



HIV Testing Experiences among Black Transgender & Gender Diverse Young Adults in New Orleans, Louisiana – ID:25

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Research | Healthcare | Community

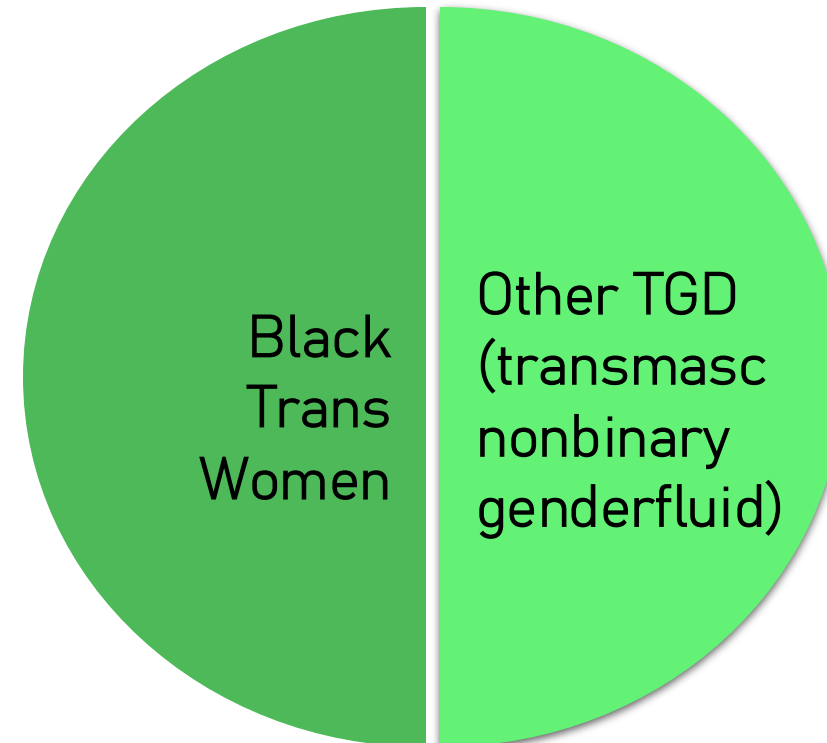


BACKGROUND



HIV Epi – New Orleans

- Black trans women ages 13 to 34 in the South half of all cases among TGD (Trans and Gender-Diverse People)
- HIV incidence for Trans Masc higher than national average
- Testing among TGD may be lower than GB cisMSM (Gay/Bisexual Cisgender MSM)



HIV Epi – New Orleans



Risk Factors

- Trans men and TGD AFAB
 - Condomless front hole and anal sex with cis men
 - Testosterone + vaginal tissue increases HIV risk
- Similar sexual risk behaviors for binary and non-binary TGD people
- Infrequent/never testing

Research Questions

1. What are HIV testing perceptions and experiences among Black TGD in New Orleans?
2. What do Black TGD recommend for promoting HIV testing among other Black TGD?



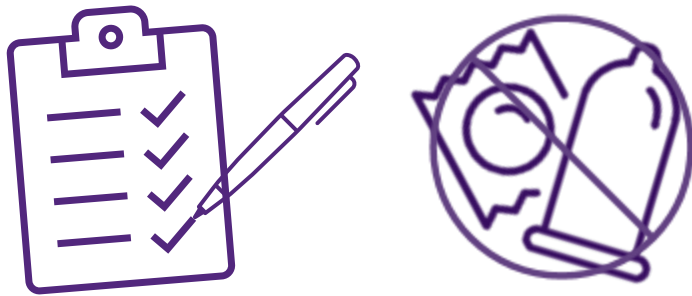
METHODS



Participants

Inclusion

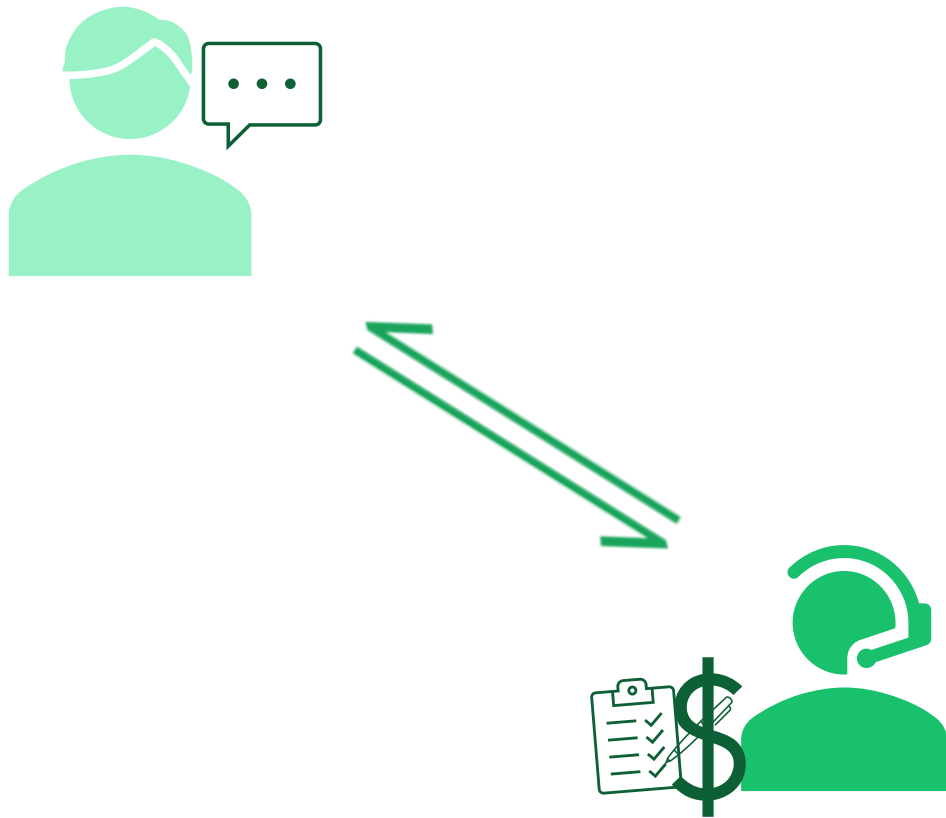
- 18-34
- Condomless sex past 12 months
- GNO resident



Recruitment (2021-2023)

- Bars and clubs
- CBOs
- Social media
- Snowball sampling
- Former CARES participants



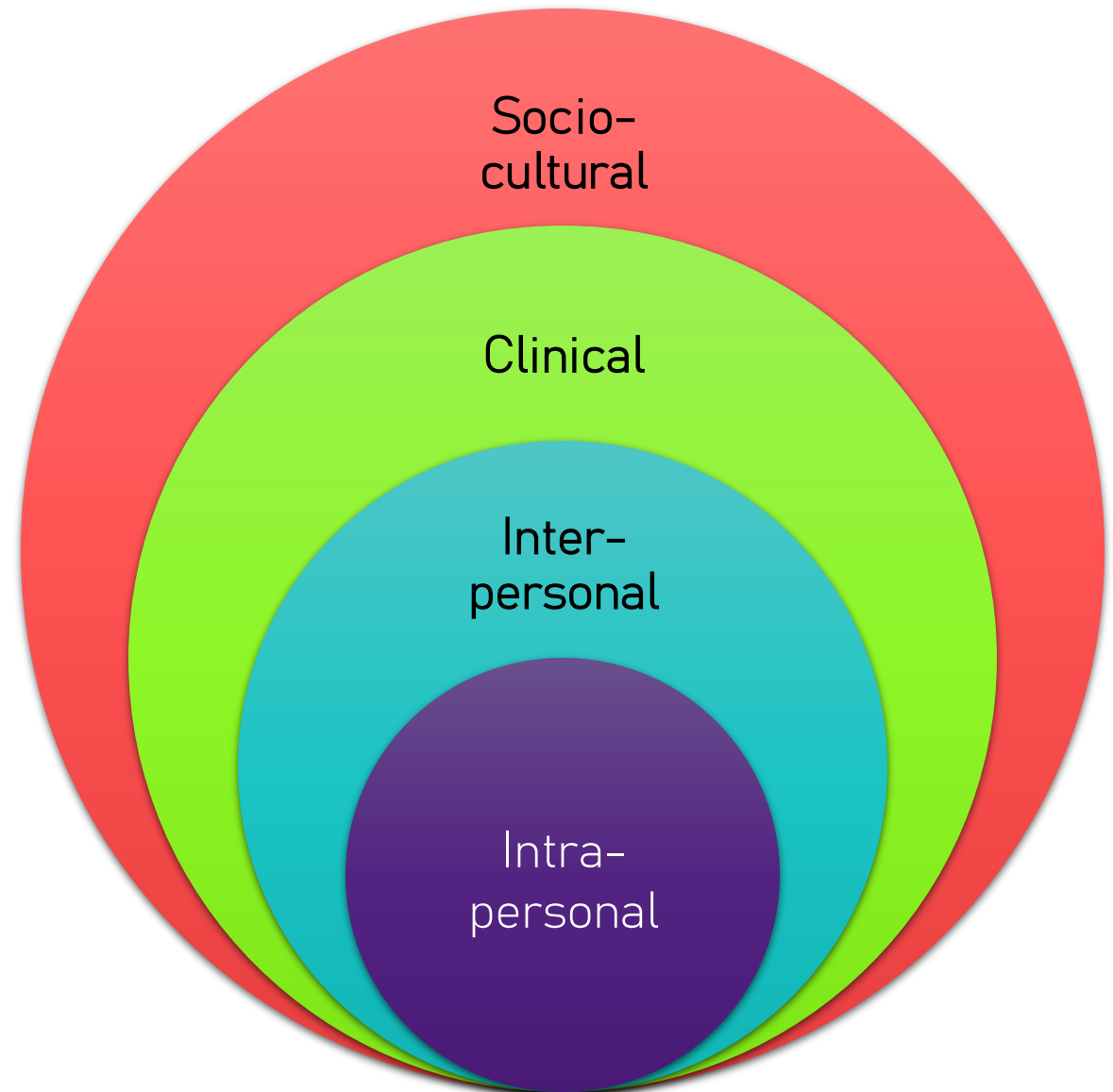


Qualitative Methods

- Virtual 1-on-1 semi-structured interviews
- Black TGD Interviewers
- \$50

Socio-ecological Framework

- Deductive and inductive coding
- Regular meetings consensus and resolve discrepancies



RESULTS



Participant Characteristics

- n=12
- Ages 19-34 (mean=24)
- 75% tested ≥ 2 x per year
- 25% trans fem, 17% trans masc



"...[there is] nothing wrong with, o, you know, like, checking on your body and through making sure you're good...it's just so I would good to be thorough with yourself y around and your health."

Trans woman, age 19

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, age 19

Theme(s):

Prioritizing sexual health

HIV anxiety/fear

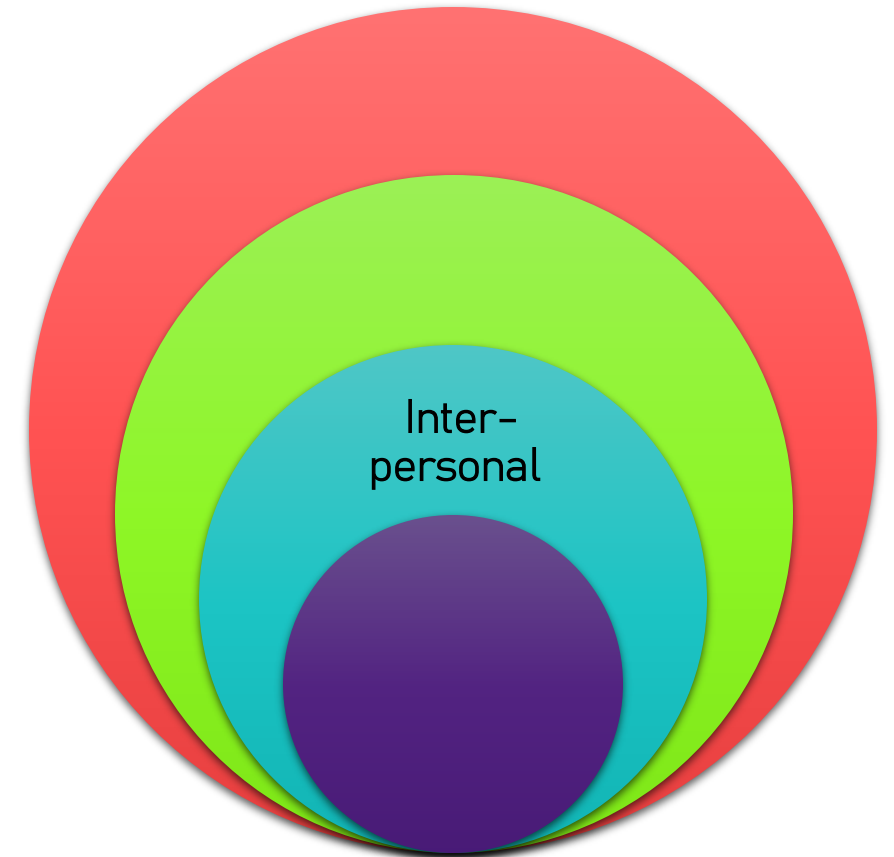


"...Black people become doctors with all kinds of class backgrounds and experiences and gender identities and orientations...I think it's definitely more comforting if you can go to a doctor who like may have a higher chance of not being discriminatory cause they've lived like as a Black person, or like as a queer trans person."

Theme(s):

Patient-Provider Interaction

Peer influence

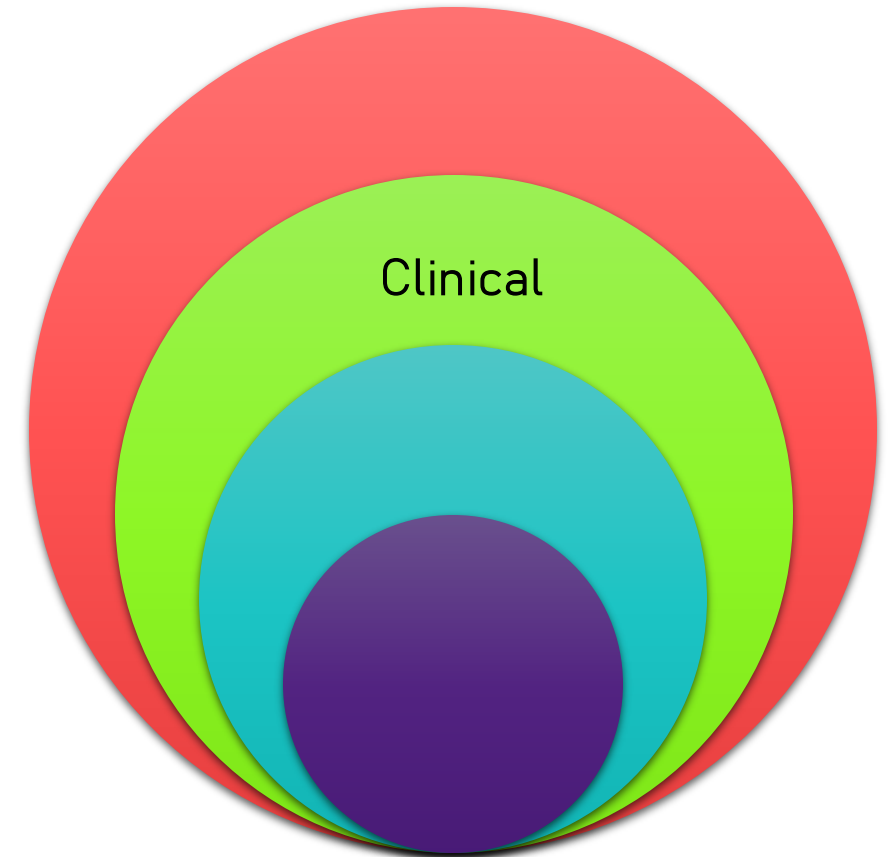


"...I like it more now 'cause everything [is] like emailed to you or like put in the patient portal...I've definitely had a couple experiences where, you know, some rude b*tch was calling you up..."

Trans fem, age 27

Theme(s):

Clinical
Operations



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gay men tha
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"...I do r
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"We used to go to like [clinic
name] but we started knowing a
lot of people there so we
stopped going there...some
places that you go they really
run their mouth."

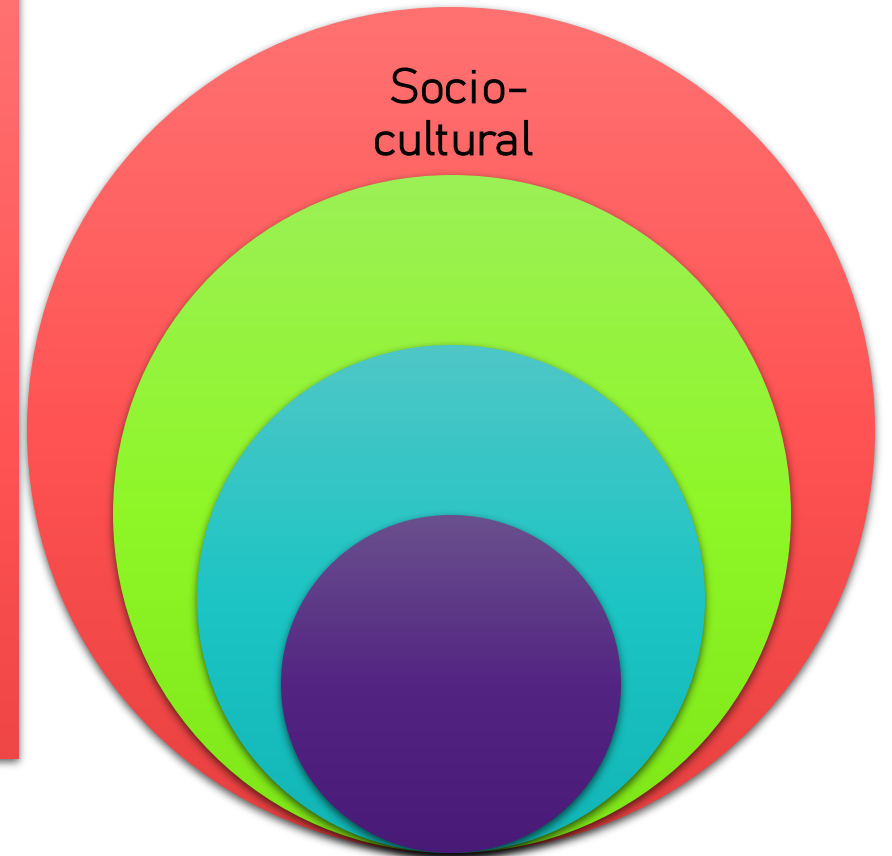
*Man, age 34

Theme(s):

Stigma

Access

Confidentiality



"The gays, we're just like: 'Go figure it out on the internet.' And we know the internet is for the sexualization of the community."

Nonbinary Trans F

"In front of people like they'll have like a teachable moment...I don't know if it's like in the forms that you sign that you consent to this, but it'll be like a group of people watching and like learning..."

Trans Fem, age 27

Theme(s):

Sexual Health Ed

Medical Mistrust

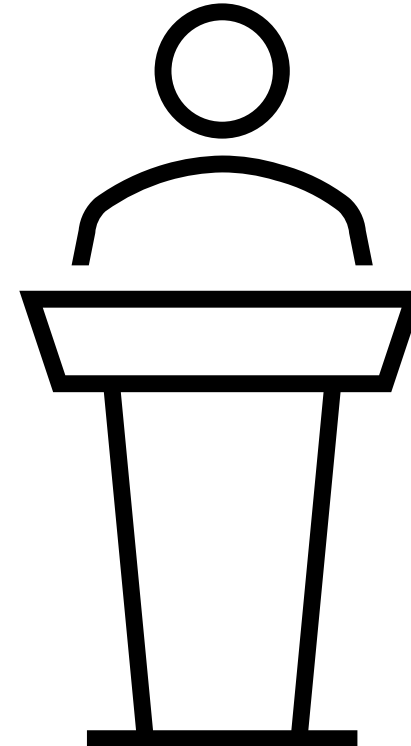


CONCLUSIONS



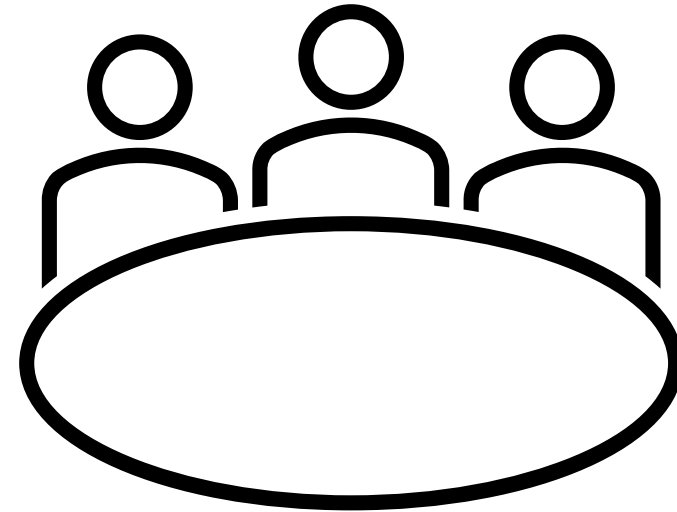
Recommendations

- Access and instrumental support
- Hiring, training, retaining Black QT staff and providers
- Tailored programming



Discussion and Next Steps

- Infrequent/Never testers?
- Structural interventions
- Stealth
- Medical Mistrust
- Identity is central



THANK YOU!

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