



Diagnosed and Undiagnosed HIV Young People attending GUM Clinics Unlinked Anonymous Survey of GUM Clinic Attendees (GUM Anon)



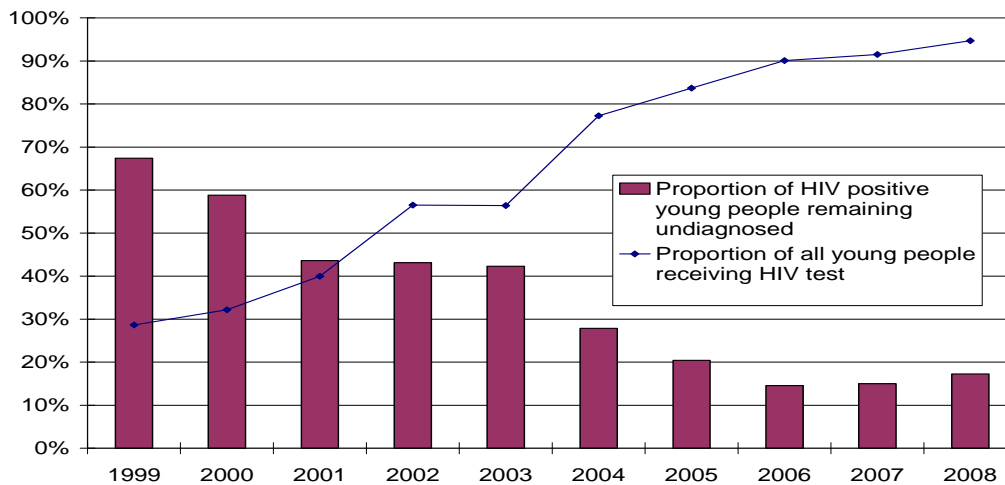
The GUM Anon survey is the only large scale survey in the UK to provide information on the prevalence of HIV, including undiagnosed HIV amongst GUM attendees. It uses the unlinked anonymous technique on left-over specimens taken for routine syphilis tests. Full details of the methodology, ethics, and results can be found at: http://www.hpa.org.uk/web/HPAweb&HPAwebStandard/HPAweb_C/1202115496235

HIV prevalence

- In 2008, 1.6% (30/1,871) of men who have sex with men (MSM) under 25 attending 15 GUM clinics in England, Wales and Northern Ireland (E, W & NI) had a previously undiagnosed HIV infection.
- Corresponding rates for heterosexual men and women were 0.14% (21/14,915) and 0.25% (60/23,851) respectively.

HIV testing and HIV positive individuals remaining undiagnosed

Figure 1. The proportion of young people attending GUM clinics receiving an HIV test* and the proportion of HIV positive young people remaining undiagnosed, sentinel GUM clinics England, Wales & Northern Ireland, 1999-2008



*Data excludes those that are known HIV positive prior to the visit. Unlinked anonymous surveillance takes place in 15 GUM clinics across England, Wales and Northern Ireland

- In 2008, of young people attending fifteen sentinel genitourinary medicine clinics across E, W & NI, nearly all (95%, [39,835/42,067]) received an HIV test, with little difference by sex or sexual orientation. This proportion has increased from 29% (6,650/23,215) in 1999.
- Anonymous testing reveals that in 2008, in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, 17% (20/116) of previously undiagnosed HIV positive young people remained unaware of their infection on leaving the clinic. This compares to 67% (31/36) in 1999.

Notes

- Some of the HIV positive individuals not receiving an HIV test may have known their HIV status but chose not to disclose it to their clinician.
- This data only relates to individuals having blood taken for syphilis tests. Undiagnosed HIV and HIV test uptake amongst those not have a syphilis test can not be measured through this survey.