

Tackling Stigma Through Storytelling – HIV Ambassadors Programme

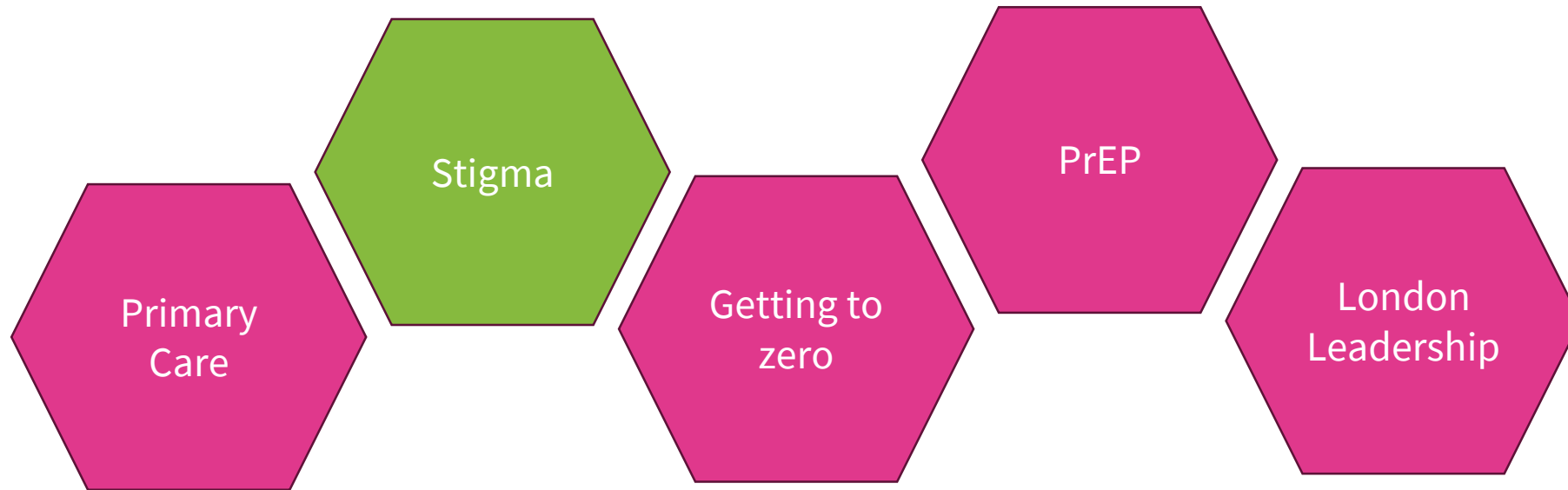
15th March 2024

Agenda

1. What are:
 - Fast Track Cities London?
 - The HIV Ambassadors Programme?
 - Other lived experience programmes at Terrence Higgins Trust?
2. How do we measure stigma reduction and what do our surveys tell us?
 - Health & Care
 - Police
3. Meet our Ambassadors
4. How have things changed in the organisations we've spoken to?
5. Lessons learned

What is Fast Track Cities London?

Work Programme 2023-25:



Ending Stigma



HIV Confident Charter

HIV Ambassadors



Aims of the HIV Ambassadors Programme

- Recruit and train people living with HIV to act as ambassadors, sharing their personal experience to help highlight and eliminate HIV stigma

- Educate the wider health & social care sector about HIV and stigma

- Support the HIV Confident Charter and its rollout and promote it to organisations

- Tackle internalised stigma for people living with HIV and societal stigma and discrimination

- Seek opportunities for people living with HIV to work within & outside the HIV sector

End of Year One

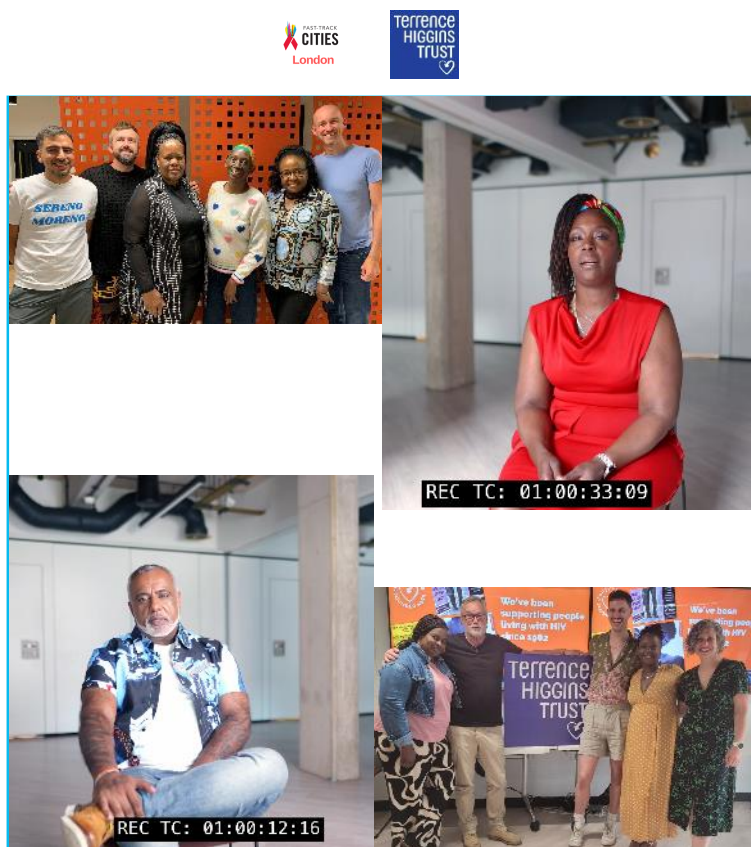
- There is a clear need for up-to-date training.
- Students are very engaged, and institutions are keen to have lived experience training throughout the years and curriculum.
- We have delivered to:
 - University of East London – Occupational Therapy Students (50 attendees)
 - Sexual Health South West London clinic (20 attendees)
 - UCL School of Pharmacy – Pharmacy students (400 attendees)
 - Metro Bank – Employees (30 attendees)
 - UCL Medical Students – First and Final Year Patient Involvement sessions x2 (18 attendees)
 - Trainee Nurses at St George's Hospital
 - Look Ahead Social Care staff
 - GP trainees St George's Hospital (20 attendees)
- We want to expand to further organisations within the sector, focusing on dentists, midwives, and care homes.

Lived Experience Programmes at Terrence Higgins Trust

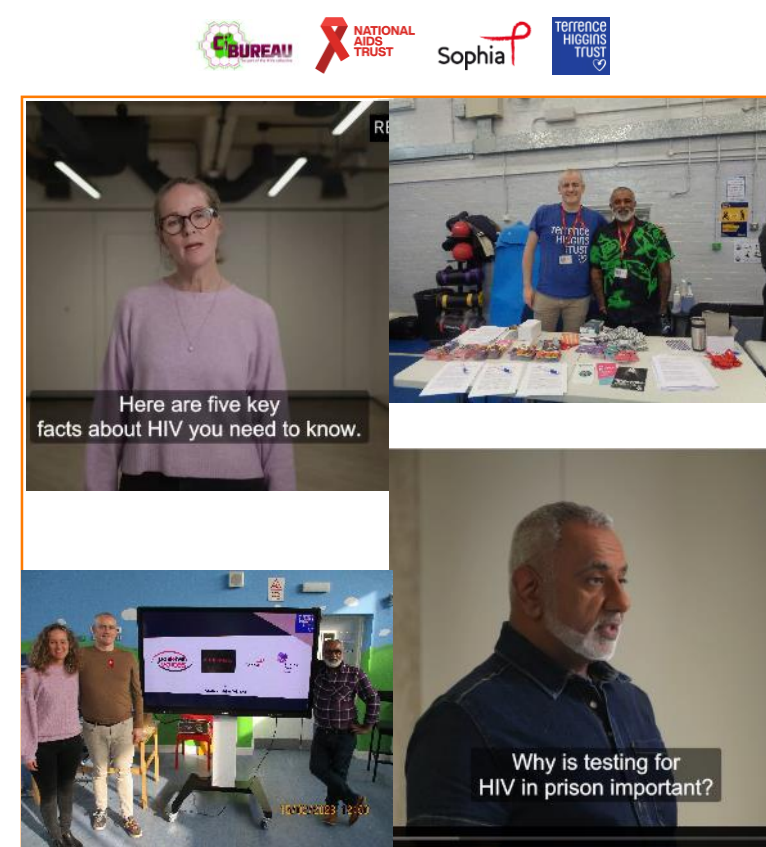
Positive Voices



London HIV Ambassadors



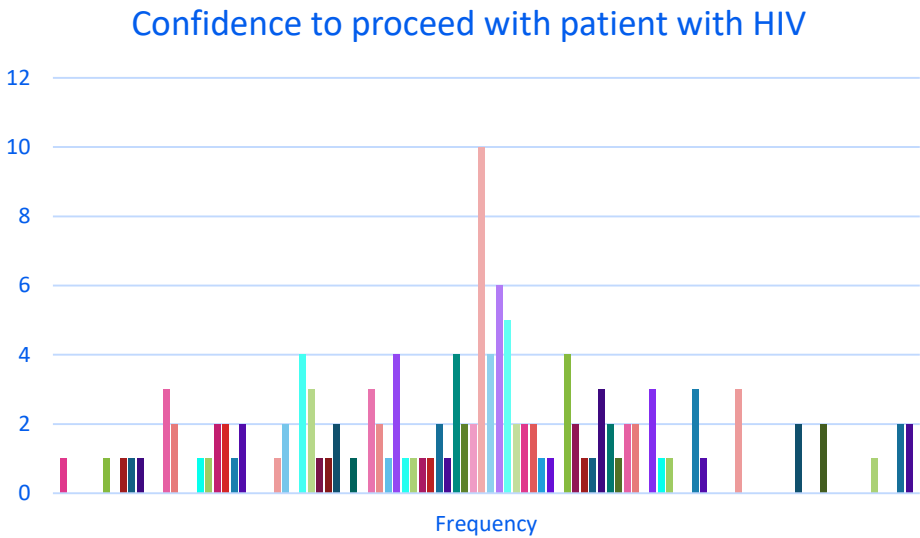
HIV Health Equity & Justice



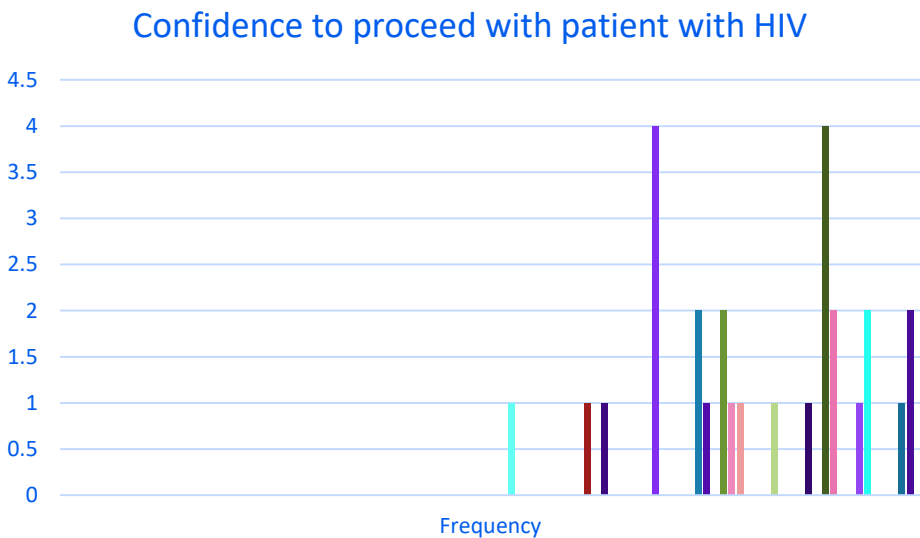
Health & Care



When meeting someone in your care/at work that tells you they are living with HIV, how confident do you currently feel about proceeding with that discussion? (1-100)

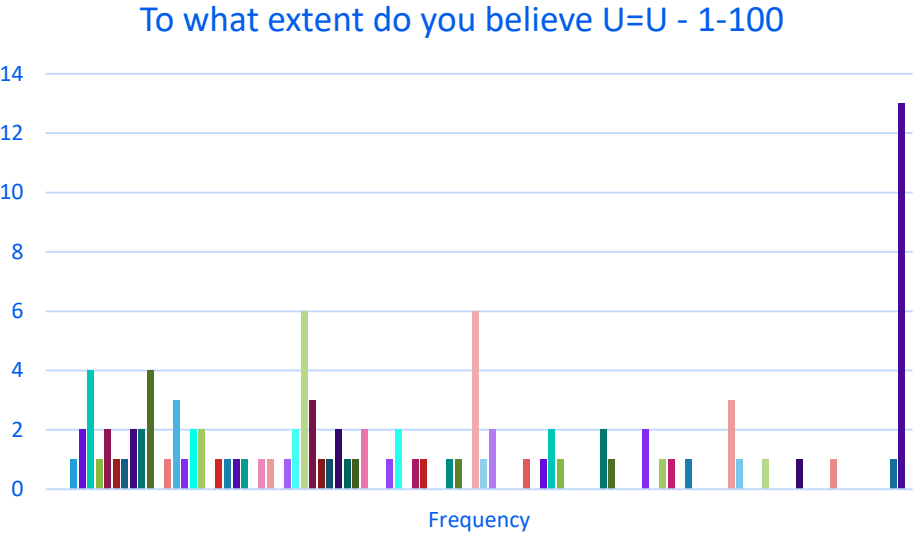


Pre-session
Average: 47.35

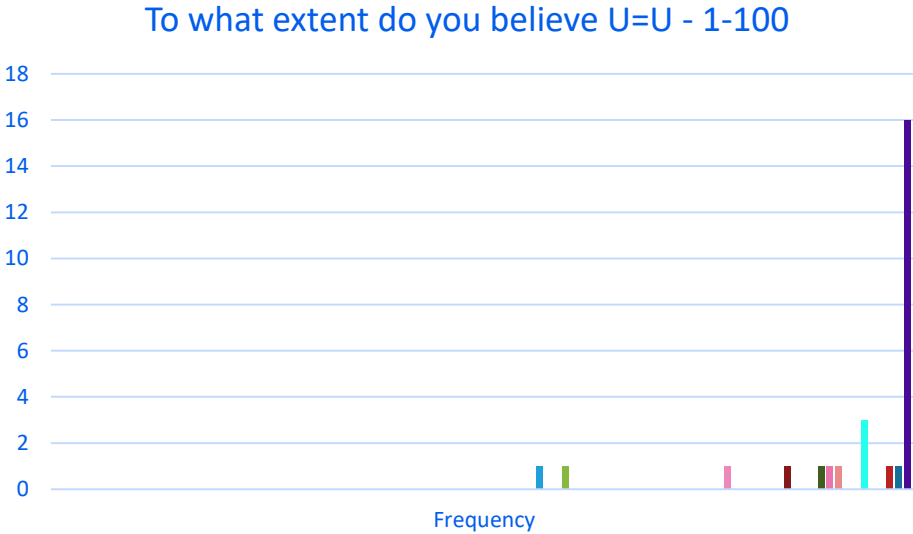


Post-session
Average: 76.57

To what extent do you believe the following statement? There is zero risk of someone who is taking effective HIV medication passing on HIV through sex.

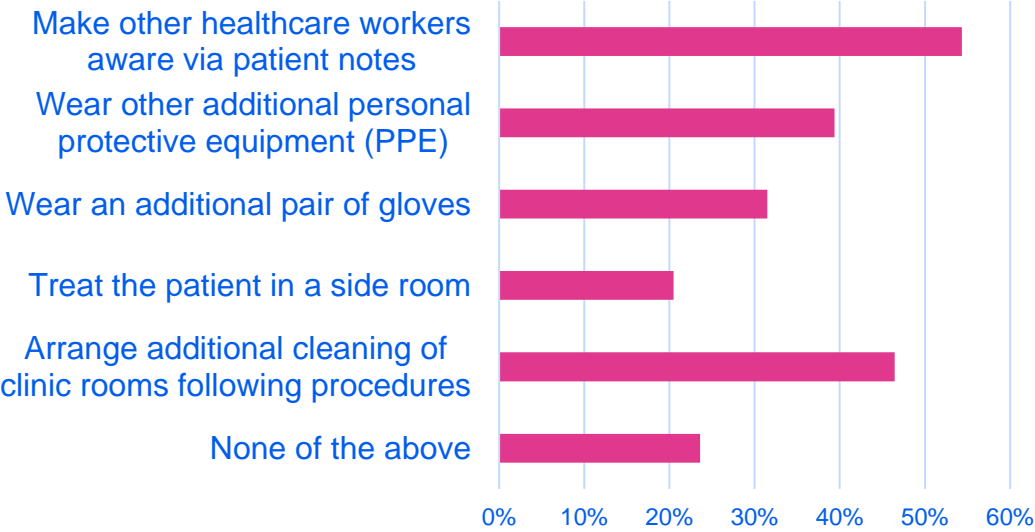


Pre-session
Average: 36.76

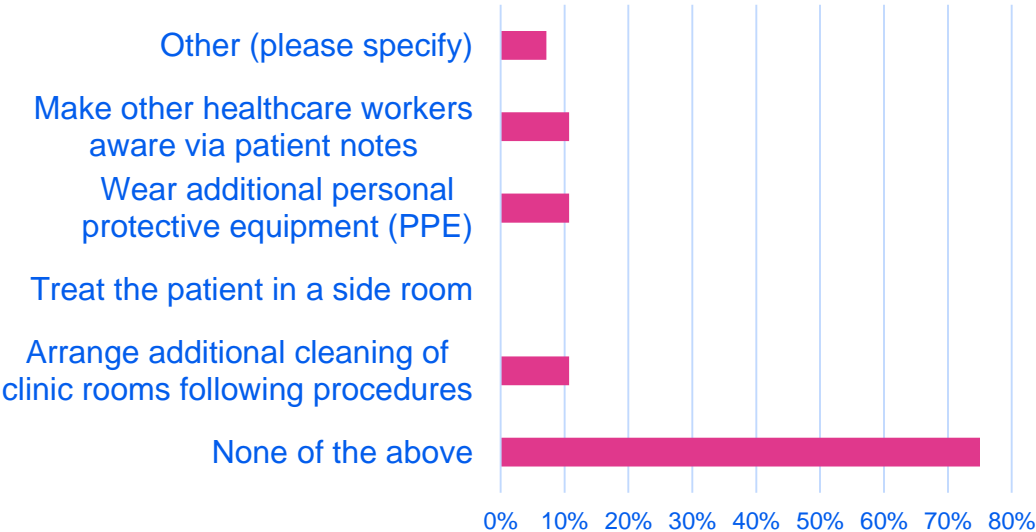


Post-session
Average: 94.18

When a person in your care is living with HIV, which of the following additional precautions, if any, would you take to protect yourself or other staff?



Pre-session



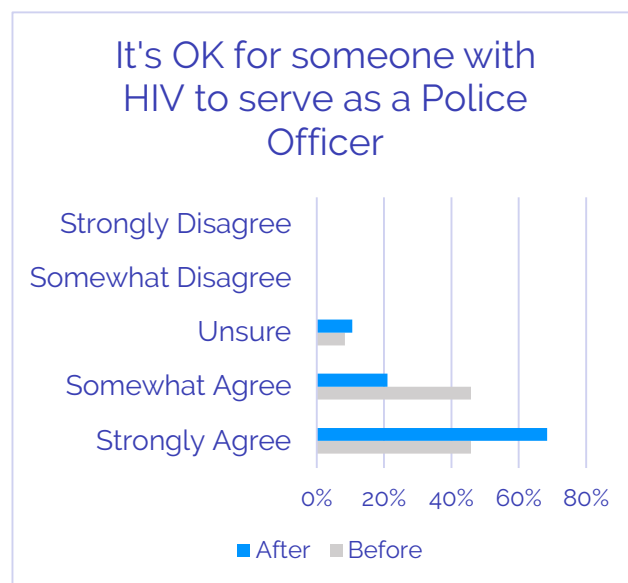
Post-session

Police

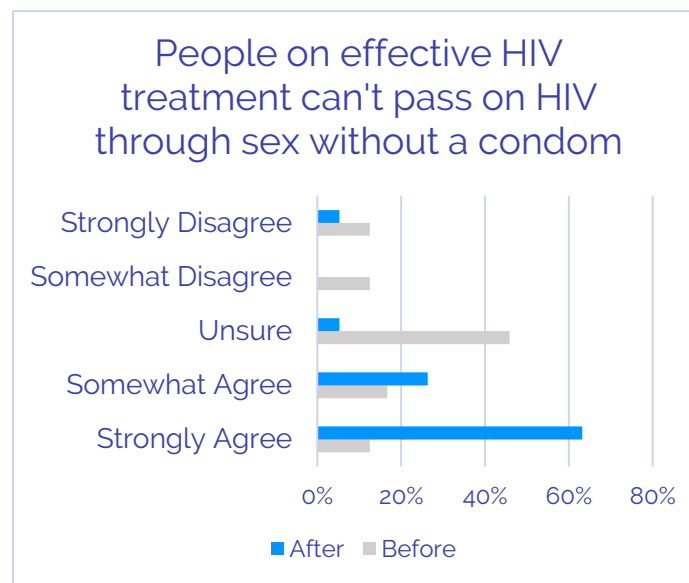


Positive Voices: Police Training

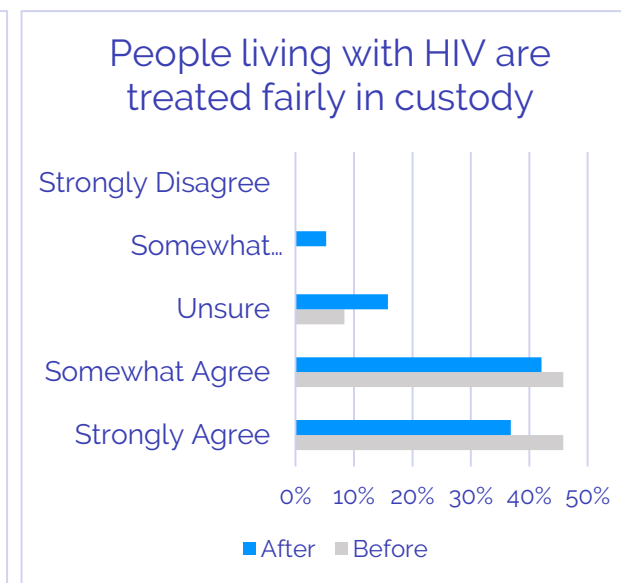
- Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire Police Custody Teams
- Improved awareness of HIV and how to care for people living with HIV in custody



Strongly Agree went from 46% to 68%



Strongly/Somewhat Agree went from 29% to 89%



Strongly/Somewhat Agree went from 92% to 79%

Meet Pank and LeaSuwanna – London HIV Ambassadors!



How have things changed?



Lessons learned



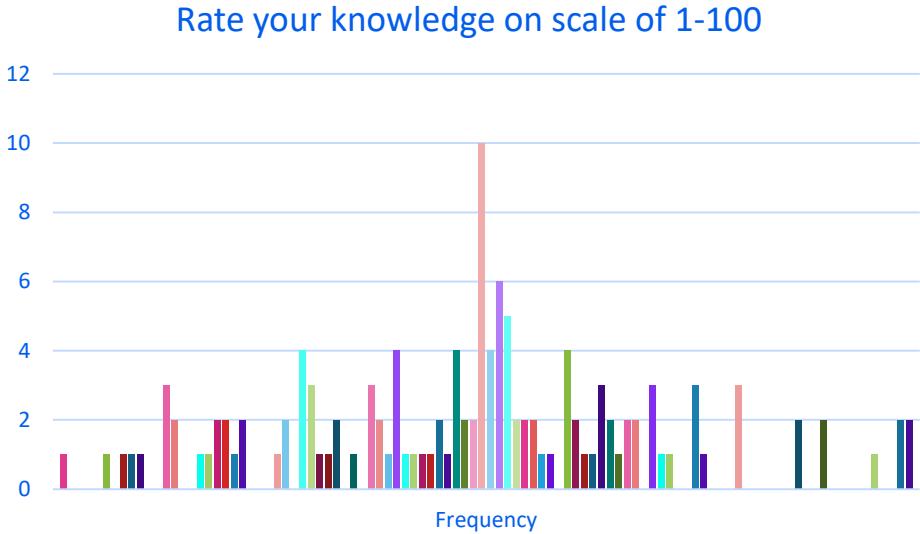
Appendix



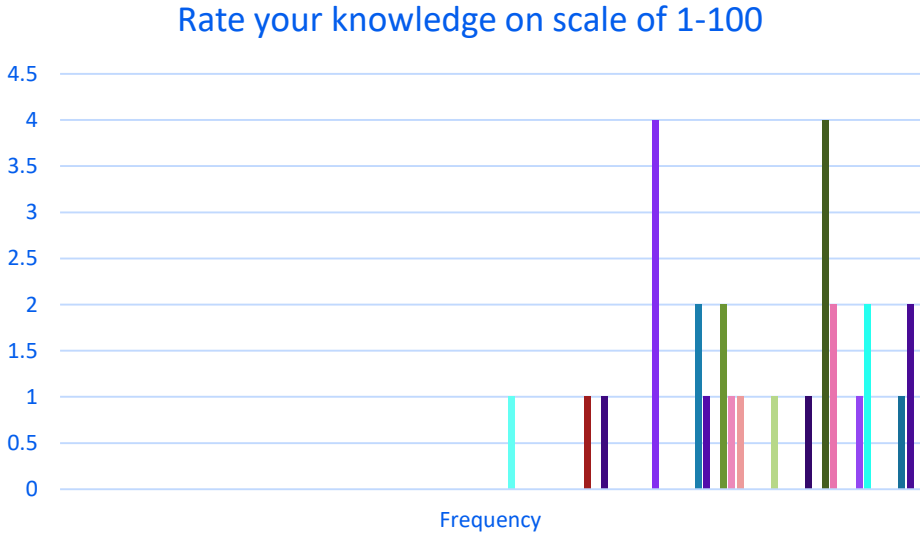
Health & Care



On a scale of 1-100, how confident do you feel about your current knowledge and awareness about HIV?



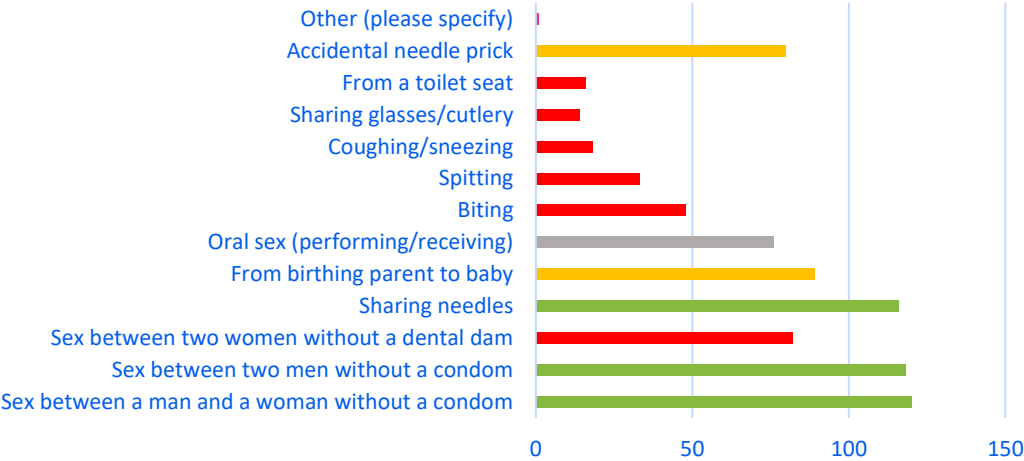
Pre-session
Average: 48.97



Post-session
Average: 82.04

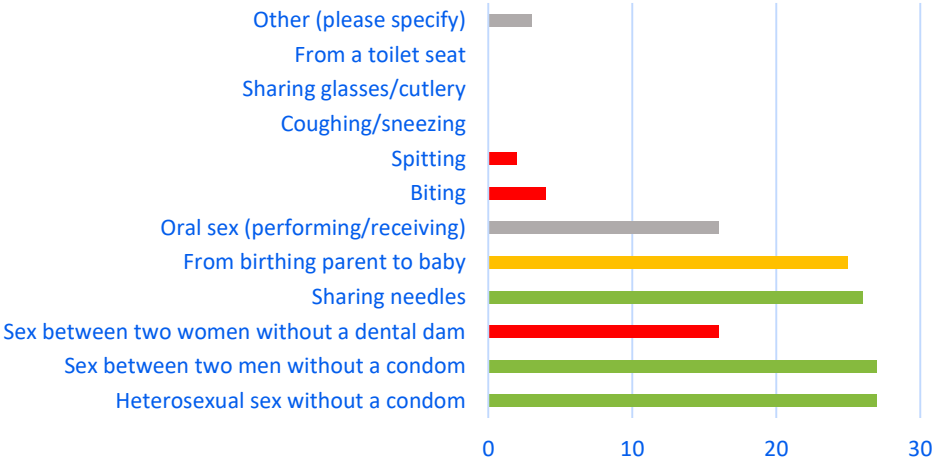
How is HIV transmitted from person to person? (select all that apply)

How is HIV transmitted from person to person



Pre-session

How is HIV transmitted from person to person



Post-session

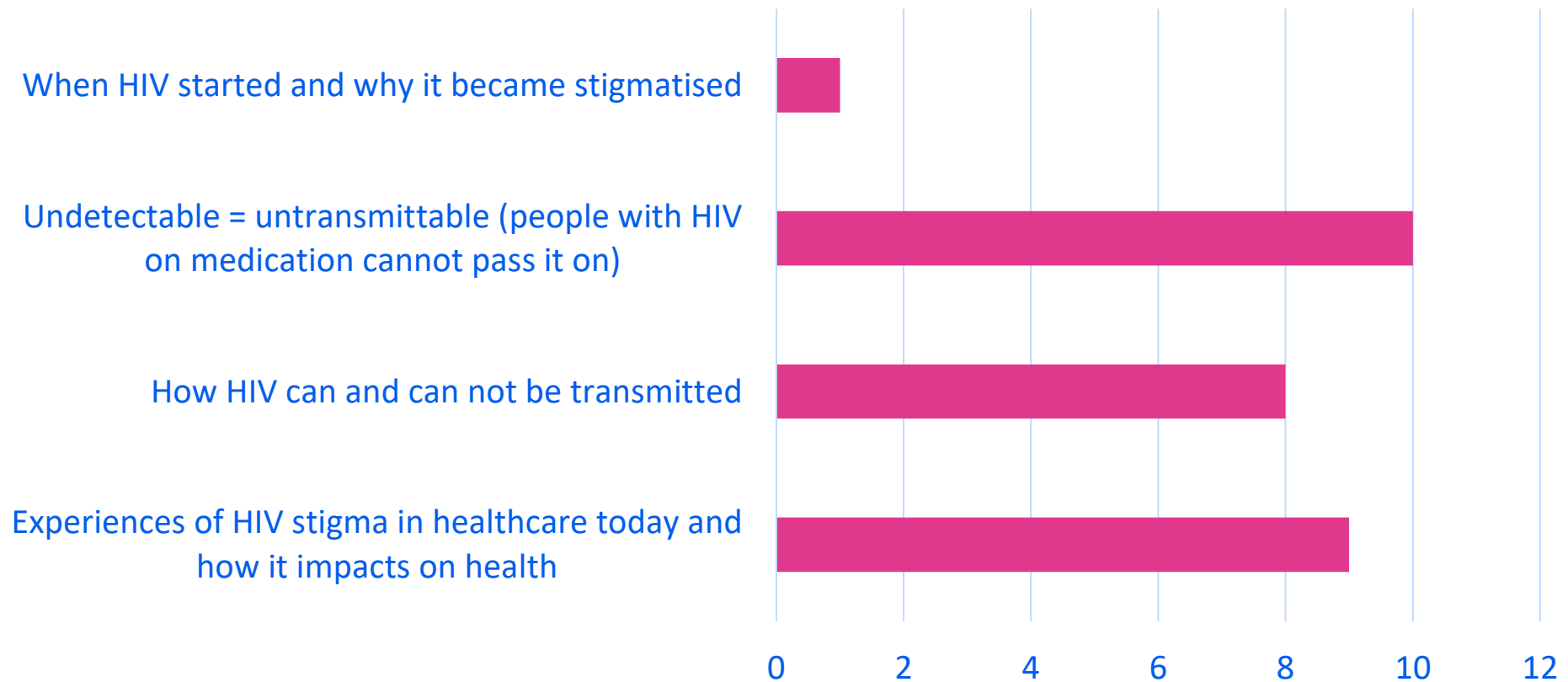
Pre-session: What motivated you to attend today's session? (tick ALL that apply)



Pre-session: Is there a particular insight or piece of information that you are hoping to gain from this session? If so, please briefly state it below:

	Count of Response
HIV testing and treatment	38
How people living with HIV experience discrimination	25
How to prevent transmission	22
How to support people in a sensitive and appropriate manner	18
How to tackle stigma in the health and care sector	21
Signposting people living with HIV to the appropriate services and support	4

Which one piece of HIV information might you be most interested in sharing with colleagues when you return to work?



Do you feel you gained any particular insight from hearing the speakers' stories in this training session? If so, please briefly state it below:

I have released that hiv can not be transferred to babies.. it is really amazing that they can have family. It my joy. I can't stop smiling.

Very informative session

I hadn't thought about it from a heterosexual point of view before

I found it very interesting that 53% of people diagnosed HIV worldwide are women. A surprising statistic which opened my mind.

Hearing personal stories made me realise how connected but also distinct experiences of HIV are, it made me realise that it's important to listen to a patient's story if they are willing to discuss it so I can cater to their particular needs.

Yes. Provided invaluable insight.

How life is cruel to them and why. I hope these are things we can change in the future

Stories from people with HIV who don't fit the media portrayal

How uniquely HIV can affect each person; each speaker had been stigmatised in a different way. But also how important the work in to remove the stigma from HIV and correct misinformation.

yes, I thought the additional speakers offered great insight from those often underrepresented in discussions around HIV

More insight into the rights for confidentiality

I was not having much knowledge about it but after the study day I felt I am comfortable.

Yes all of the talks were extremely powerful and very informative. Thank you to everyone who shared their experiences. This will stay with me forever.

I found the real life experiences extremely interesting, valuable and touching. It made it not 'scary' or a 'taboo' subject

It was powerful, moving and very educational. Insight from those who have lived experience with HIV provided education like no other. Great Job from THT.

Yes, it was reinforced to me just how much of an impact I can have on patients and how important my role and my knowledge are.

Yes, the stories shared were extremely eye-opening, even if I was already aware of the discrimination people with HIV faced.

Didn't realise how badly the HIV stigma affected people in this day and age

Yes, very impactful personal account of lived experience and also very clear explanation of HIV transmission risks

Yeah i do feel like I've gained a particular insight such as HIV is just one aspect of someone's life, we are all human, we shouldn't stigmatise people with HIV. All of us have one or more health conditions affecting us we shouldn't judge anyone just because they have a particular condition

The insight into how unfair they were treated and the language used helped me understand what i can do in order to prevent unfair treatment

It was interesting and helped to see it from the sufferers point of view, however it was over emotional which undermined its sincerity