Supporting Linkage to Care- End HIV Epidemic: Red Carpet Entry Protocol(RCE)

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Kick-Off meeting
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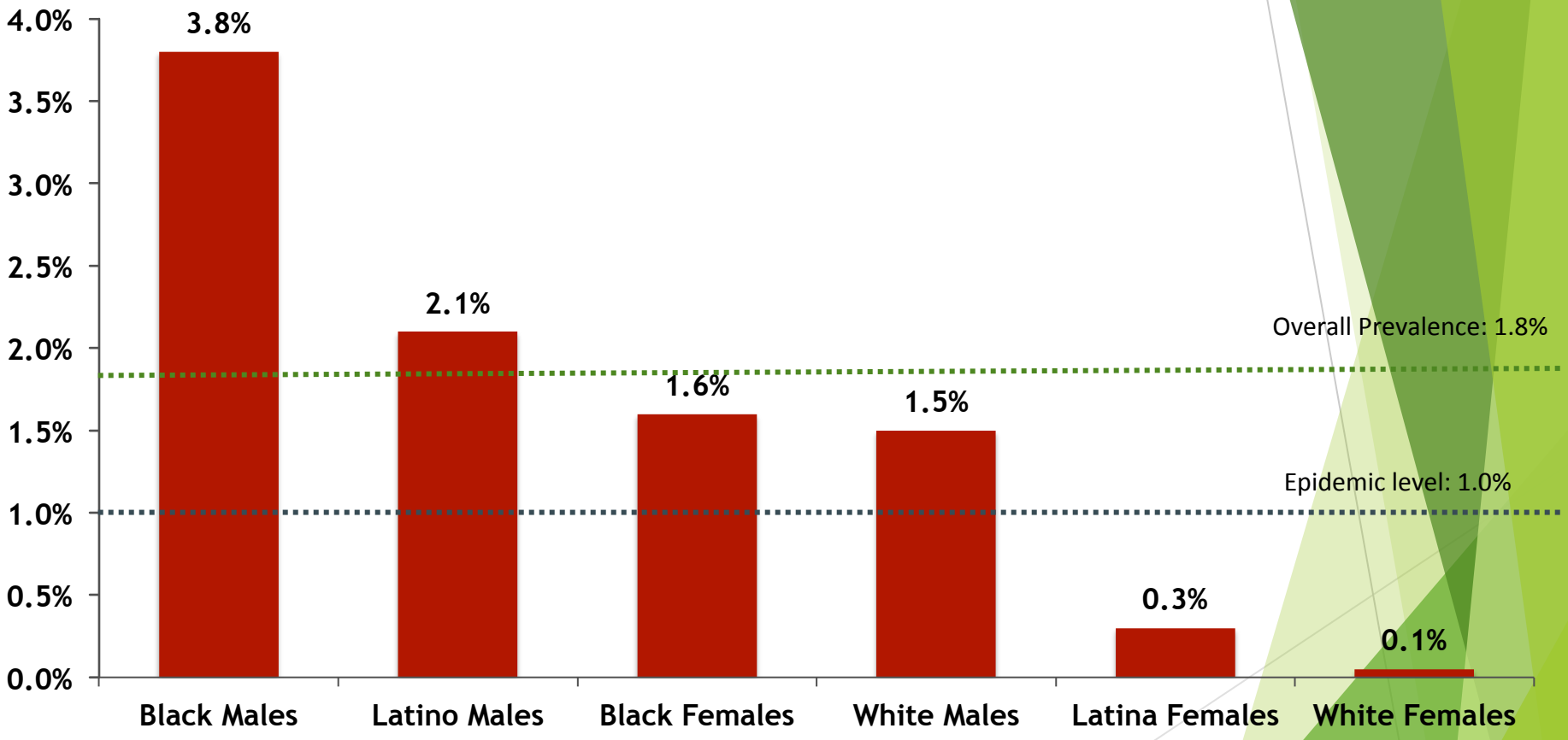
DC | HEALTH
GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

HIV Prevalence by Race/Ethnicity and Gender Identity, District of Columbia, 2018



Vision for the National HIV/ AIDS Strategy

"The United States will become a place where new HIV infections are rare and when they do occur, every person, regardless of age, gender, race/ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity or socio-economic circumstance, will have unfettered access to high quality, life-extending care, free from stigma and discrimination."

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON. July 2010

Purpose of Red Carpet protocol

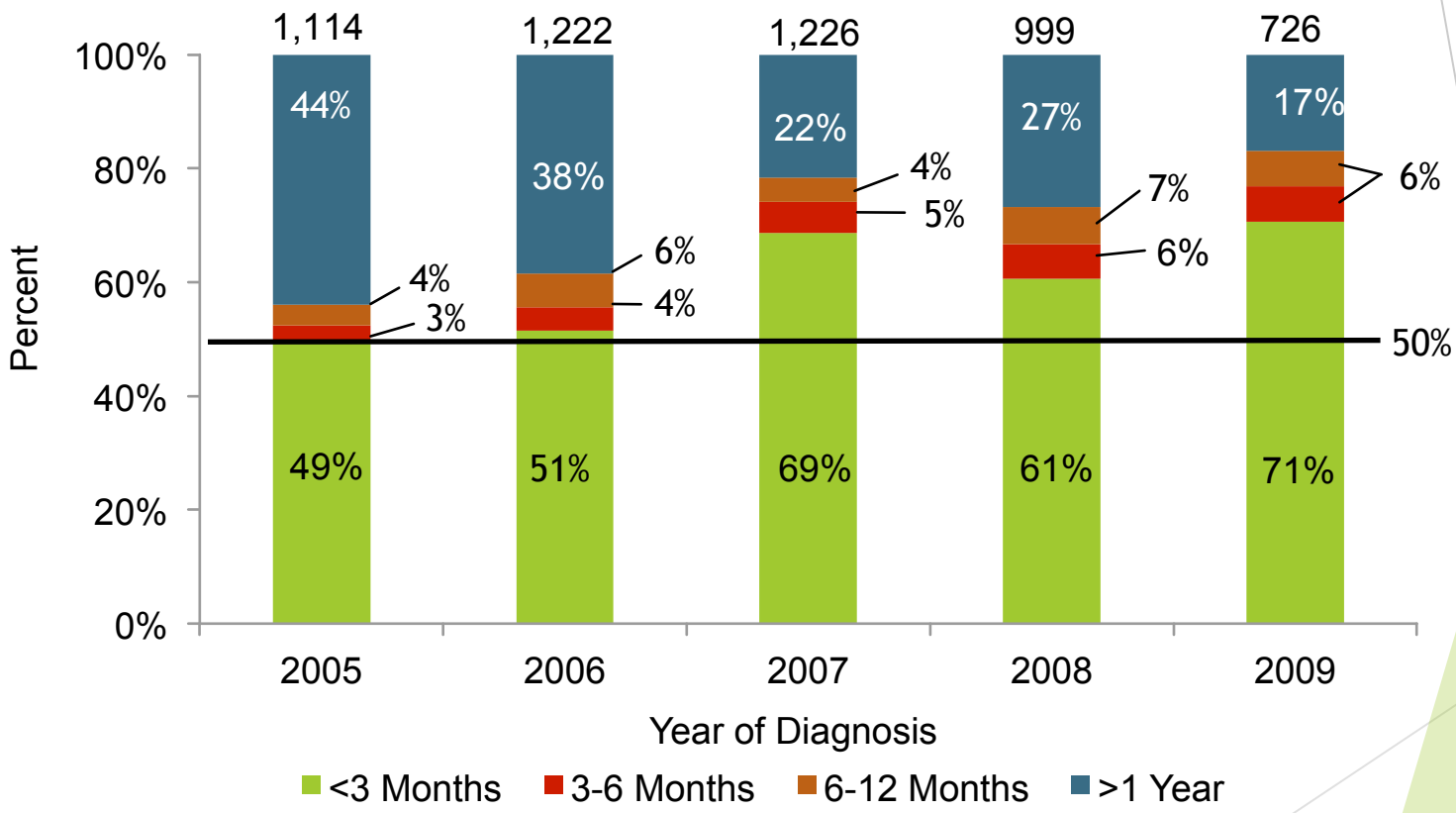
- Promote early entry into and continuity of HIV care
- Increase the number of newly diagnosed HIV positive individuals linked to care from testing sites within 72 hours of diagnosis
- Improve and expand provider network
- Improved health outcomes, and achievement of viral suppression

Definition of HIV Linkage Model

- **Linkage to Care** – First comprehensive medical visit to include a viral load and CD4 test that occurs within three months of diagnosis.

- **Engagement** – Two medical visits at least three months apart within a 12 month period with the second medial visit within 16 weeks after the initial linkage to care.

Entry to Care† Among New HIV/AIDS Diagnoses, 2005-2009, N=5,287

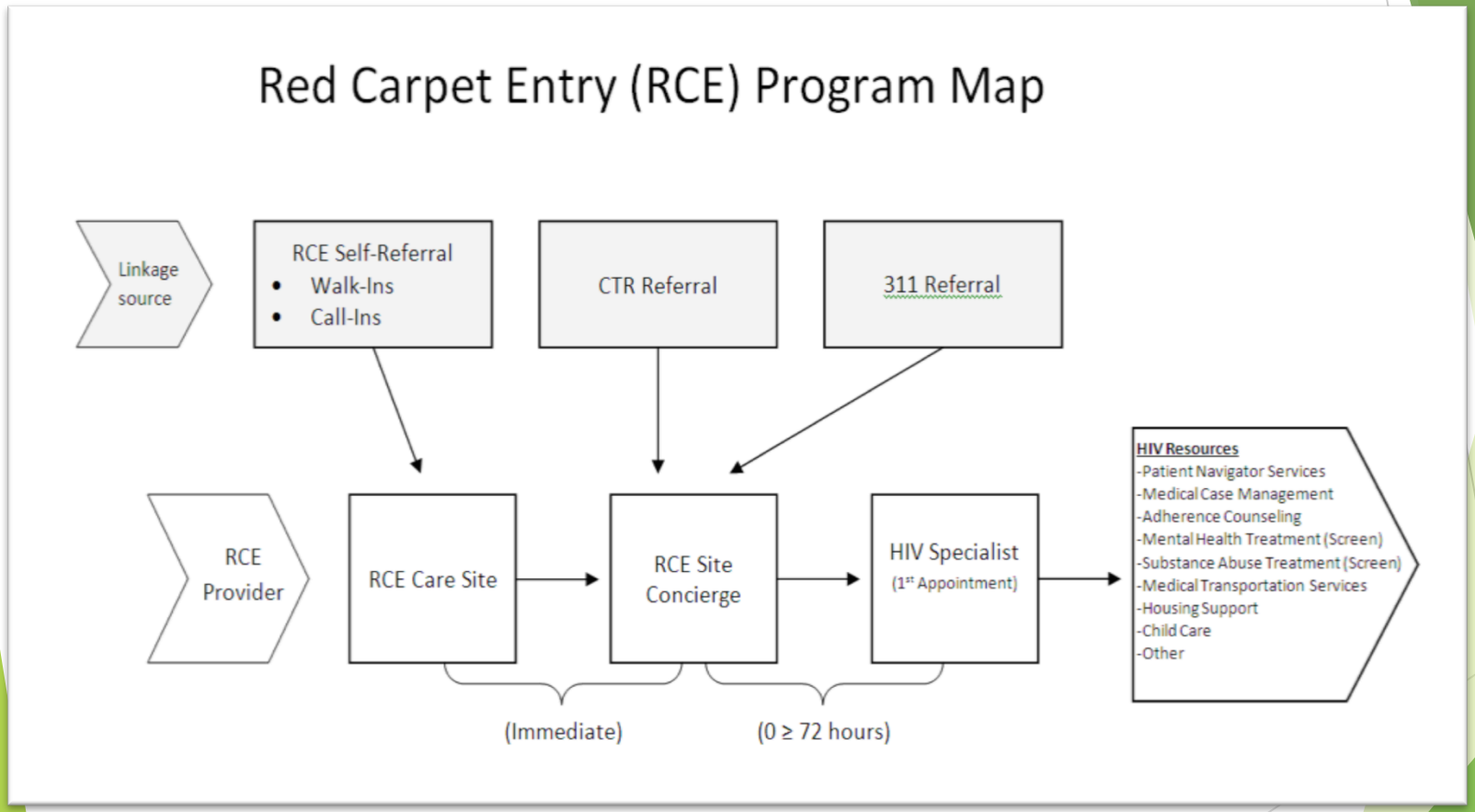


†Entry to care is defined by first CD4 count, percentage, or VL test reported to DCDOH after the date of HIV/AIDS diagnosis.

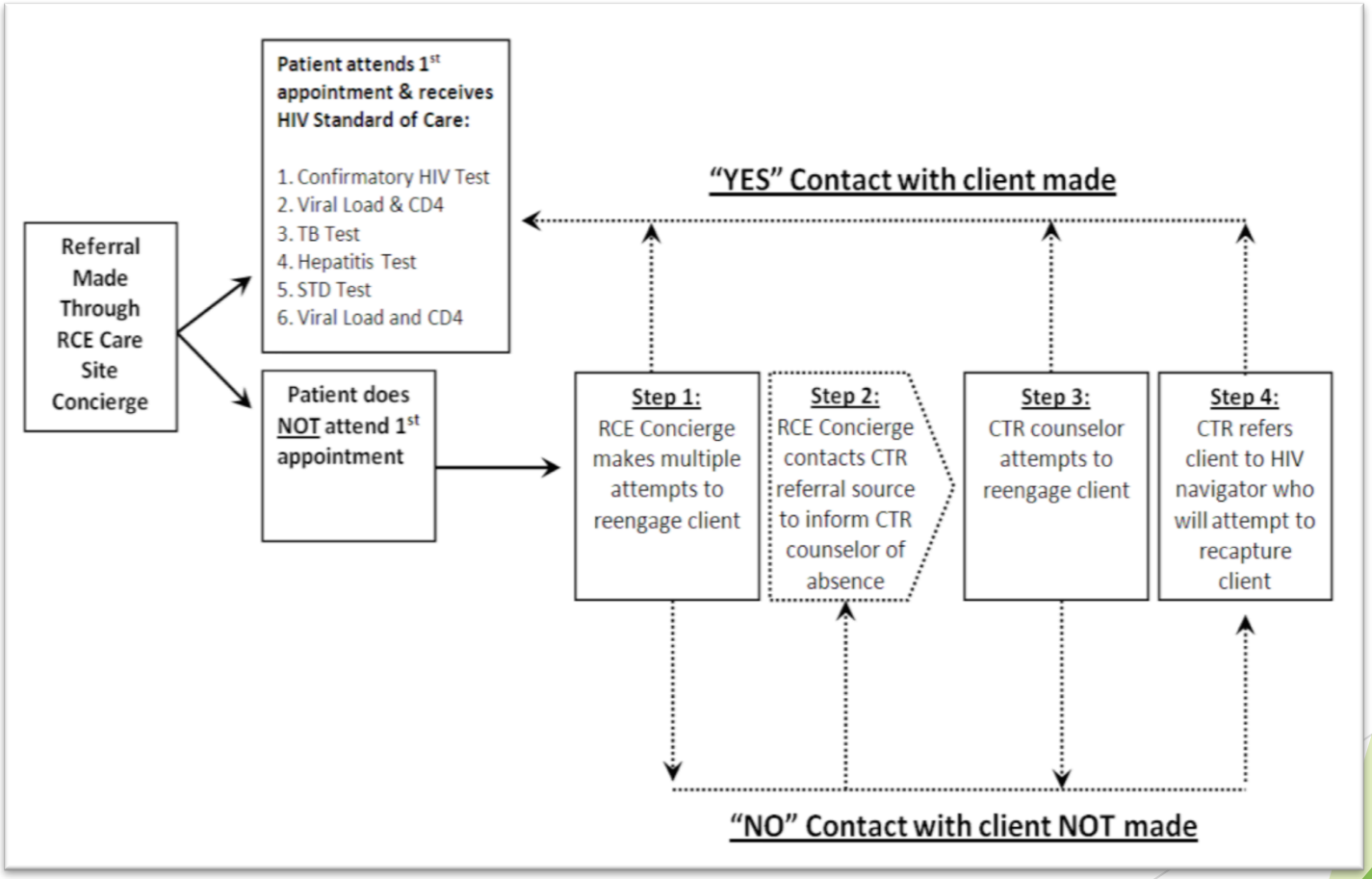
Red Carpet Entry (RCE) Protocol

- The program facilitates rapid, efficient, and effective linkage to HIV medical care within 72 hours of testing positive or re-entry to care.
- RCE providers commit to providing clients with appointment with HIV specialist within 72 hours of testing positive and a designated RCE site concierge to facilitate the first appointment
- Passwords used are “I am calling for red carpet” or “I am calling for Dr. White”

Red Carpet Referral Process



Red Carpet Process Map



The Standard of Care
First Medical Appointment

- Confirmatory HIV test
- Viral Load and CD4 lab work
- Tuberculosis Test
- Hepatitis Test (screening or referral)
- STD testing (screening or referral)

HIV Supportive Services

- Patient navigator services
- Medical case management services
- Medicaid Eligibility
- AIDS Drug Assistance Program
- Adherence counseling
- Mental health treatment
- Substance abuse treatment
- Nutritional Assistance
- Medical transportation services
- Housing support

RCE Process Evaluation

2011 Findings

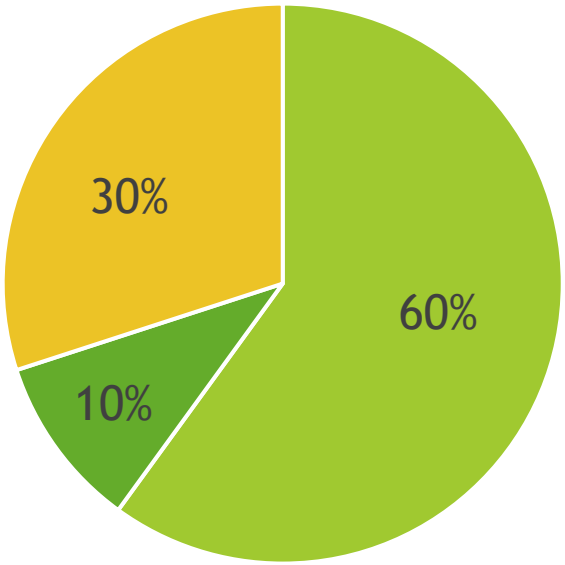
- 70% of newly tested positives were linked to care via RCE
  - 60% linked to care within 72 hours of diagnosis
  - 10% received services within 24 hours

  (Kept appointment with primary care provider to discuss diagnosis and initial labs drawn)

Program Changes

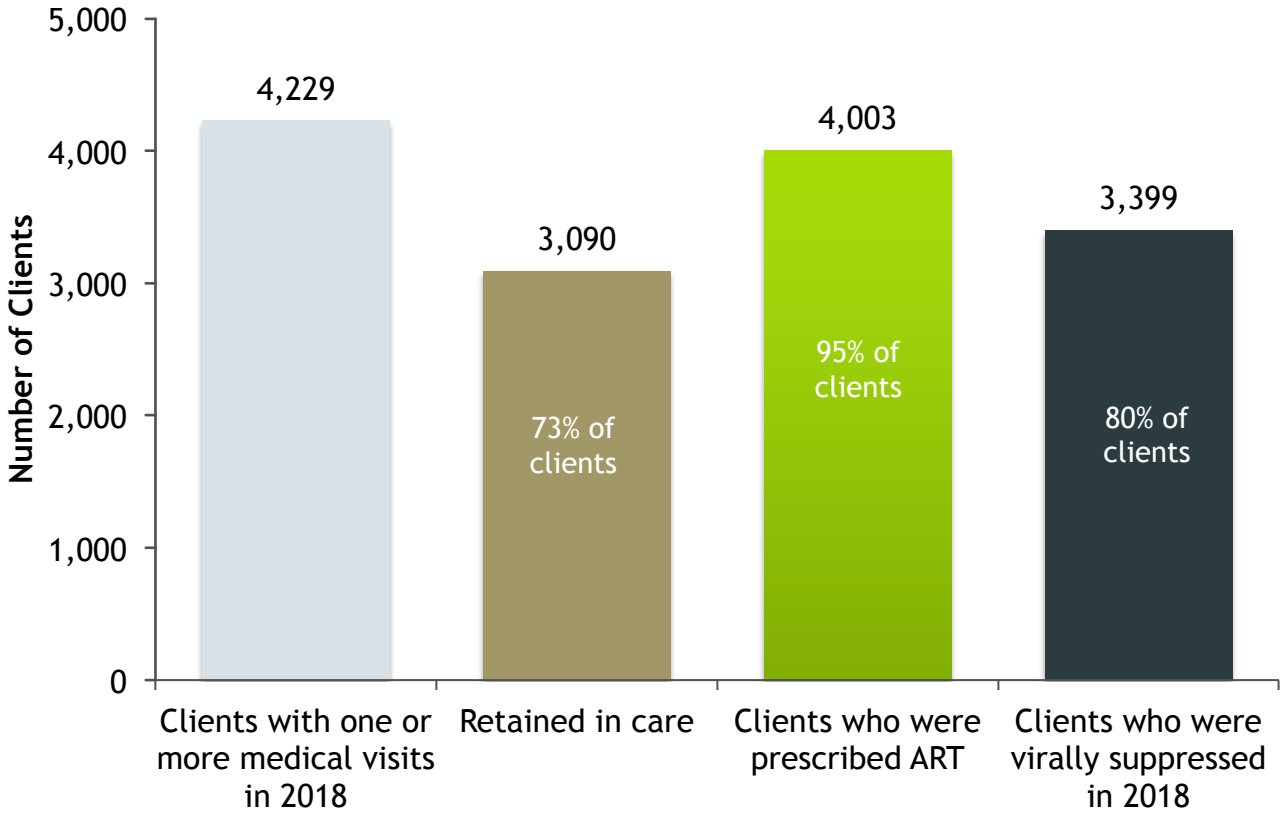
- HAHSTA developed and distributed a formal RCE provider protocol outlining the strategy of linkage to care.

Linked to Care Through Red Carpet Protocol

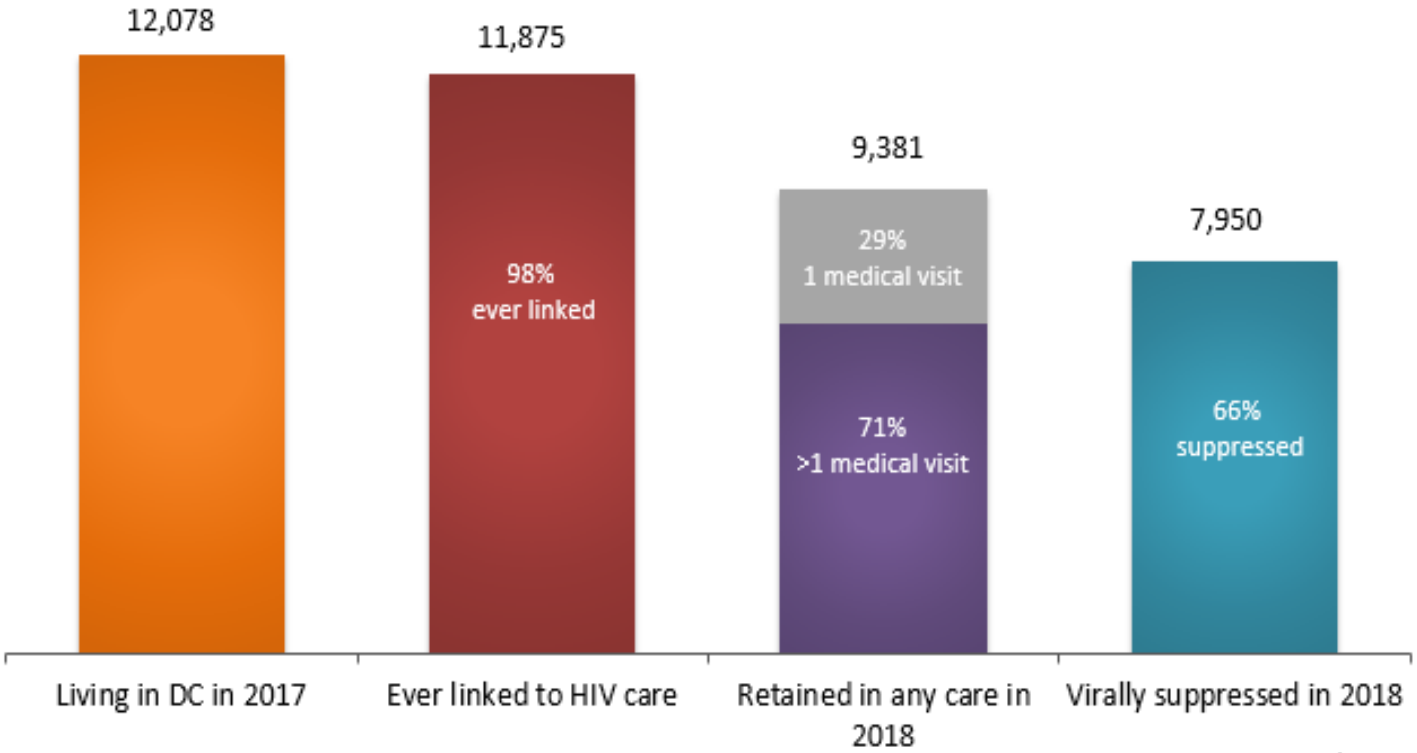


- Linked to Care within 72 hours
- Linked to care same day
- Linked to care greater than 72 hours

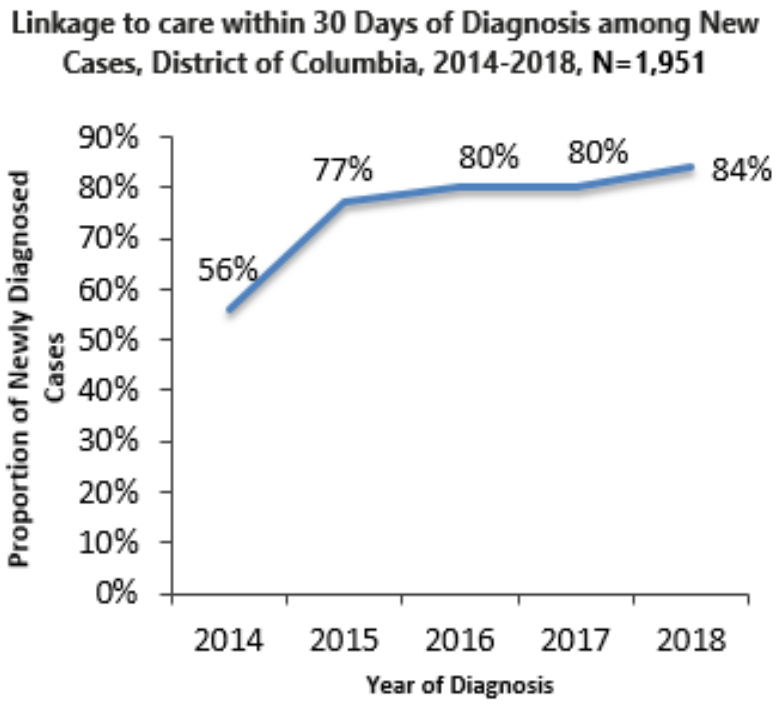
2018 Care Dynamics among Ryan White Clients, District of Columbia

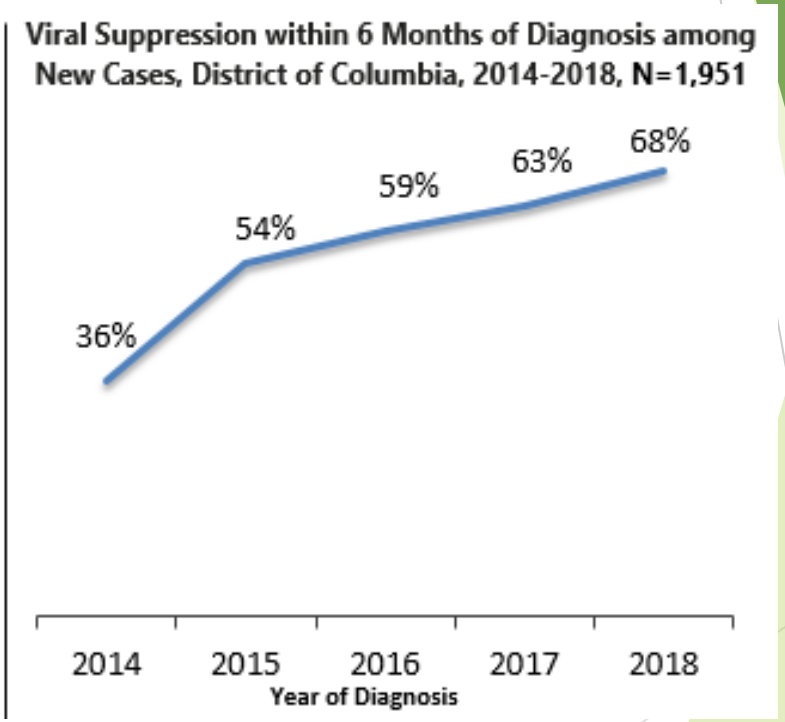


2018 Care Dynamics among People Living with HIV in DC



Linkage to Care/Time to Viral Suppression New HIV Diagnoses, District of Columbia, 2014-2018





Red Carpet a Strategy For 90/90 /90 /50 DC Plan

- **Goal 1**: 90% of HIV-positive District residents know their status
- **Goal 2**: 90% of District residents diagnosed with HIV are in treatment
- **Goal 3**: 90% of District residents living with HIV who are in treatment reach viral load suppression
- **Goal 4:** 50% reduction in new HIV infections.

Goal 2:Task 1 of the DC End HIV Epidemic Plan

- TASK 2.1
- DOH will reduce the time from initial diagnosis to initiation of ART through the Red Carpet Entry Protocol
  - Linkage to Treatment helps to Viral suppression sooner
  - Quality of Life is improved
  - Living Longer and healthier
  - Community Viral load is reduced
- Towards ending the HIV Epidemic

“H I-V” “Link’ em

- Link individuals from focus group to quality culturally competent services as needed.
- Rapid Treatment Initiation possible through Red Carpet Entry Protocol
- The preference is to start Anti-retroviral therapy SAME DAY as diagnosis
- RED CARPET THEM!!!

Sign up to Participate in Red Carpet Entry

- Identify a staff concierge
- Provide a dedicated phone line
- And send the information to Christie.Olejemeh@dc.gov to be included in the DC Health RCE web- page.
- You can also send email to RedCarpet@dc.gov

Red Carpet Entry Protocol

- Clients are effectively linked with an HIV specialist after testing positive and receive immediate care within 72 hours.
- Program outcomes continue to show effectiveness and are reported to be helpful to clients and providers.
- Brochure available at https://dchealth.dc.gov/node/229222

Questions

Thank you

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