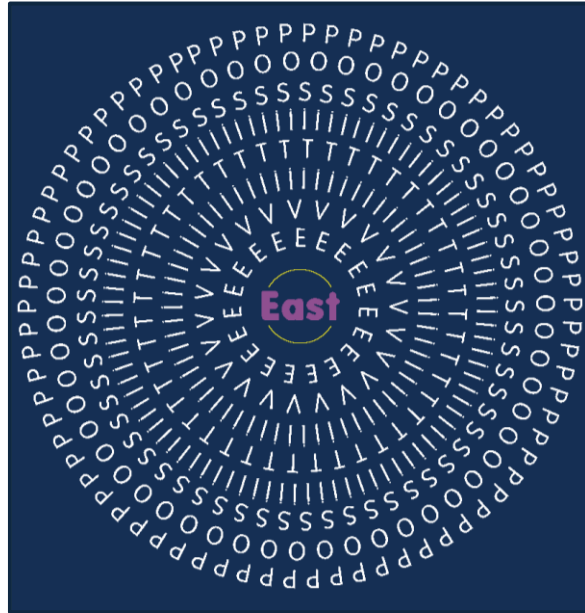


# **Sexual health knowledge and service access needs of people of Black Heritage resident in the City of London and Hackney**

**Euriza Gomes da Mata**

Prevention and Testing Coordinator, Positive East

# Introduction



“

GOOD SEXUAL  
HEALTH FOR ALL!

”

## BACKGROUND

- ❖ High rates of STIs between 2012-2022
- ❖ High prevalence of STIs among people of black heritage

## AIM

- ❖ To determine sexual health knowledge and service access preferences for people of black heritage in City of London and Hackney

# Sexual Health Coverage in City and Hackney

## NHS

- Primary Care: GPs and Community Pharmacies
- Specialist sexual health Clinics: Homerton Sexual Health Services (Leadenhall St; Clifden Centre; Ivy Centre; John Scott
- Open Doors

## Voluntary and Community Sector

- Positive East
- Community African Network (CAN)
- Body & Soul

Homerton Sexual Health Advice  
 PrEP Bisexual Consent  
 Condom Scheme Young Hackney  
 HIV Lesbian Testing Chlamydia  
**Sexual Health**  
 Transgender Young People CAN  
 Infections Condoms Knowledge  
 Consent Positive East STDs  
 Gonorrhoea Pregnancy Gay Leadenhall  
 Ivy Centre HPV **Safe sex**  
 Protection Implant John Scott  
**Sex Education** Pleasure  
 Syphilis Clifden Centre

## Online Services

- Sexual Health London (SHL)

## Local Authority

- Young Hackney



## Methodology:

**Survey period:** June 2023 – May 2024

**Target Population:** Black African (BA);  
Black British (BB); Black Caribbean (BC)  
residents

**Recruitment:** Street outreach and  
community events in City of London and  
Hackney

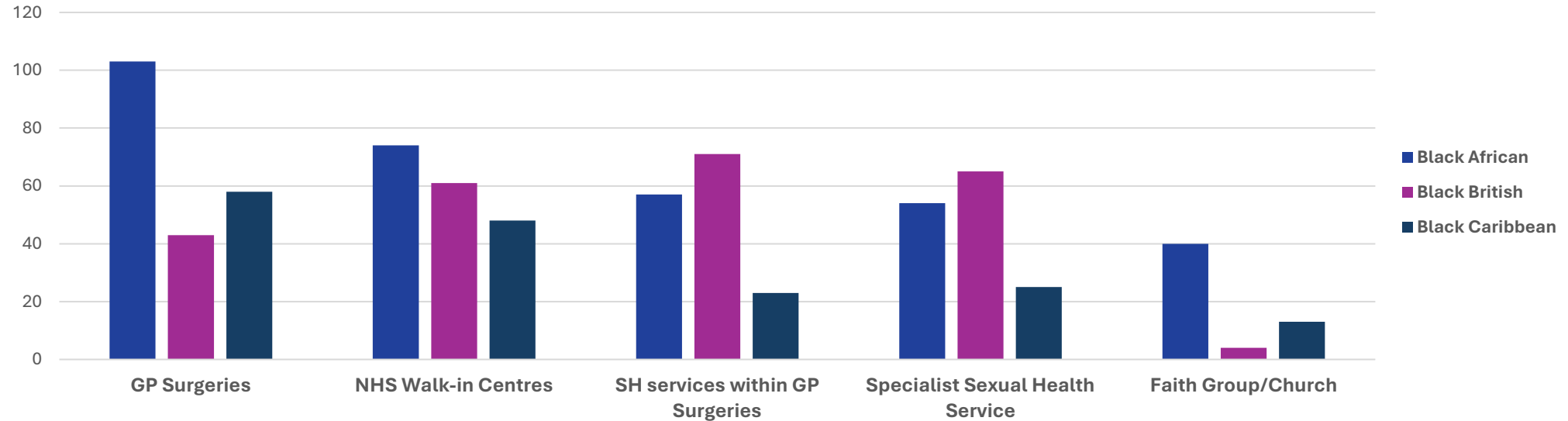
**Respondents:** 331 total

## Results: Demographics

- ❖ **Respondents:** 147 BA; 110 BB; 74 BC
- ❖ **Age Group:** Largest age group was 16-25 years old
- ❖ **Gender:** 52% female
- ❖ **Religion:** 69% Christian
- ❖ **Sexual orientation:** 89% heterosexual



# Results: Venues for Sexual Health Advice



204

GP surgeries

183

NHS Walk-in Centres

151

SH clinics within GP services

144

Specialist sexual health service

# Results: Barriers & Facilitators to Accessing SH Services

## FACILITATORS

- ❖ **Walk-in Services:** 191 respondents
- ❖ **Being seen in person:** 143 respondents
- ❖ **Health Services Offering More than SH Services:** 128 respondents

## BARRIERS

- ❖ **Lack of Familiarity with Health Professionals:** 156 respondents
- ❖ **Concerns About Confidentiality:** 136 respondents
- ❖ **Fear of Family/Friends Finding Out:** 101 respondents



# Results: Sexual Health Knowledge



**Sexual Health Service  
Eligibility**



**Condom Access**



**PrEP**



**Contraception**





# Conclusion and Recommendations

## CONCLUSION

- ❖ 331 respondents from black heritage
- ❖ Key Factors Influencing Access:
- ❖ Walk-in service availability
- ❖ Concerns about confidentiality
- ❖ Knowledge Gaps: BB more knowledgeable than BA and BC about SH services
- ❖ Study Limitations: Social acceptability bias

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- ❖ Access Preferences: Increase walk-in services; assure confidentiality
- ❖ Community Engagement: tailored outreach & education initiatives
- ❖ Training: Enhance health professional training to build trust
- ❖ Future research: Address social acceptability bias

# Acknowledgements



[Euriza.mata@positiveeast.org.uk](mailto:Euriza.mata@positiveeast.org.uk)