

Expanding community HIV testing and other approaches

Sir Nick Partridge

Chief Executive THT 1985-2013

Emerging issues for HIV testing in UK

- Ongoing need to reduce undiagnosed & late diagnosed HIV
- Current models make a useful contribution but there is more to be done
- Need for new approaches to help change testing culture
- Need for new approaches to help reduce the cost of HIV testing services

History of testing services

- Undiagnosed HIV in UK 24% and dropping (HPA, 2011)
- Late diagnosed HIV in UK (CD4 <350) also dropping
- Community HIV testing services introduced by THT in 2004
- Paid HIV sampling services supported by THT from 2009
- Free postal sampling service introduced by THT in 2013
- Home HIV testing to be legalised and regulated 2014
- Spirited initial opposition to each development by specialist clinicians, who subsequently adopt them

THT's community testing model

- Intensive stakeholder engagement
- Community located clinic
- Walk-in, no appointment
- Most targeted at gay or African communities
- Rapid test, 20 minute result
- Pre & post test discussion
- Blood test and fast track referral to NHS HIV specialist clinic for people who test reactive

THT's postal sampling model

- Self-triage online gives risk assessment
- Postal details taken and kit despatched
- Person takes blood spot test & returns
- Results given by text or phone (if reactive)
- Full follow up for referral into care
- Reordering reminders and check on ongoing risk behaviour possible

Integration within communities

- Community venues include:
 - Leisure centres and African community centres
 - Gay saunas, clubs, gyms
 - Co-location with National Health Service
 - THT community centres
- Supported by African/MSM community outreach services
- Postal services use targeted marketing (Grindr, Gaydar, African Facebook pages)

Results

- THT now responsible for equivalent of almost 10% of all MSM HIV testing
- 9868 postal kits sent out so far
- 6388 returned (64.4% return rate)
- 1.6% positivity rate (comparable to clinics)
- Significantly cheaper than traditional models
- Highly acceptable to target groups

NATIONAL HIV TESTING WEEK

22-29 NOVEMBER 2013

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If we all test, we can help stop HIV

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MAKE A PLEDGE!

we're testing



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5,007 Followers on HIV Testing Week

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It Starts with Me



National HIV Testing Week

- Started in 2012 as part of national HIV prevention programme
- Became European HIV Testing Week in 2013
- More than 100 organisations in UK supporting