



# Sexually Transmitted Infections and the Ryan White HIV AIDS Program

National Academies Meeting on STI Prevention and Control

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**Laura Cheever, MD, ScM**  
**Associate Administrator**  
**HIV/AIDS Bureau (HAB)**

**Vision: Healthy Communities, Healthy People**



# Outline

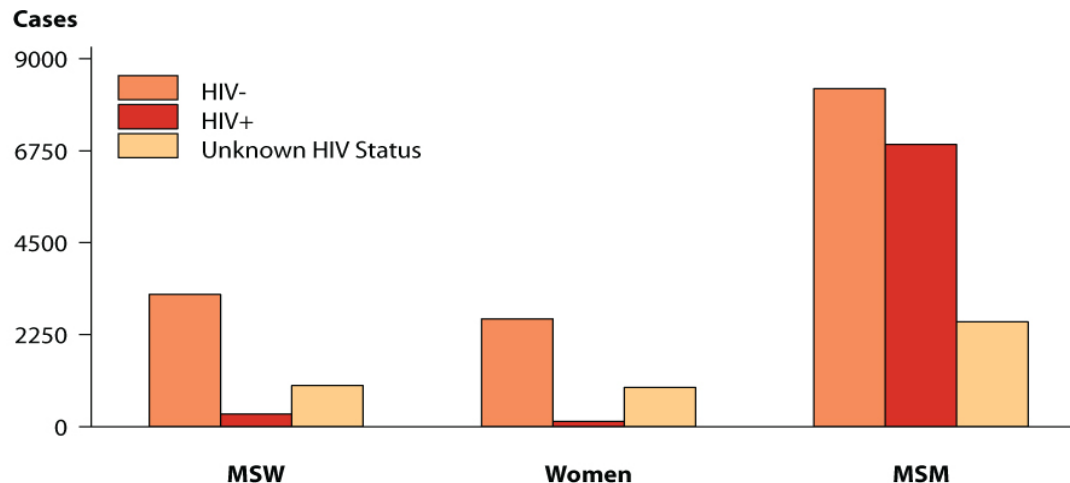
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- **Epidemiology of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) and HIV coinfection**
- **The impact of STIs among people with HIV**
- **STI testing in the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP)**
- **RWHAP's ongoing work**
- **Future considerations**

# Epidemiology of STI and HIV coinfection

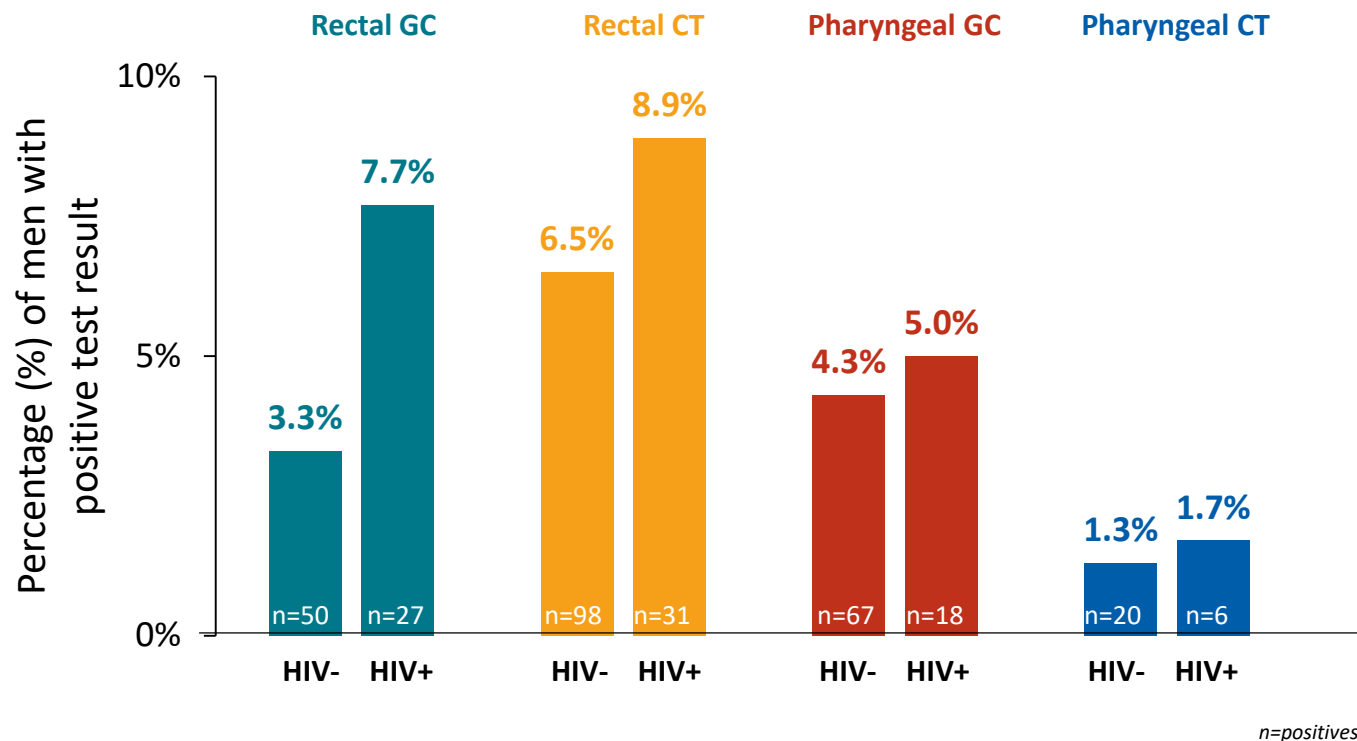
- Men who have sex with men (MSM) have an increased burden of primary and secondary (P&S) syphilis, antimicrobial- resistant gonorrhea, and HIV<sup>1</sup>
- Among MSM with P&S syphilis with known HIV status, 45.5% were HIV positive<sup>1</sup>
- In Florida, in 2010, among all persons diagnosed with infectious syphilis 42% were also HIV infected (CDC)<sup>2</sup>

Primary and Secondary syphilis- reported cases by sex, sexual behavior, and HIV Status, United States, 2017<sup>1</sup>



# Epidemiology of STI and HIV coinfection

Prevalence of extragenital gonorrhea (GC) and chlamydia (CT) among venue-attending MSM by HIV status, NHBS, 2017<sup>3</sup>

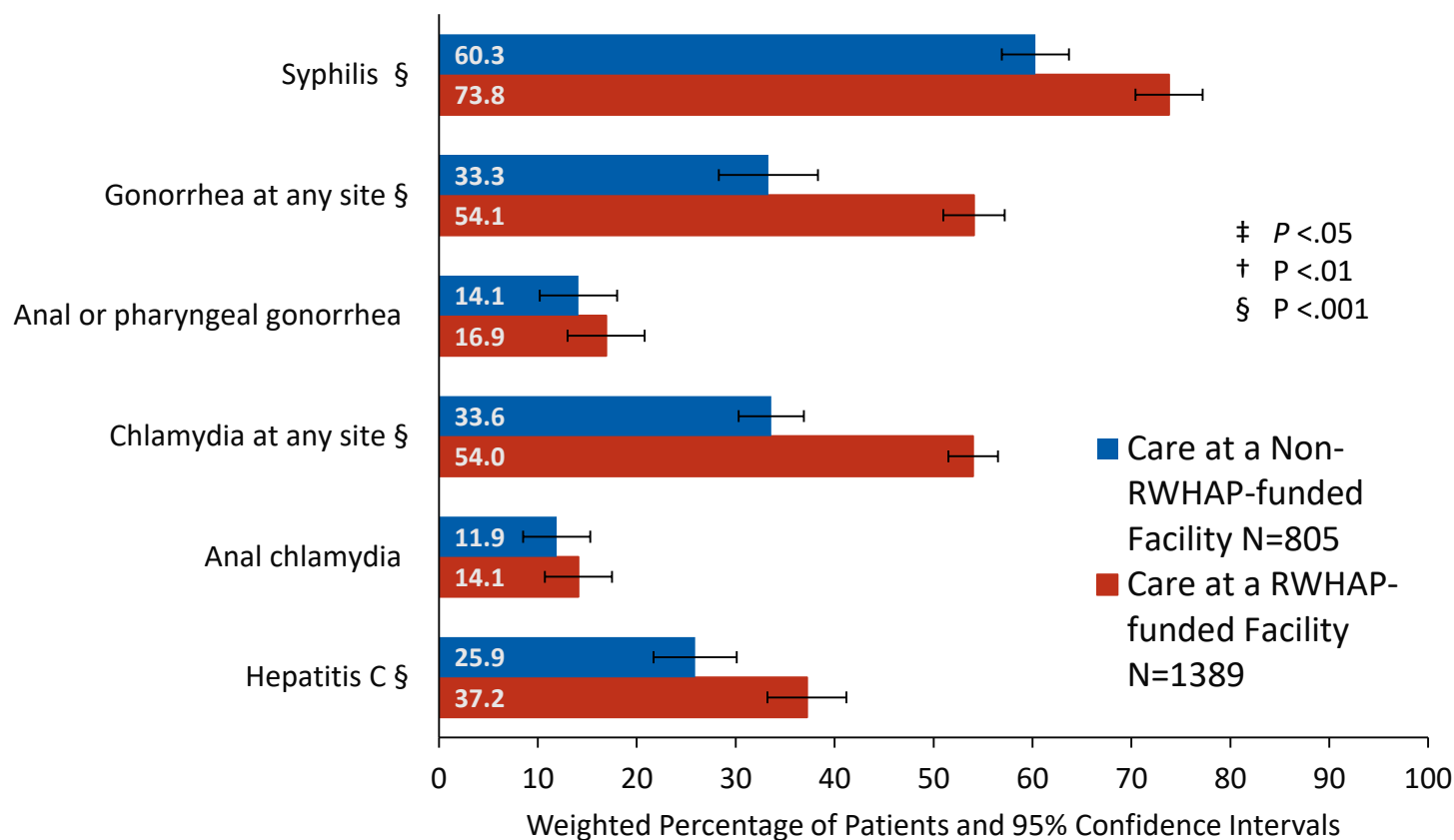


# Impact of STIs among people with HIV

- **Increased transmission of HIV**
  - Among MSM, approximately 10% of HIV infections among MSM are attributable to gonorrhea/chlamydia infection<sup>4</sup>
- **Chlamydia infection may increase the risk of anal cancer in people with HIV<sup>5</sup>**
- **Coinfection of STIs in people with HIV has been associated with decreased CD4 counts and increased HIV viral load<sup>6,7</sup>**
- **People with HIV may be more susceptible to acquiring STIs, the associated negative health outcomes, and STI treatment failure<sup>8,9</sup>**

# STI Testing in the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program

STD testing during the past year among HIV-positive men who have sex with men, stratified by Ryan White Program facility funding status, 2015-2016, N=2194<sup>3</sup>



# STI Monitoring Within the RWHAP

- **Annual STI screening are included in chart reviews during RWHAP site visits**
  - Chlamydia and Gonorrhea screening (genital and extragenital sites)
  - Syphilis screening is required to be reported for the RWHAP Services Report
- **HRSA HAB's clinical quality management performance measure portfolio includes performance measures for chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis screening**



# HRSA HIV/AIDS Bureau Ongoing STI Initiatives

- **Improving STI screening and Treatment among People living with or at risk for HIV (FY 2018-2021)**
  - Partnered with HRSA Bureau of Primary Health Centers and the CDC Division of STD Prevention
  - Seeks to promote clinical service and systems-level interventions leading to an increase and/or improvements in the screening and treatment of STIs among low-income people with HIV or at risk for HIV who are served by HRSA's RWHAP and/or Health Center Program
  - 3 jurisdictional conveners and 9 clinical sites in Florida, Louisiana, and Washington, DC
- **Enhancing linkage of STI and HIV surveillance Data in the RWHAP (FY19-22)**
  - Improve linkage, re-engagement in care, and health outcomes for people with HIV in the RWHAP by improving data sharing across STI and HIV surveillance systems





# Improving STI screening and Treatment among People living with or at risk for HIV- Cooperative Agreement

- Convened Technical Expert Panel (May 2018)
- Baseline Needs Assessments performed at clinical sites
- Interventions selected for implementation:
  - Clinic-level:
    - **Training modules:** Increase knowledge about STI testing and treatment and develop cultural competencies (with the CDC Prevention Training Centers)
    - **Audio Computer Assisted Self Interview (ACASI):** Collect sexual health history and sexual behavior history in a confidential manner to help identify which STI tests are needed
    - **Self-testing**
    - **LGBTQ-welcoming clinical spaces:** unisex bathrooms, LGBTQ friendly posters and pamphlets, staff members noting and calling transgender patients by appropriate name, etc.
  - Systems level:
    - **Provider detailing:** Use of expert clinicians to train providers in their clinical setting



# Main Considerations: Addressing STIs in People with HIV

- Reduce disparities in STI acquisition, testing and treatment among people with HIV
- Decrease stigma related to STI acquisition, testing, and treatment
- Need for increased routine use of extragenital testing when appropriate
- Increased availability of self-collection of samples for STI testing
- Address provider knowledge gaps
  - Obtaining sexual and behavioral health histories
  - Appropriate STI testing and treatment
  - Cultural humility
- Increase patient comfort with reporting their STI risk and seeking STI testing
- Ensure adequate supply and access to benzathine penicillin



# References

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# Contact Information

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**Laura Cheever, MD, ScM**

**Associate Administrator**

**HIV/AIDS Bureau (HAB)**

**Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)**

**Email: [Lcheever@hrsa.gov](mailto:Lcheever@hrsa.gov)**

**Phone: (301) 443-1993**

**Web: [hab.hrsa.gov](http://hab.hrsa.gov)**





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