883 - WILL TARGETED COMMUNITY OUTREACH IMPROVE HIV TESTING UPTAKE AMONG CHILDREN IN KENYA?

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Background

- Less than one third of children ever tested for HIV in the Nyanza region of western Kenya
- Delayed HIV identification associated with poor health outcomes and transmission risk when older children begin sexual activity

Objective

This study examined whether **targeted community outreach events (TCOE)** increase HIV testing and identification of HIV-infected children in western Kenya

Methods

- Pre- (Jan-Jun 2015) and post-TCOE implementation (Jul-Dec 2015) compared HIV testing uptake and yield among children <15 years
  - Uptake: number tested
  - Yield: percent HIV positive of total number tested
- 148 health facility catchment areas
  - Supported by Family AIDS Care & Education Services (FACES)
- 493 TCOEs implemented
  - children <15 years eligible for testing and their caregivers
  - community venues
  - HIV education, HIV testing, and linkage to care
- Aggregated facility-based and TCOE data captured in routine facility level tools
- Negative binomial models clustered by facility used to assess changes in uptake and yield overall and by sex, and to estimate monthly means

Figure 1: Estimated monthly mean number tested per facility pre- and post- TCOE implementation

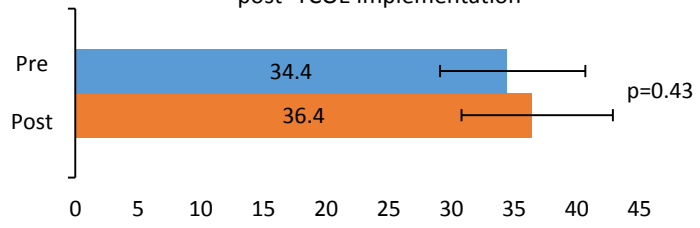


Figure 2: Estimated monthly mean HIV+ yield per facility pre- and post-TCOE implementation

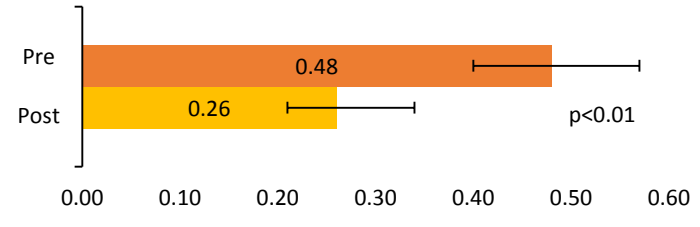
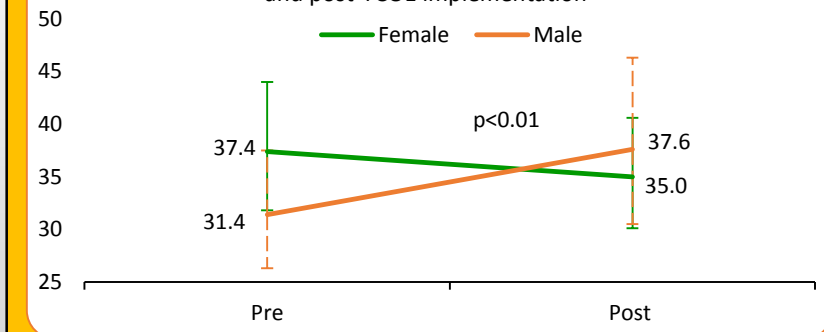


Figure 3: Estimated monthly mean number tested per facility by gender pre- and post-TCOE implementation



The findings and conclusions are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the CDC and the Government of Kenya. This research has been supported by the PEPFAR through the CDC under the terms of Cooperative Agreement #PS001913

Results

- TCOE implementation did not increase uptake (p=0.43) and average yield decreased (p<0.01), see Figures 1 and 2.
- Estimated means by sex indicated more females than males per facility pre-TCOE (p<0.01), see Figure 3
- Adjusting for pre-TCOE levels, the change in estimated mean number of males tested per facility increased pre- to post- compared to females (p<0.01), see Figure 3
- No significant difference in yield by sex pre-TCOE (p=0.35) or when comparing yield overtime (p=0.68)



Conclusion

- TCOE's did not increase HIV testing overall
- However, by gender male testing increased with TCOEs compared to females, demonstrating the value of targeted testing for males
- Additional approaches or redesign is required to improve strategies to reach children