



Time to Get Checked! A publicly funded virtual clinic for sexually transmitted and blood-borne infections (STBBI) in BC

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Disclosure Statement

- I have no affiliation (financial or otherwise) with a pharmaceutical, medical device or communications organization.



Rationale

- Increasing STBBI trends
- Increasing demand on STI clinics & testing services
- Known barriers in facing testing
- Patient expectations for online services
- Feasibility, acceptability of online testing services





Objectives of GetCheckedOnline

1. Increase uptake and frequency of testing to diagnose infections earlier
2. Reach populations that experience higher rates of STBBI and also face multiple barriers to accessing testing
3. Increase clinic capacity & improve ability of BC's health care system to provide STBBI testing

COMPLEMENTARY to face-to-face STBBI testing

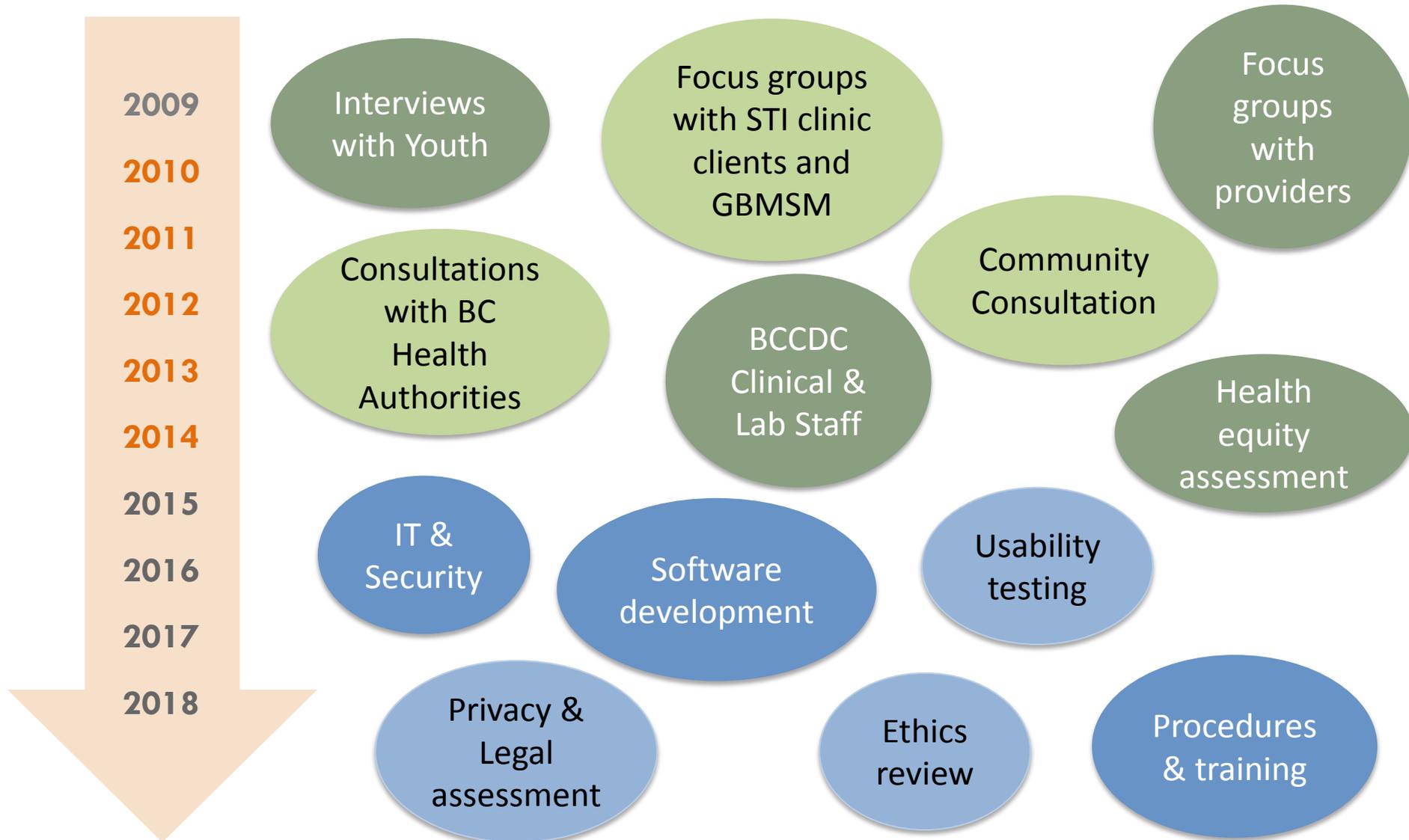


Planning





Planning and Development





Implementation

2009

2010

2011

2012

2013

2014

2015

2016

2017

2018



- **Pilot phase:** Vancouver, Sept 2014
 - Promoted to GBMSM, clinic clients
- **Expansion phase:** Island & Interior Health, Feb 2016
 - Broad promotion in communities



1 Create account



2 Complete assessment

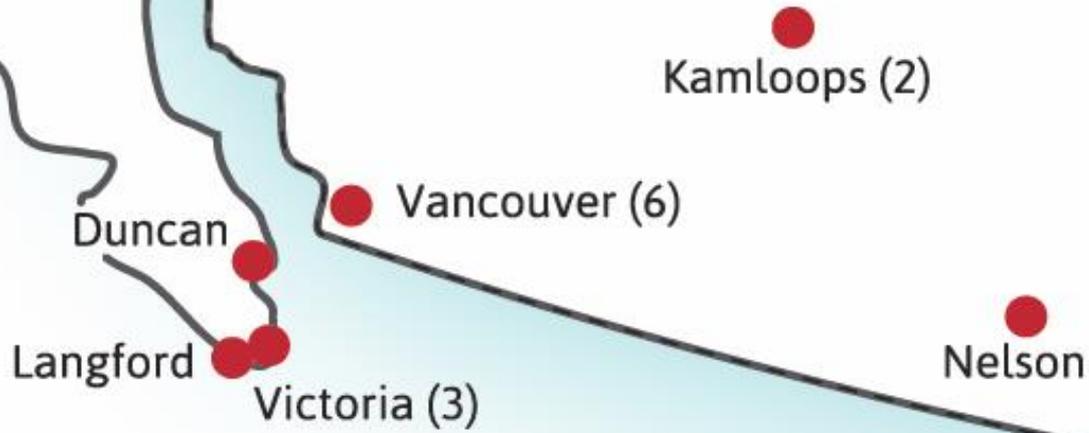


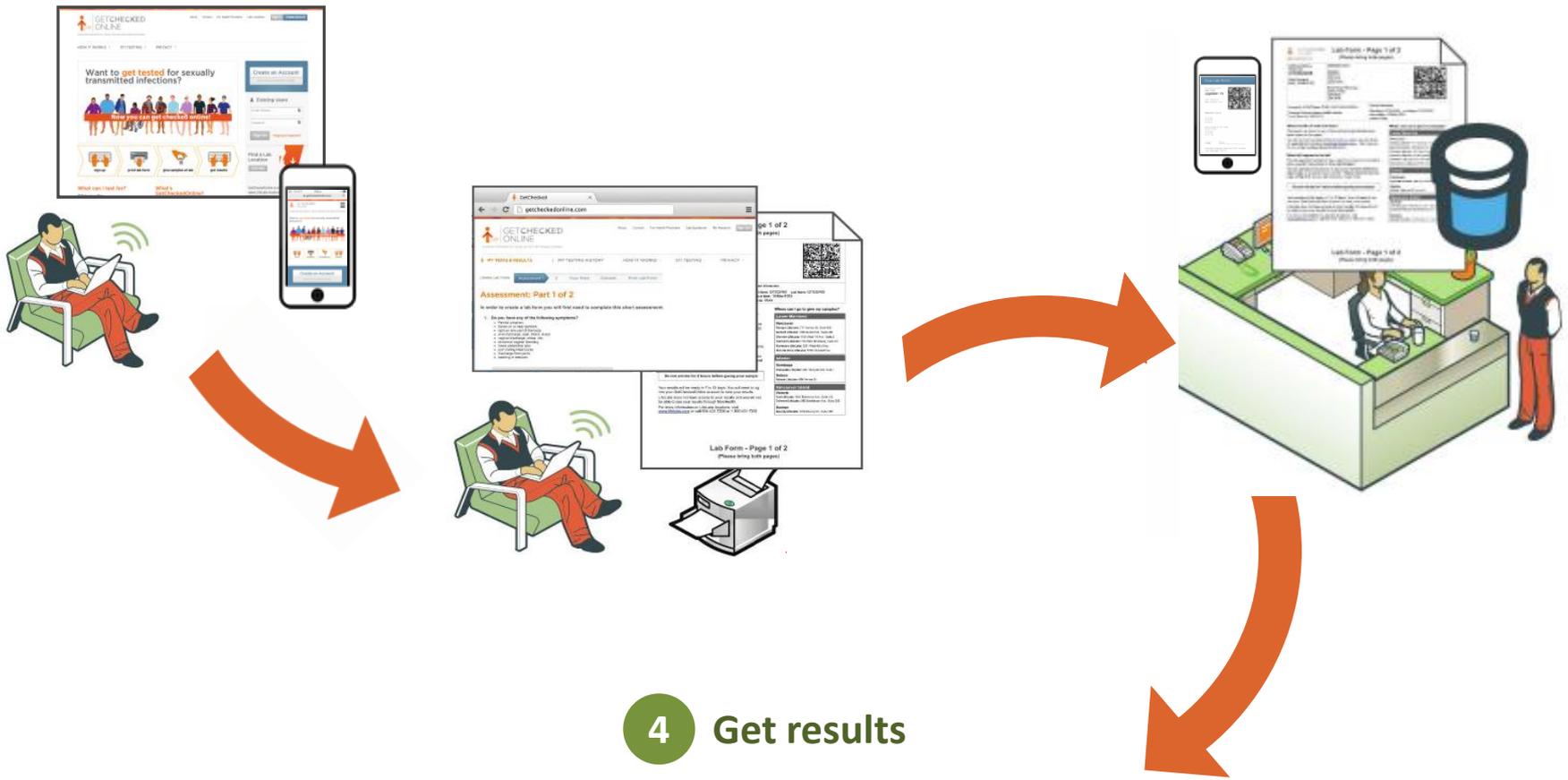
3 Submit specimens



GET CHECKED
ONLINE

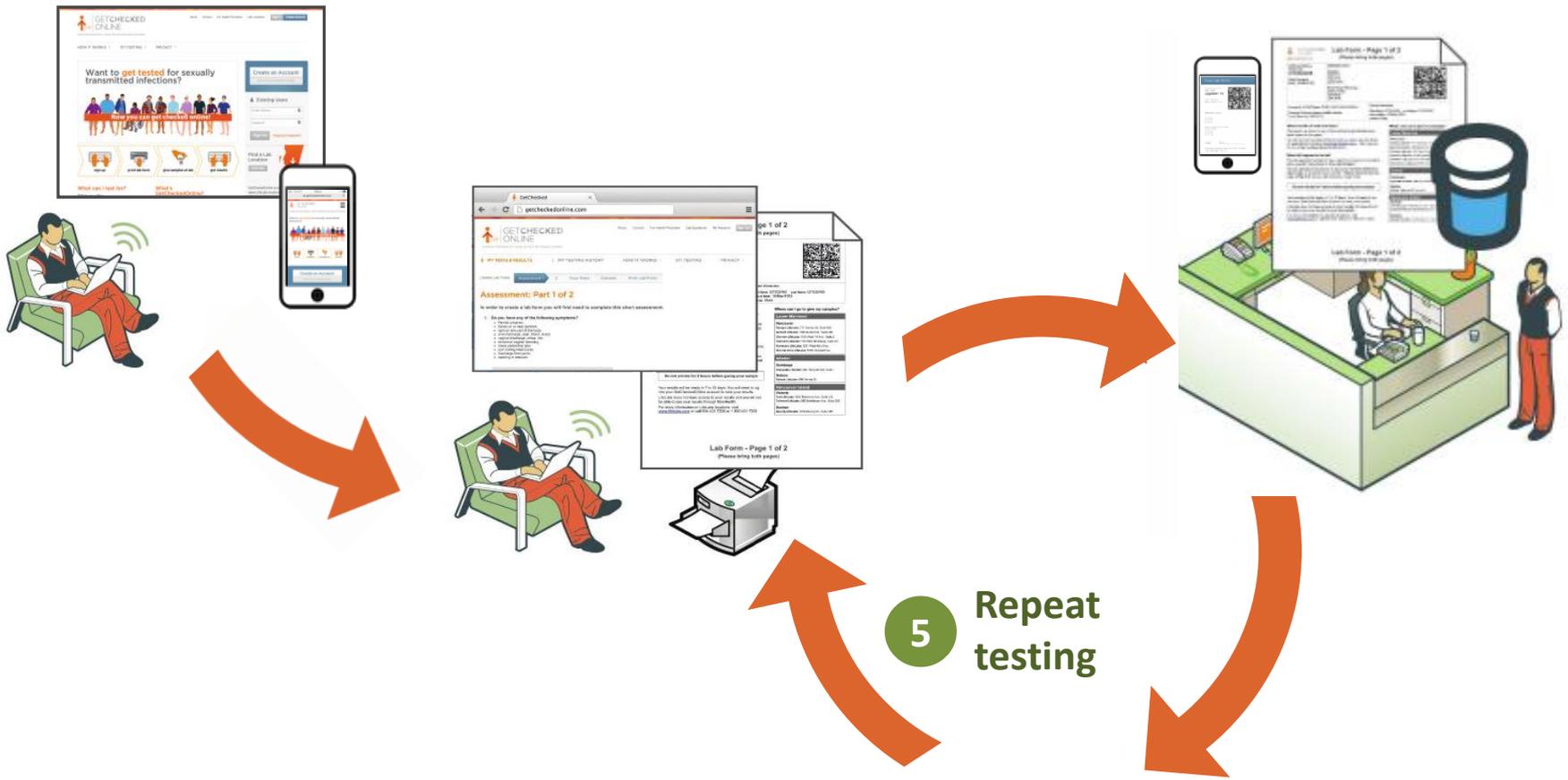
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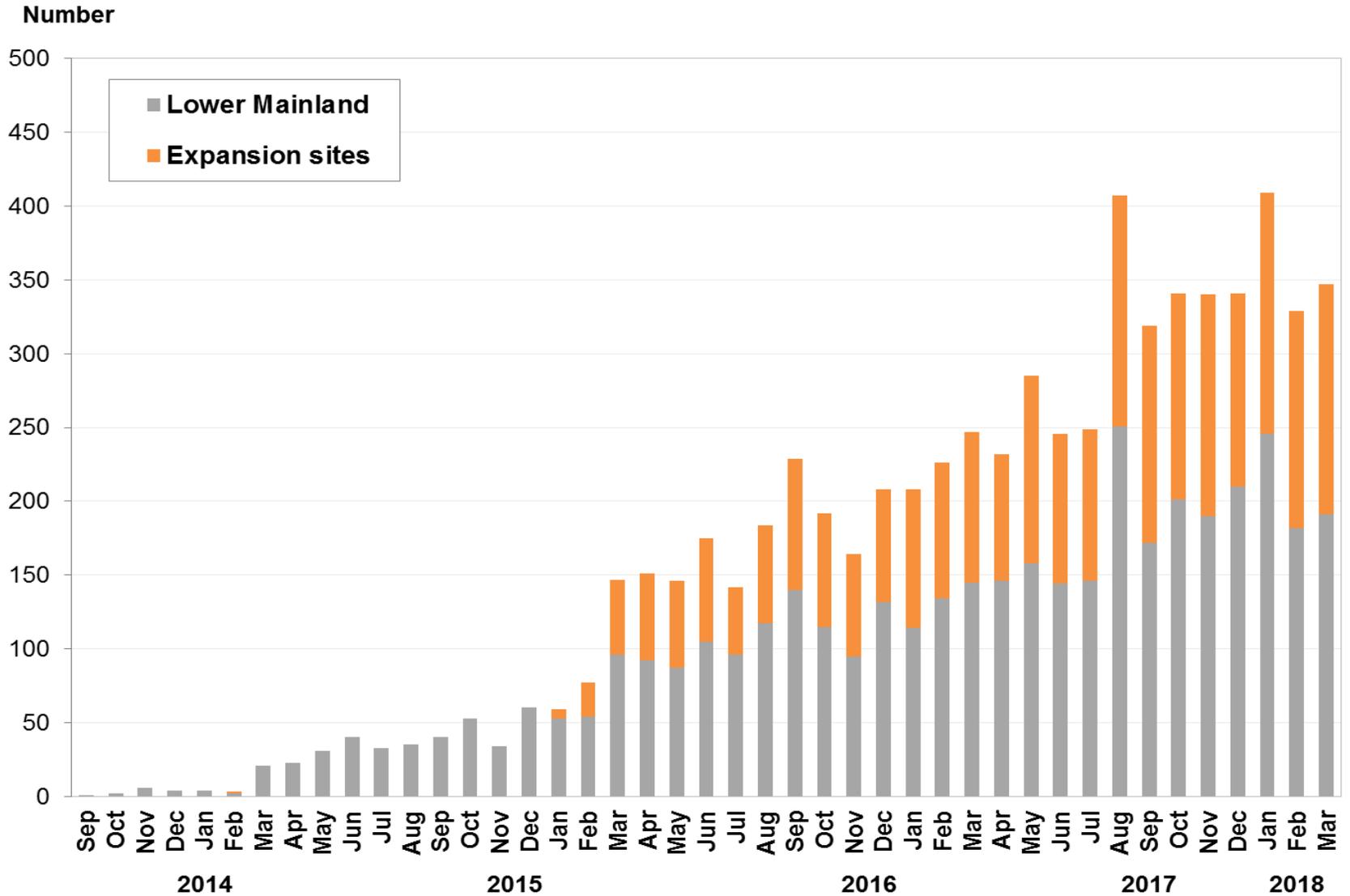
4 Get results







Testing uptake – 3.5 years





Test results

As of March 2018:

7,688 accounts

6,815 test episodes

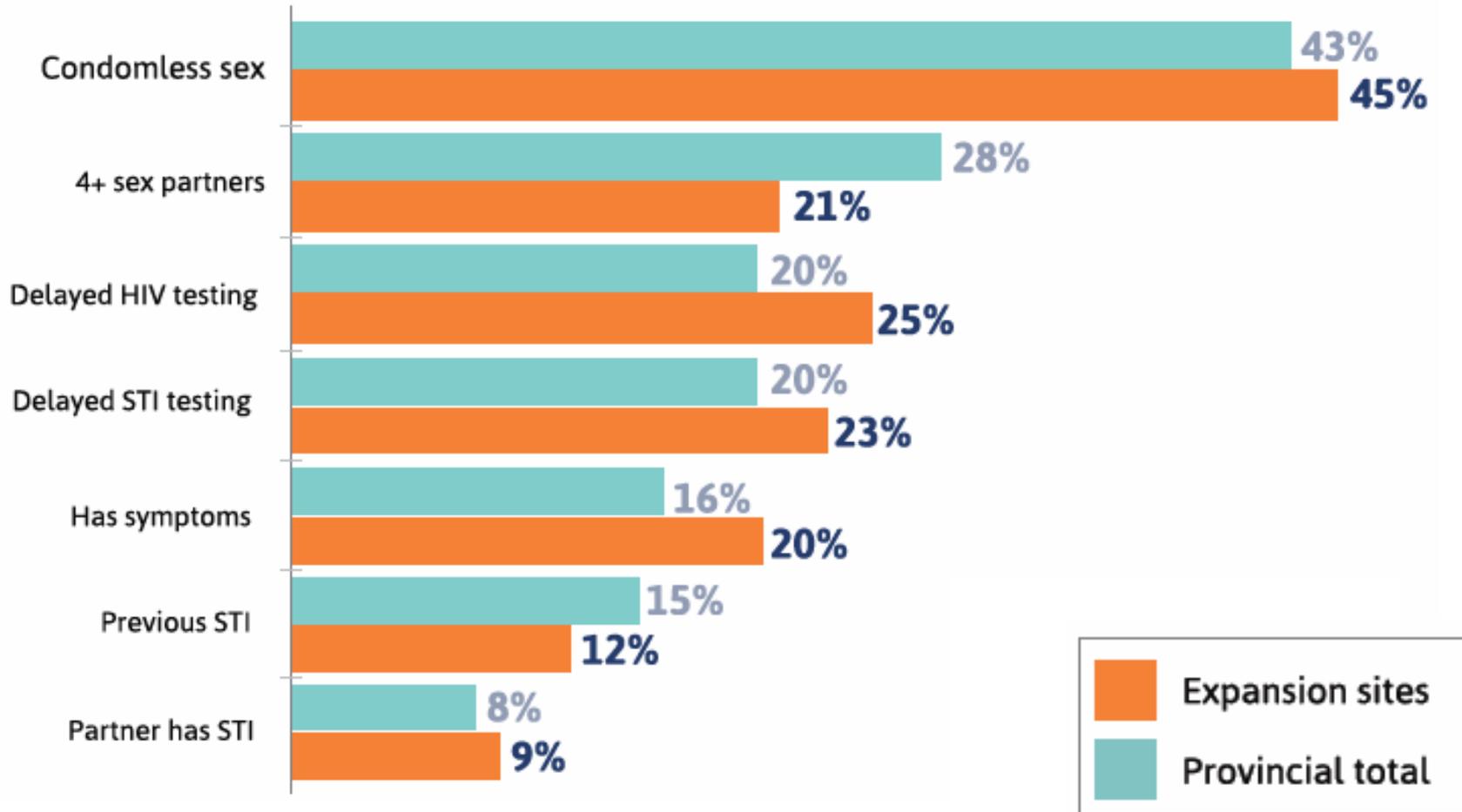
2,758 (40%) repeat testers

357 positive diagnoses (5%)

Infection	n (% of diagnoses)
Chlamydia – urine	169 (47%)
Chlamydia – throat	15 (4%)
Chlamydia – rectal	62 (17%)
Gonorrhea – urine	16 (4%)
Gonorrhea – throat	40 (11%)
Gonorrhea – rectal	30 (8%)
Syphilis	21 (6%)
HIV	3 (1%)
Hepatitis C	1 (<1%)

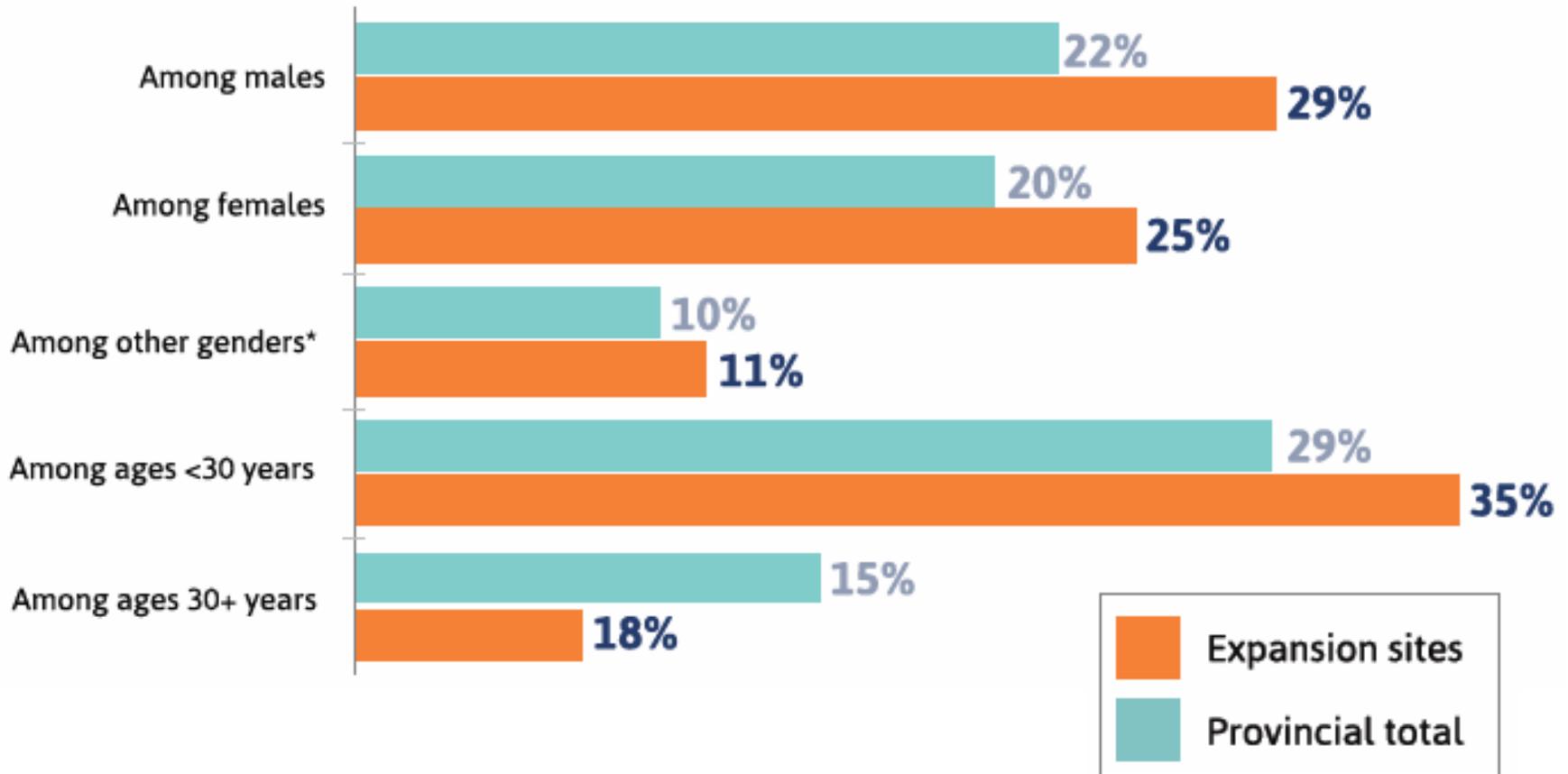


Patient characteristics



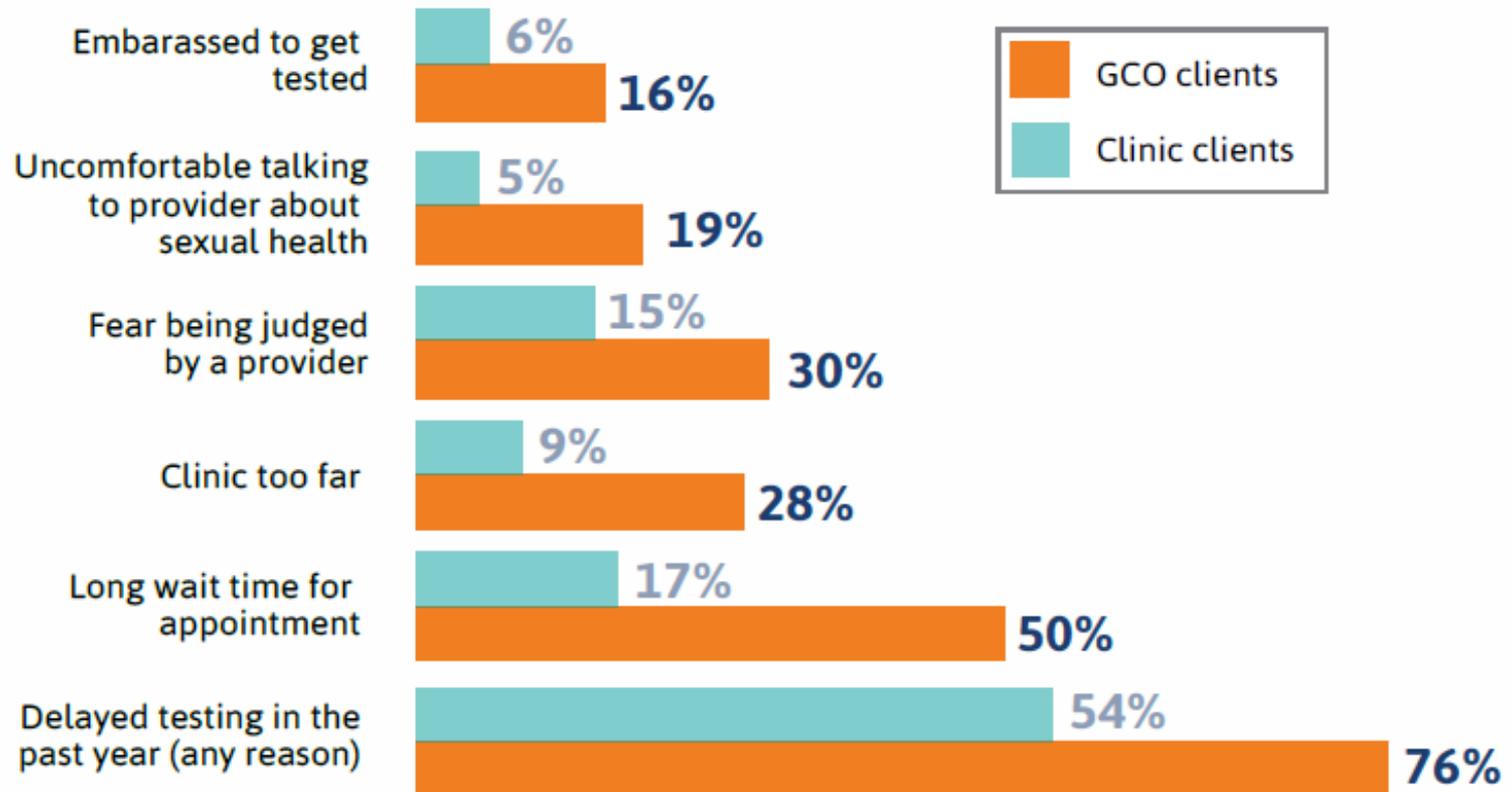


First time testing for HIV





Reported testing barriers





“I would say online testing is way easier and way more convenient and, like, definitely my preferred method. I would not want to go back in for an in-person test now that I’ve been through the online system.”

Female, 26 years, straight

“It’s an online form that has no professional interaction right? And so even though it may suit your needs, you might have some other experiences or situations that could benefit from seeing somebody who’s trained in the field, right? Like, this service doesn’t identify if I have HIV anxiety, right?”

Male, 28 years, bisexual



Key learnings

- Implementing is complex requiring multi-stakeholder engagement, support, collaboration
- Acceptable, feasible, improves access to testing and diagnosis
- Patients highly satisfied, at higher chance of infection, face barriers to accessing testing – and many testing for the first time
- Effective and scalable intervention, with differing impacts in major urban, suburban, smaller urban communities
- Integrating research & evaluation key to success



Current status

- Translating into French, Punjabi, Simplified Chinese
- Exploring options for future expansion with Island, Interior and other regional health authorities
- Sustainability is a concern and looking to secure funding for expansion
- 5 year CIHR team grant to study continued expansion, adaptation, and feasibility in Toronto



BC Centre for Disease Control



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Thanks

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