



Public Health
England

National HIV self-sampling service

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Anthony Nardone on behalf of national HIV self-sampling steering group



Self Sampling vs Self Testing

- HIV Self Sampling: person takes a sample and sends it to a laboratory for testing
 - Healthcare worker is an intermediary
- HIV Self Testing: person performs an HIV test on themselves, and sees a result immediately
 - 6th April 2015: Repeal of the HIV testing and Services Regulations
 - hpa.org.uk/webc/HPAwebFile/HPAweb_C/1317141025695



National self-sampling service

- Service started on November 2015
- Co-commission between PHE and local authorities
- Service provider Preventx/MESMAC
- Governance: Project steering group with representation of Local Authorities and PHE.



Outlines

- Why self-sampling and how does it work?
- Who is using the service?
- Is the service reaching most at-risk populations?
- Is the service reaching first time testers?



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National HIV Self-Sampling Service
www.freetesting.hiv

2015 – **2016** – 2017



What happened in 2016?

- 84 Local Authorities committed to the service implementation
- £600'000 sum of value from Local Authorities
- Commitment from PHE to continue funding support
- Support from National and Local Campaigns

www.freetesting.hiv

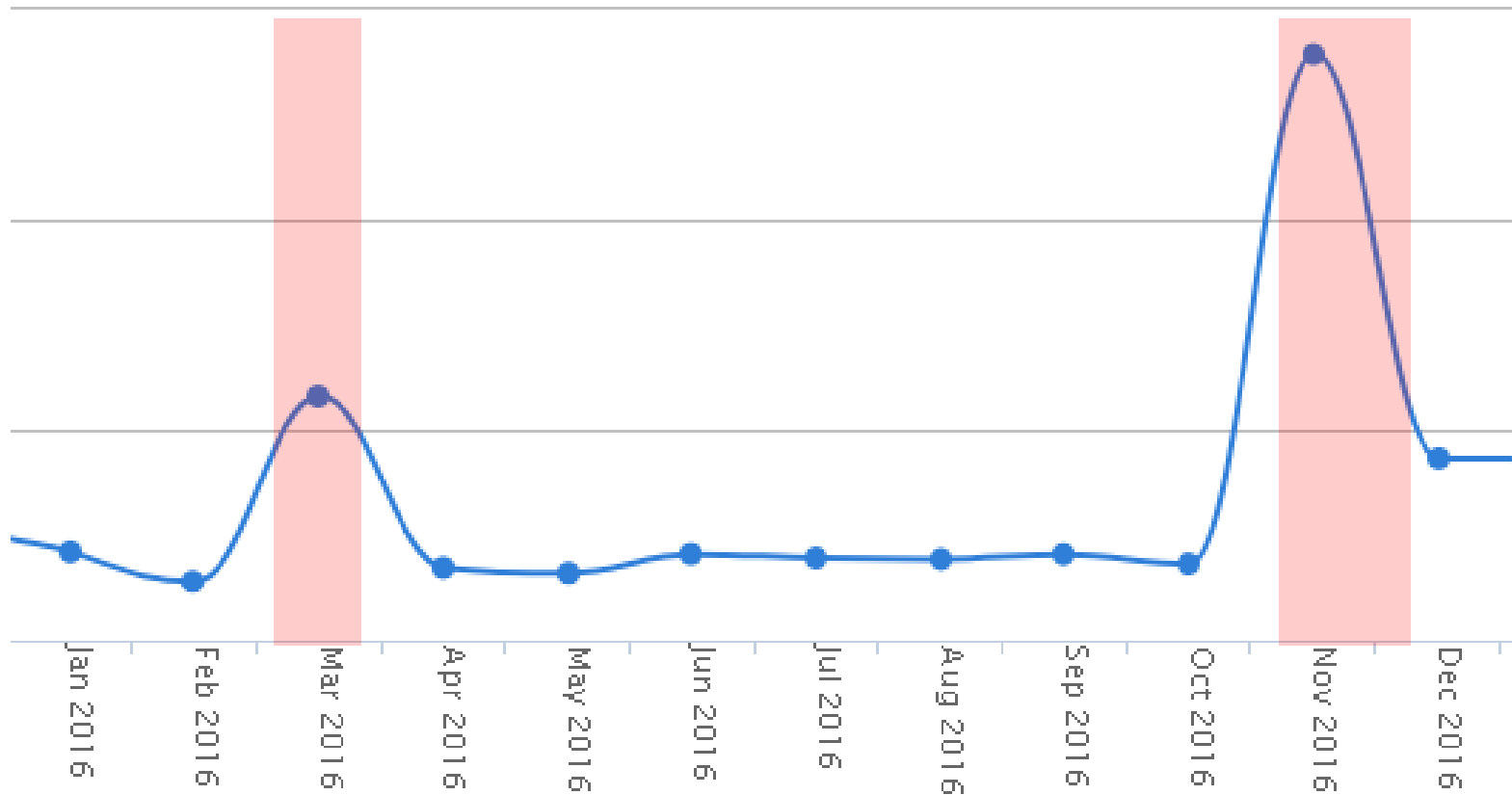


Service summary (Jan 16 - Dec 16)

Description	Total
Kits requested	40726
Number of kits tested	22085
Return rate	54%
Reactive results	239 (1.1%)
High reactive	159 (0.7%)
Low reactive	80 (0.4%)



Service summary (Jan 16 - Dec 16)





Service users (Jan 16 – Dec 16)

- Men who have sex with men
- Black African communities
- Other black communities
- Sex workers and those engaging with them
- Injection drug users
- Born in high prevalence country
- Condomless sex with HIV positive people or from the above categories



Sexual Behaviour and Identity (Jan 16 - Dec 16)

	Representation	Reactive	Reactivity
MSM	71%	180	1.2%
Heterosexual	27%	55	0.9%
WSW	2%	3	0.6%
Trans	0%	1	1.3%



Ethnicity: Heterosexuals (Jan 16 - Dec 16)

	All Heterosexuals		
Ethnicity	Total	User %	Reactive rate
White	3234	54%	22
Black African	1485	25%	27
Black others	577	10%	4
Asian	489	8%	1
Others	172	3%	1
	5957	100%	55



White heterosexuals (Jan 16 – Dec 16)

	Female			Male			Total		
	Kits	Reactive	%	Kits	Reactive	%	Kits	Reactive	%
Total	1816	14	0.8%	1418	8	0.6%	3234	22	0.7%



White heterosexuals (Jan 16 – Dec 16)

	Female			Male			Total		
	Kits	Reactive	%	Kits	Reactive	%	Kits	Reactive	%
Total	1816	14	0.8%	1418	8	0.6%	3234	22	0.7%
High risk partner	1617	13	0.8%	829	6	0.7%	2446	19	0.8%
Paid sex	121	1	0.8%	704	2	0.3%	825	3	0.4%
IDU	72	0	0%	137	1	0.7%	209	1	0.5%
Born country	126	0	0%	91	0	0.3%	217	0	0%

High risk partner: Have you ever had sex without a condom with someone who you know:
 had a confirmed HIV infection, or
 was born in a country with high rates of HIV(listed right), or
 had ever injected drugs (e.g. heroin, steroids etc), or
 was a man who had sex with men



Testing History (Jan 16 – Dec 16)

	Reactivity		Kits tested	
	n	%	n	%
Never tested.	67	1.0%	6724	30.4%
Over 1 year ago.	101	1.4%	7217	32.7%
Unknown	3	1.9%	161	0.7%
Within the last year.	68	0.9%	7983	36.1%
Total	239	1.1%	22085	100.0%



Challenges & Future Development

- **Added value:** Why only HIV? Can we do more?
- **Reactives vs Positives:** high/low reactives. Can we confirm true positives?
- **National vs Local:** Phasing into a local commissioning model
- **Outreach distribution vs Online distribution:** how to integrate with outreach activities
- **What about self-testing?:** The either/or approach.
- **Return rates:** is it what we expected?



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Thank You

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