A Community-Led Assessment of the HIV Treatment Cascade in Jamaica’s Western Region

Jaemar Johnson
Policy and Advocacy officer
Jamaican Network of Seropositives
Who are We?

Jamaican Network of Seropositives
Methodology

The Data was collected in six (6) treatment sites across the Western Region of the island between September and December 2022.
Methodology

Sample Size

158 Recipients of Care were interviewed by community facilitators.
12 Health Care Workers were interviewed by community facilitators.
17 Focus Group Discussions were Conducted.
Findings

Figure 1: Snapshot of Western Region’s Treatment Cascade

- # of PLHIV on patient register: 3839
- # of PLHIV on ART 12 Months or More: 3033
- # of PLHIV that did VL Test in last 12 months: 2814
- # of PLHIV that received VL results within 4 weeks: 1590
- # of PLHIV Virally Suppressed: 2694
Findings

% of LFTU by age and gender
Findings

Average waiting time of recipients of care from registration to seeing a member of the health team:

- 47.5% 2hrs or more
- 24.1% 1-2hrs
- 26.6% 30mins-1hr
- 1.9% Don't know
Findings

Reasons for long waiting time as per recipients of care feedback

- There is not enough staff: 40%
- Staff take long breaks (for tea, lunch etc.): 10%
- The clinic opens late: 5%
- There are too many patients to serve: 70%
- Prefer not to answer: 0%
- Other: 15%
Recommendations

1. Further research should be done that could decipher the cause for the high level of loss to follow up for men aged 25-34 years old and women aged 18-24 years old.

2. Piloting differentiated service delivery models that could support retention in care.

3. Targeted interventions would address the vulnerabilities of specific age and gender groups in the treatment cascade.
Thank you for Listening