



Quick Prick at the Park -Taking Test to the beats

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Purpose of the project

NZAF's Strategic outcomes:

Increase testing volumes among GBM.

CE team partnered with the HS team to design and execute a pilot project consisting of an HIV Mobile Testing Unit.

Aims of the pilot:

- Increase access and frequency of HIV testing among MSM in Auckland (1 in 5 GBM are HIV+ and they don't know it)
- Assess differences in testing or safe sex behaviours between those GBM accessing testing through the MTU and those accessing through the NZAF's Burnett Centre.
- Educate GBM about the importance of reg HIV testing : Ending HIV
- Assess cost-effectiveness and operational viability to complement service provided by HS.



The Quick Prick Van

A roaming vehicle fitted internally to provide rapid HIV and Syphilis testing.

Staffed with 3 people: Peer tester, a CE staff and a support officer.

Testing settings:

Events

Street Testing (Fridays)

Beats (Thursdays)



Results

- 9 weeks
- 78 HIV and Syphilis rapid tests
- Ethnicities: African, Middle Eastern, Latin-American, Pasifika and Maori.
- Gender: 92.4% Males, 3.8% Transgender (10x than in BC)
- The proportion of clients reached at the Beats who never tested for HIV was 27.8%, more than double compared to reports from the BC.
- The proportion of clients who reported infrequent use of condom use was significantly higher when testing in the streets (53.5%) followed by testing at the beats (50%) and events (23.5%).
- Service Evaluation: MTU – accessible and convenient service. 1005 clients were satisfied with the experience of being tested in the Quick Prick van.



Conclusions



- The Mobile Testing Unit proved the importance of bringing accessible and free HIV testing to locations where GBM frequent.
- Staff reported seeing the value of testing at the beats, as a soft-entry point for ongoing sexual health and other help seeking.
- Engaging with clients who do not identify as gay males has provided a better understanding of developing and implementing different approaches on how to address prevention messages as well as encourage regular testing in that group.