Prélib:

Evaluating a newly launched Canadian provider of innovative Internet-based services for self-directed HIV and STI screening

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Quorum Medical Clinic
Montreal, Canada
DISCLOSURES

• Gilead
• Merck
• Viiv
• STIs: current situation
• Prélib: How does it work?
• Study design
• Results
• Upcoming analysis
MONTREAL HIV (2017)

- 1st Canadian Fast-Track city
- Diagnoses relatively stable (n=204)
- High risk groups
  - MSM
    - Diminution of 31.2% from 2016 to 2017
  - IDU
  - HIV-Endemic Country
    - 51% of the new diagnosis (n=104/204)
STIs AND SCREENING BACKGROUND

• Rates are going up in Quebec
  • CT rose by 16%
  • NG rose by 126%
  • Syphilis rose by 40%
• Public health concerns
  – Cost & Disease

• Technology-enabled screening services
  – Promising class of interventions:
    • Improving testing uptake
    • Addressing barriers to testing
BARRIERS TO TESTING

STIGMATISATION
Feeling Guilty
Fear of judgment

PRIVACY
Don’t want to talk about sexual health
Confidentiality

RESULTS
Fear of positive results
Access to results

LACK OF INFORMATION
Don’t know if screening is needed
Don’t know where to go

ACCESSIBILITY
Services not convenient
Delay for appointment
Cost
SCREENING PROCESS
SCREENING PROCESS

24/7 Online user portal

Online clinical teams

Self-testing center

Lab

Partner: Quorum Medical clinic
SCREENING PROCESS

1. Online Registration

1. Create an account
2. Provide consent
3. Risk assessment questionnaire
   - Promotes consultation with a health care provider in person
4. Personalized screening recommendations
5. Schedule an appointment
   - $41.50 fee
   - Free for < 21 years
2. Submit the samples at the clinic

- Offers screening services:
  - CT, NG, syphilis, HBV, HCV, and HIV
- Technologic access with a code
- Blood samples by nurse (if required)
- Assigned private room
  - Video-based instructions
- Drop samples in deposit box
SCREENING PROCESS

3. Receive test results

• Available in patient portal within 7 days
  – Negative
    • email notification
  – Positive
    • CT, NG: email notification with F/U instructions and a phone call
    • HIV, HBV, HCV, syphilis: phone call to in-person F/U
  – Re-test
    • E-mail notification to reschedule (free)
• Post-test follow up
  – Doctor portal
  – Recommendations
OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

• Primary objective
  – To evaluate the **feasibility** and **acceptability** of Prélib STI screening services overall
    • Rates of screening completion
    • STI prevalence
DATA SOURCES

• Observational data span
  – December 1, 2018 (launch) to July 19, 2019

• Self-reported data entered on the online patient portal
  – Demographic and risk factor database

• Electronic medical records
  – Laboratory tests ordered and results
### Screening Completion Rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step</th>
<th>Number of Clients</th>
<th>% of Previous Step</th>
<th>% of Total (N=959)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Created Profile</td>
<td>959</td>
<td>93.70%</td>
<td>93.70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completed Questionnaire</td>
<td>899</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scheduled an appointment (all)</td>
<td>687</td>
<td>76.40%</td>
<td>71.60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scheduled an appointment within the study period</td>
<td>685</td>
<td>71.40%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attended an appointment</td>
<td>658</td>
<td>96.10%</td>
<td>68.60%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## USERS CHARACTERISTICS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHARACTERISTIC</th>
<th>ATTENDEES (N=658)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Age (years)</strong></td>
<td>Mean: 31.4 / Median: 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-25 years, N (%)</td>
<td>188 (28.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gender (self-identified), N (%)</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>362 (55.0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>287 (43.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trans</td>
<td>0 (0.0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-binary</td>
<td>5 (0.8%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No disclosure</td>
<td>4 (0.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sex assigned at birth, N (%)</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>366 (55.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>290 (44.1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No disclosure</td>
<td>2 (0.3%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### RESULTS

#### USERS CHARACTERISTICS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHARACTERISTIC</th>
<th>ATTENDEES (N=658)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gender of sexual partners N (%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opposite sex</td>
<td>439 (66.7%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Same sex</td>
<td>133 (20.2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Both</td>
<td>80 (12.2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>14 (2.1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-identified MSM, N (%)</td>
<td>151 (22.9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country of birth N (%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>511 (77.7%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Results

### Users Characteristics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>Attendees (N=658)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>History of injection drug use N (%)</td>
<td>2 (0.3%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History of sex work N (%)</td>
<td>12 (1.8%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current use of PrEP N (%)</td>
<td>36 (5.5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Past STI diagnosis N (%)</td>
<td>166 (25.2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First-time tester N (%)</td>
<td>157 (23.9%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RESULTS

STI PREVALENCE AMONG THOSE TESTED

- STI prevalence was 5.9%
- NG and CT were most prevalent
- 1 Hepatitis C
- No HIV infection was identified

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>N / N TESTED</th>
<th>PREVALENCE (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Any STI</td>
<td>37 / 622</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CT (any)</td>
<td>20 / 621</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CT (urogenital)</td>
<td>16 / 620</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CT (anal swab)</td>
<td>6 / 141</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NG (any)</td>
<td>15 / 620</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NG (urogenital)</td>
<td>5 / 619</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NG (any extragenital)</td>
<td>12 / 147</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NG (anal swab)</td>
<td>1 / 41</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NG (oral swab)</td>
<td>11 / 146</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syphilis</td>
<td>3 / 601</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HBV</td>
<td>1 / 301</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HCV (anti-HCV)</td>
<td>1 / 177</td>
<td>0.56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV</td>
<td>0 / 596</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
UPCOMING ANALYSIS

- Patient satisfaction
- Sub-populations & hard-to-reach group
- Multiple time users
- Factors associated with completing screening
- Cost-effectiveness
SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHED

PRÉLIB DEMONSTRATED FEASIBILITY AND ACCEPTABILITY

- Completion rates for each step were >75%
- 23.9% reported first-time screening
- Positive rate 5.9%

POTENTIAL DEVELOPMENTS:

- Partnership with regional health authorities
- PrEP, partner notification, live chat, forum
ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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• Viiv
• Fondation Mtl inc.
QUESTIONS ?

Contact us!

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REFERENCES