HIV SELF- TESTING BY MOTORCYCLE- TAXI DRIVERS: A NOVEL APPROACH FOR CASE DETECTION: IN KAMPALA, UGANDA

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BACKGROUND

With nearly 1 in 5 adults living with HIV in Uganda unaware of their status, innovative community-led approaches are urgently needed. This study evaluated the effectiveness of engaging motorcycle taxi drivers, a mobile workforce, to deliver HIVST and link vulnerable populations to care, aiming to boost case detection and linkage to care in Kampala City

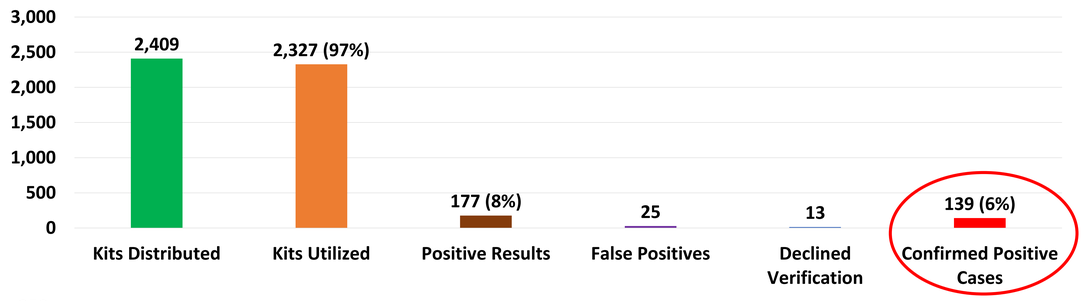
METHODS

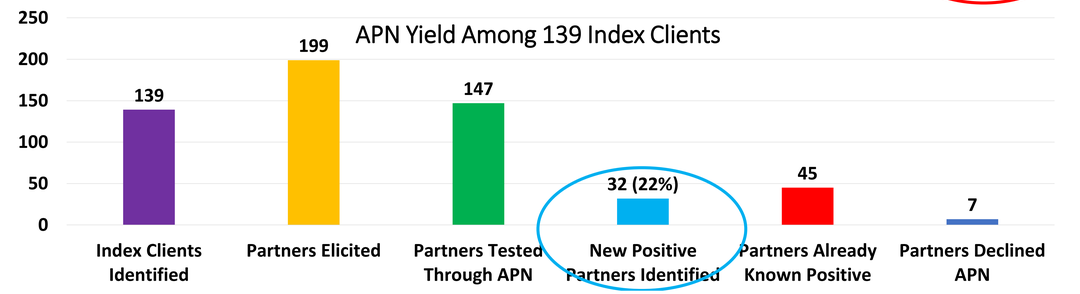
- ✓ Community-based implementation study
- ✓ 6 trained motorcycle taxi drivers - distribute HIVST(ora-quick)
- ✓ Target population: fellow riders, passengers, night food vendors, CSW and other community contacts
- ✓ They delivered verbal messages, explained the testing procedure, and secured verbal consent from their audience
- ✓ Assisted with self-testing as needed
- ✓ Negative individuals- prevention methods (PREP, ABC, VMMC)
- ✓ Positive individuals were escorted to the facility for confirmatory testing, APN, and linkage to care

Community- Led HIV self testing works
Targets High Risk social networks for treatment and prevention
High positivity in the Drivers' networks reveals Hidden Transmission hot spots

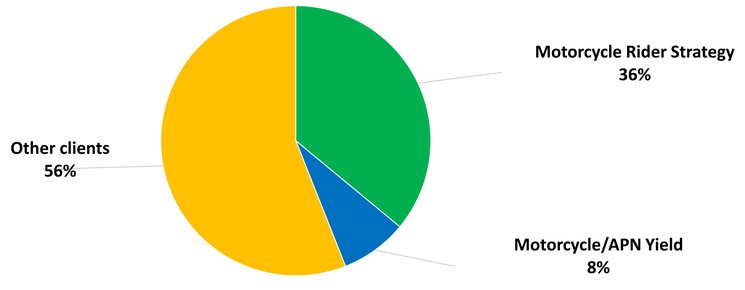
RESULTS

HIV Case Detection Rates via Assisted HIV Self-Testing by Motorcycle taxi drivers:





Contribution of the Motorcycle taxi driver Strategy to Overall Case Identification



CONCLUSIONS

1. Effective Intervention with a High case yield 44% (171/387)
2. Demonstrates Power of Leveraging community and Social Networks
3. Provides a Prevention Opportunity
4. Potential for proactive Scale-Up & Impact

ADDITIONAL KEY INFORMATION :

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PLAIN LANGUAGE SUMMARY

Community-led model using Motorcycle taxi drivers to distribute HIVST kits was successful in:

- Helping people know their HIV status early.
- Linking people to treatment and prevention.
- Reaching people at higher risk.
- Identifying hidden places where HIV is spreading.