, Paris

## The benefits of secondary HIV self-testing in early detection of advanced HIV Disease in City of Johannesburg, South Africa: Retrospective data analysis

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# HIV Self Testing (HIV-ST)

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It is a process in which a person collects their own specimen (oral fluid or blood) performs the test and interprets the results, in private settings, either alone or with someone they trust

Primary HIV Testing  
Client is at the healthcare facility  
Assisted  
Non-assisted

Secondary HIV Testing  
Index clients given the testing kits to give to the partner, sibling or significant other



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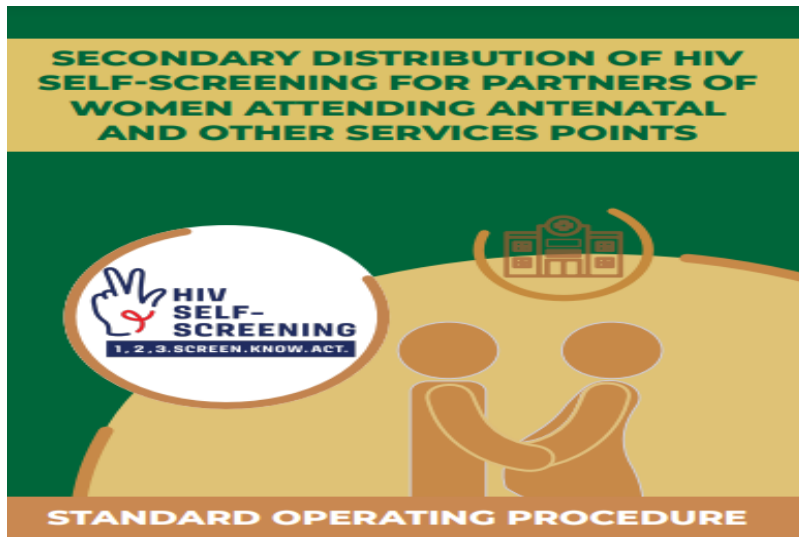
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# Policies that guided Secondary HIV Testing SOP and Implementation

- National HIV Testing Policy 2016
- National HIV Self-Screening Guidelines 2018
- National HIV Prevention Strategy 2016



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## Summary of the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)

HIV-ST

- Piloted in 2021
- Roll-out in 2022

Target population

- Pregnant women
- Breast feeding
- Both with Pos and Negative HIV Status

Other population

- Expanded to TB
- Family Planning
- AYP

# Background

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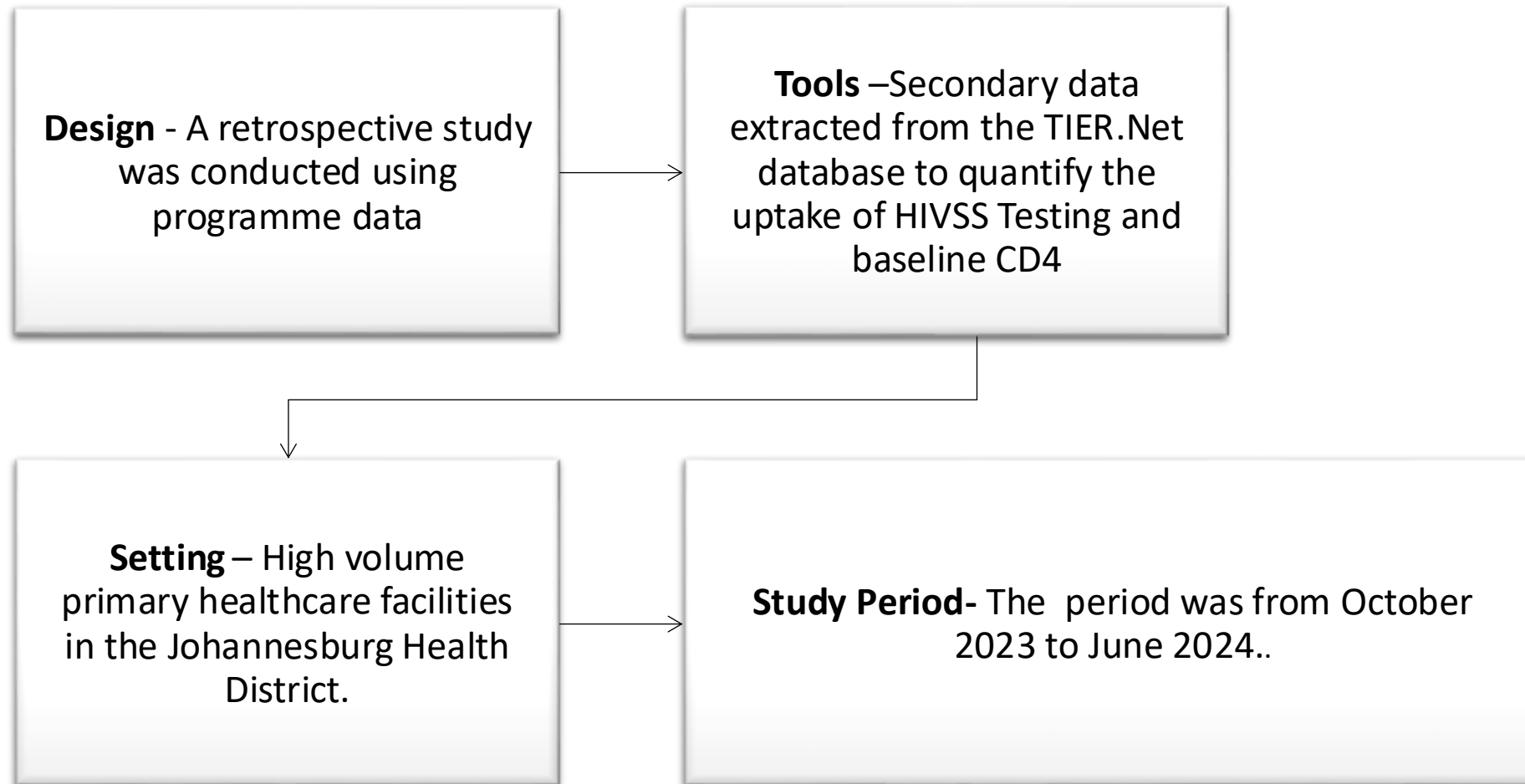
South Africa introduced HIV Self Testing (HIVSS Testing) in 2018 and secondary HIV self testing implemented in 2022

The primary objective was to explore whether secondary HIV-ST resulted in early identification and management of PLHIV with CD4 counts < 200.

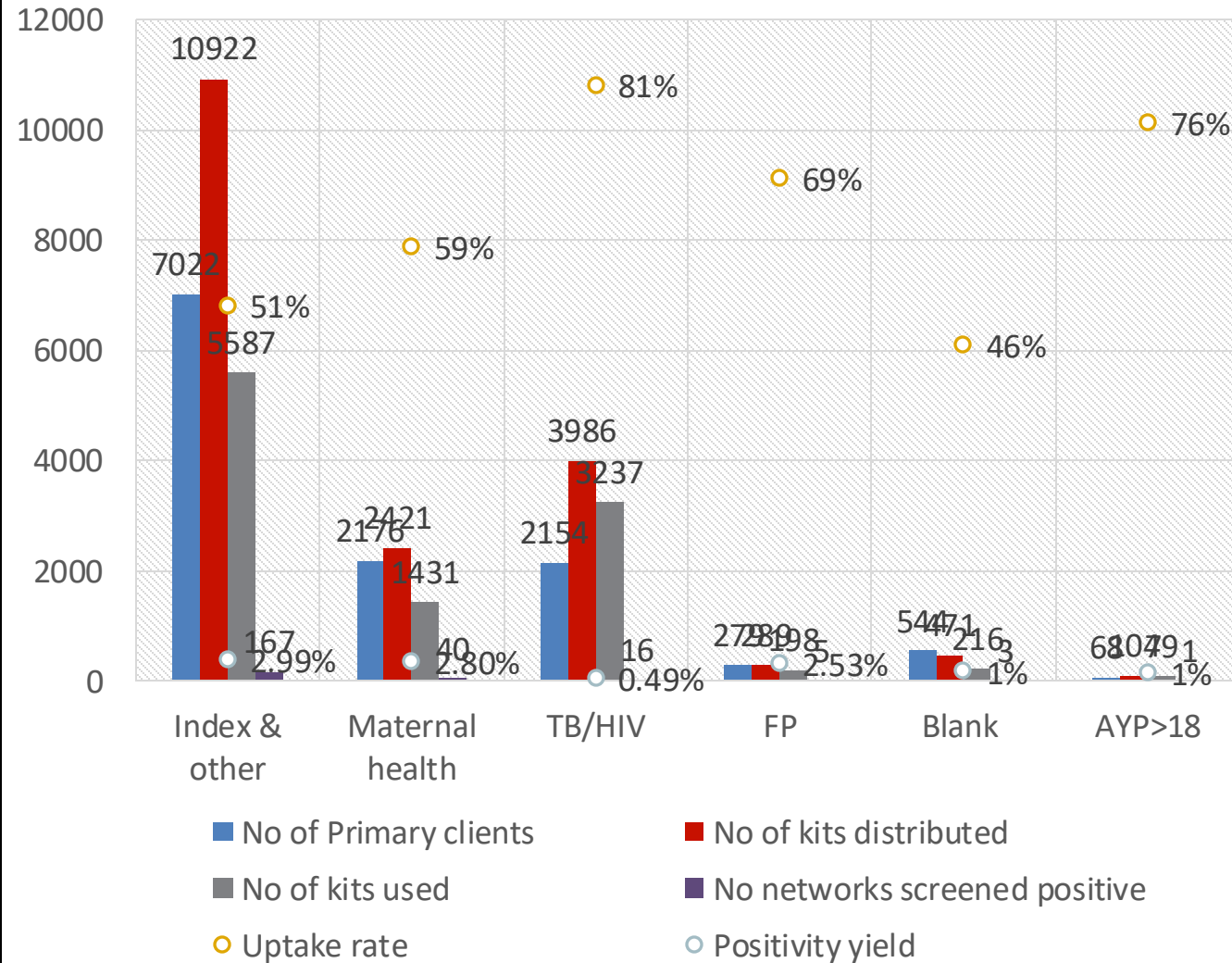


# Method

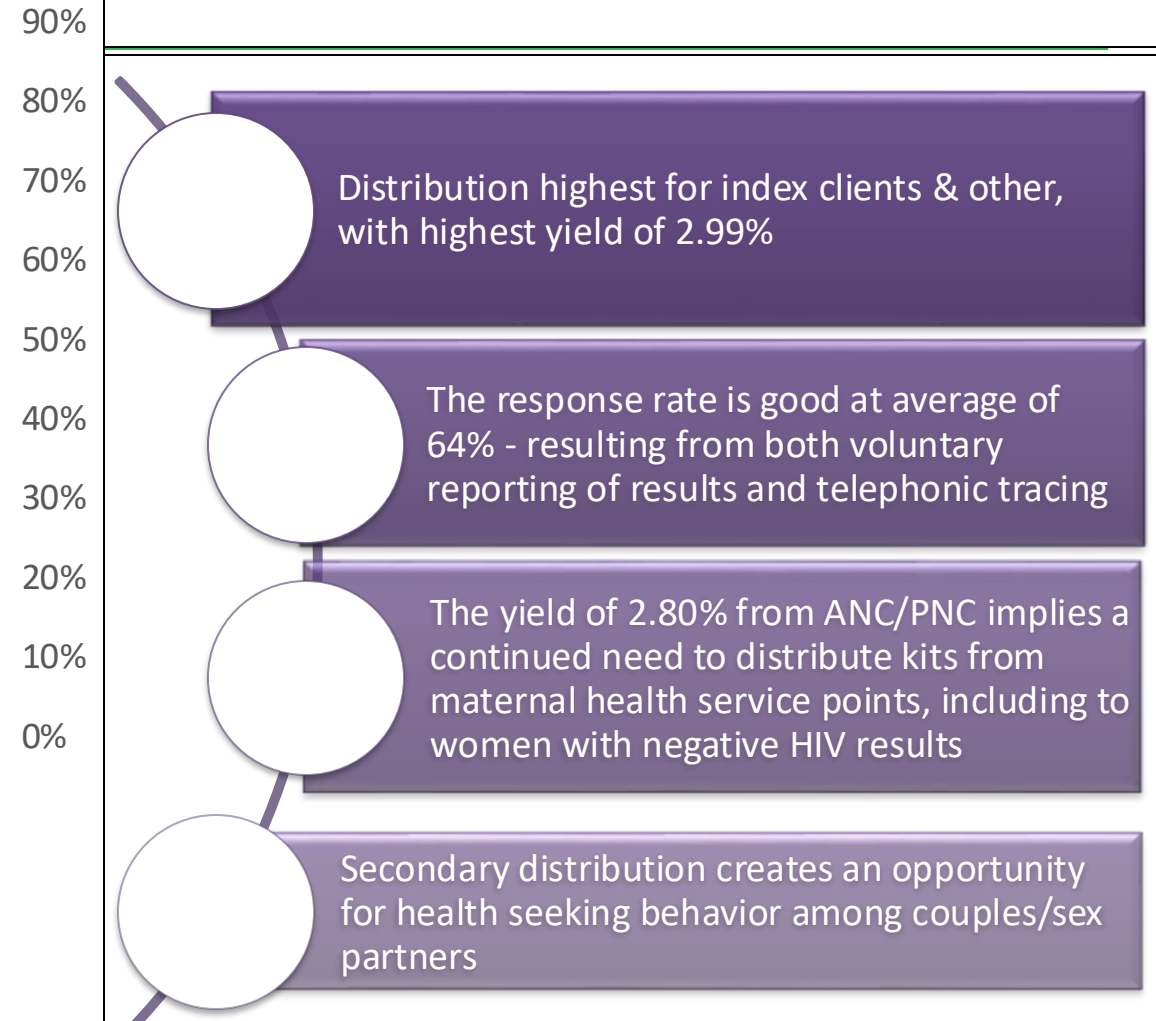
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## HIV SS Secondary distribution per service point Oct 23 -June 24\_ City of Joburg



## Overall testing results for the City of Johannesburg



53% Increase in positives identified through HIVSS Secondary Distribution

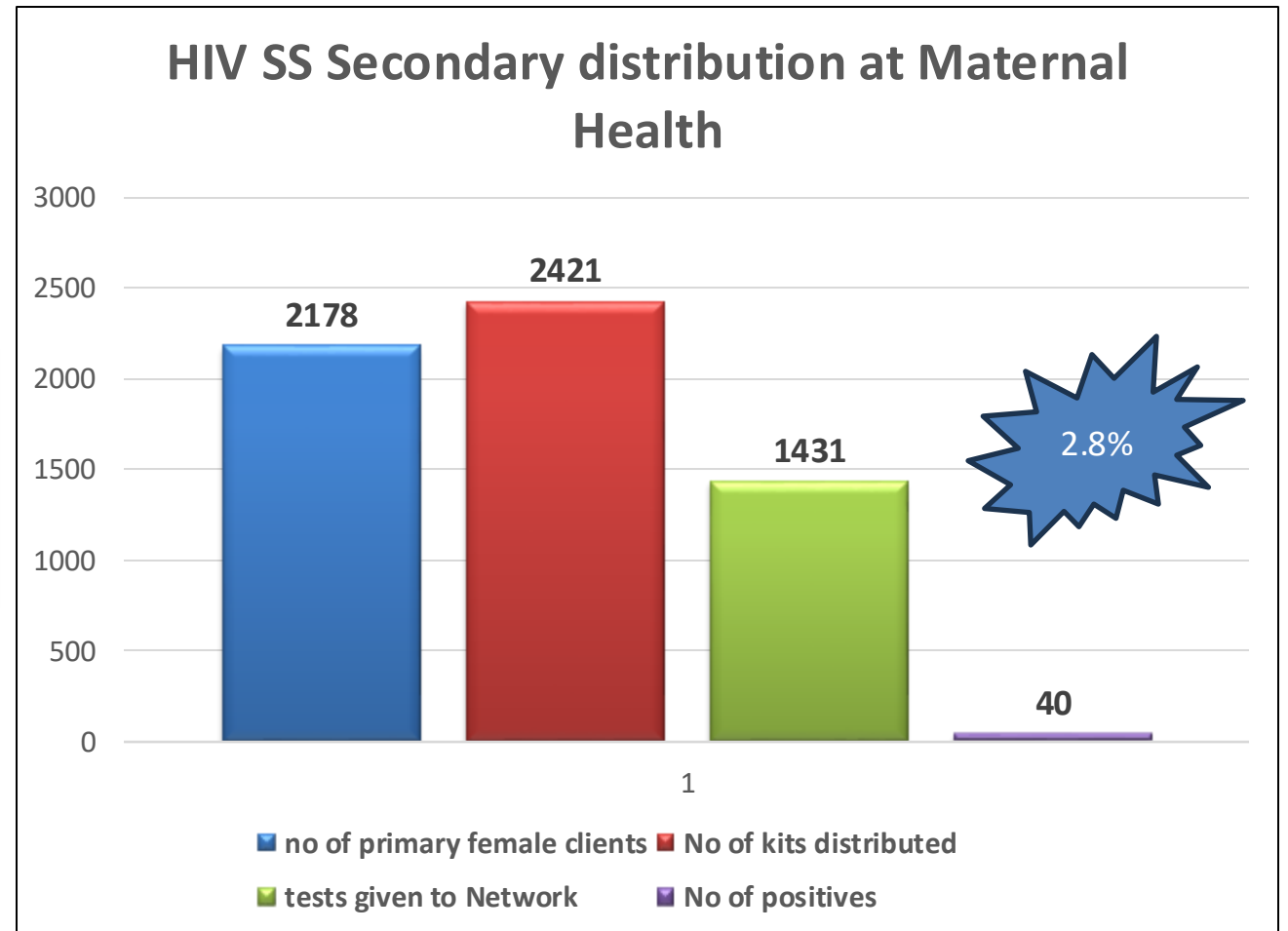
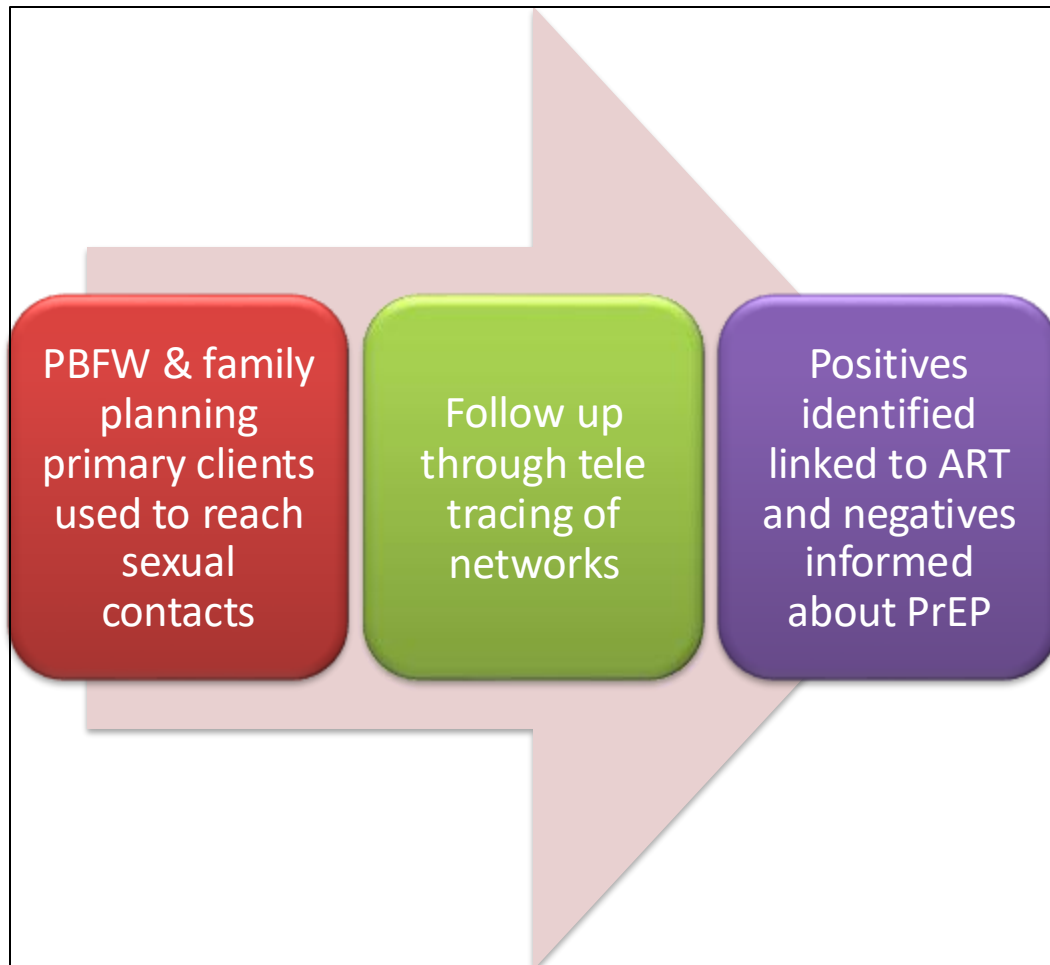


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# HIVSS Secondary Distribution at Maternal and Child Health



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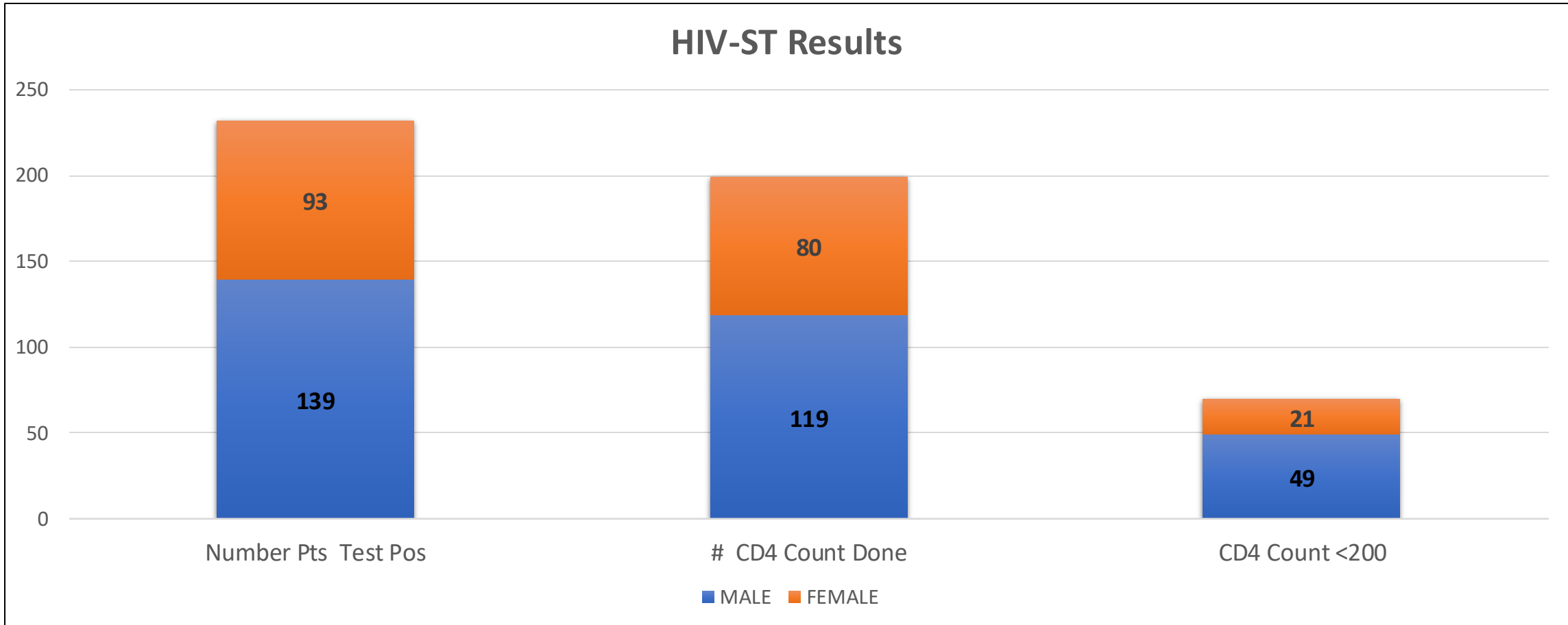


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# Results



The results indicated that most clients tested through Secondary HIV self-testing are males. 70% (49) of males and 30% (21) only have a CD4 count of less than 200.





## Management of AHD

- The 70 (35%) patients with a CD4 count of less than 200, all were enrolled patients under advanced clinical care (ACC) services.
- 70 percent (49) of patients are clinician-led cases (21) 30% were Doctor-led cases
- 90% of 44 patients are males with complications and 10%(2) are female

Complicated Patients refer to CrAg positive and co-infection such as TB, pneumonia, and co-morbidities of uncontrolled NCDs – these are doctor led cases.



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# Conclusion

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- Secondary HIVSS Testing, when delivered with attention to privacy, accessibility, and support, can play a pivotal role in overcoming barriers to HIV testing among reluctant individuals.
- 35% of the clients were diagnosed early with advanced HIV Disease (AHD) and prompt treatment was offered,
- By expanding the availability of secondary HIV self-testing in non-traditional settings, healthcare systems can enhance diagnostic outcomes, reduce the spread of HIV, and improve the overall well-being of at-risk populations, especially males, this coincides with study by Masters, S. H, et al (2016)



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# Thank you

