



Department of
Public Health

CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

Division of HIV Health

HIV Testing in Pharmacy Settings

June 26th, 2024



AGENDA

- RFP process and requirements
- Operating pharmacies
- Strengths
- Challenges
- Program data
- Program marketing
- Next steps

PHARMACY TESTING RFP

- RFP published November 2022
- Awards Made in Jan 2023
- Strategy:
 - Expand access to status-neutral HIV testing outside of traditional clinical and CBO settings through community-based retail pharmacies
 - Based on local analysis of recent data on HIV testing, newly diagnosed HIV, and HIV testing resources by ZIP Code, PDPH identified 13 priority ZIP Codes for this RFP.

APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

- Applicant eligibility:
 - Applicants must be a licensed pharmacy operating in at least one of the priority or adjacent ZIP Codes listed in this RFP.
 - Applicants must have the ability and capacity to provide confidential HIV testing services including a physical space within the pharmacy in which HIV testing can be provided in private.
 - Applicant organizations must provide these services in the City of Philadelphia.
 - Applicant organizations must have an experience with the priority population (or populations) proposed.

CORE COMPONENTS

- Low barrier access: walk-in availability, expanded hours, and no insurance requirements
- Priority populations: gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men, transgender women, Black and African American individuals, Latinx individuals, and people who inject drugs
- § Activities:
 - § Conduct confidential HIV testing in priority ZIP Codes
 - § Provide client education on U=U, condom use, PrEP, PEP, and the PDPH home testing program
 - § For persons testing HIV-positive, expedite linkage to HIV care, defined as a medical visit (or telemedicine visit) within 96 hours of HIV diagnosis to assure immediate ART initiation
 - § Refer clients interested in PrEP to PrEP services
 - § Refer clients in need of PEP to PEP services
 - § Distribute condoms

PRIORITY POPULATIONS

- Groups disproportionately impacted by HIV:
 - Gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men
 - Transgender women who have sex with men
 - Black and African American individuals
 - Latinx individuals
 - People who inject drugs (PWID)

PRIORITY POPULATIONS BY ZIP CODE

Priority ZIP Codes	Neighborhoods	Adjacent Priority ZIP Codes
19120	Olney	19124
19121	Brewerytown	19131 and 19132
19124	Frankford	19120 and 19134
19131	Wynnefield Heights	19121, 19132, and 19139
19132	Allegheny West	19121, 19131, and 19133
19133	Fairhill	19132
19134	Port Richmond	19124

PRIORITY POPULATIONS BY ZIP CODE

Priority ZIP Codes	Neighborhoods	Adjacent Priority ZIP Codes
19138	East Germantown	19144
19139	Walnut Hill	19131 and 19143
19142	Elmwood	19143
19143	Southwest Cedar Park	19139 and 19142
19144	Germantown	19138
19148	South Philadelphia East	-

OPERATING PHARMACY TESTING LOCATIONS

- Sunray Drugs 52nd St
 - ZIP Code 19122
 - Initiated testing services in October 2023
- Sunray Drugs K&A
 - ZIP Code 19134
 - Initiated testing services in August 2023
- La Vida Discount Pharmacy
 - Zip Code 19134
 - Initiated testing services in August 2023

STRENGTHS



CONVENIENT,
COMFORTABLE LOCATION
FOR TESTING



ADDITIONAL HEALTH
SERVICES OFFERED ON-SITE

CHALLENGES – DELAYS TO TESTING INITIATION



- Delay with CLIA permit for Sunray 52nd St location
 - Resulted in a delay to initiation of testing activities
- Looting at Sunray Drugs 52nd St
 - Resulted in damage to partitions in the testing area
 - Further delayed initiation of services

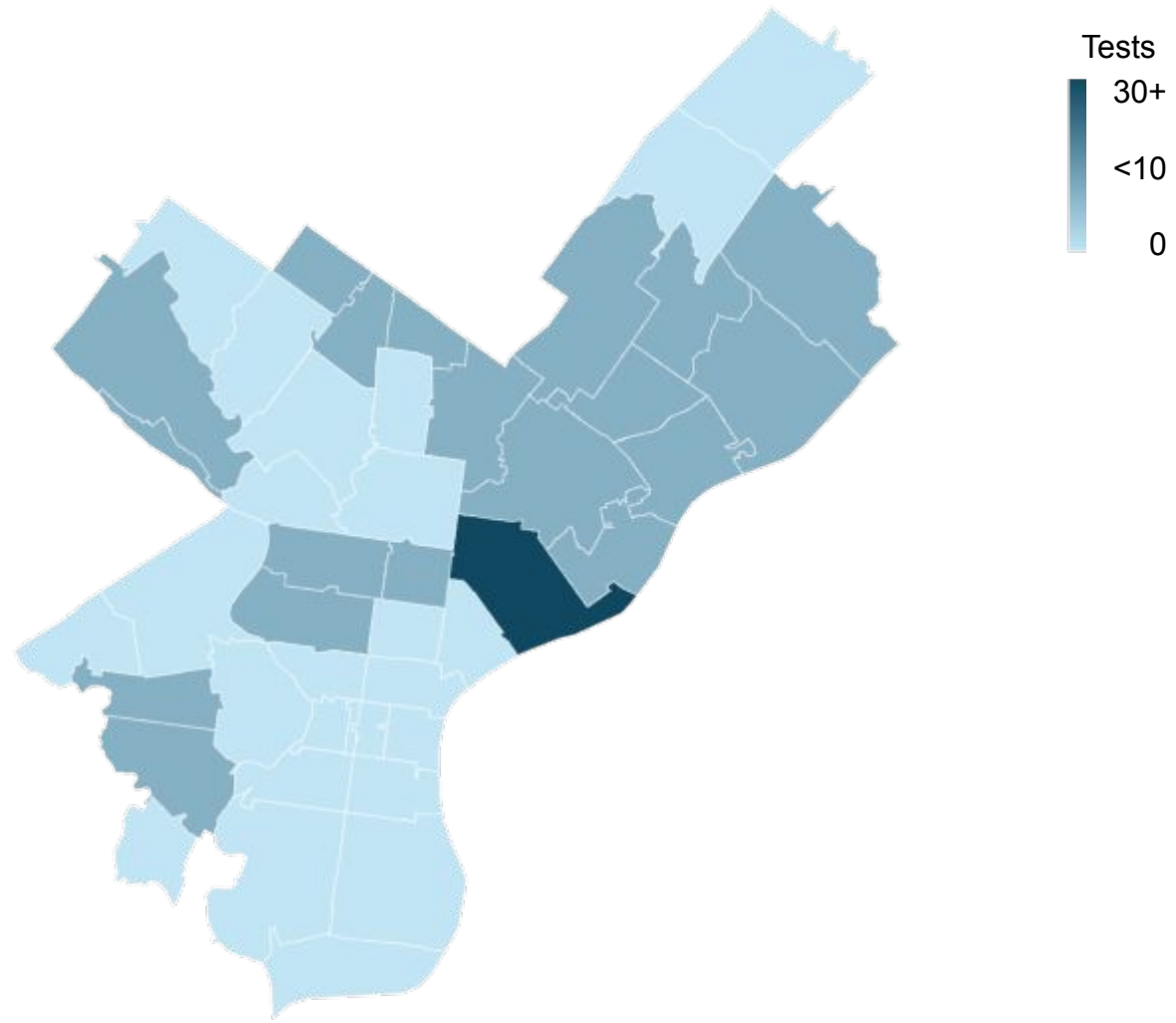
CHALLENGES CONTINUED

- Busy nature of pharmacies leave limited time for promotion and provision of HIV testing among clients
- Stigma among potential clients when specifically offered HIV testing
- Insufficient incentives for potential clients to engage in testing

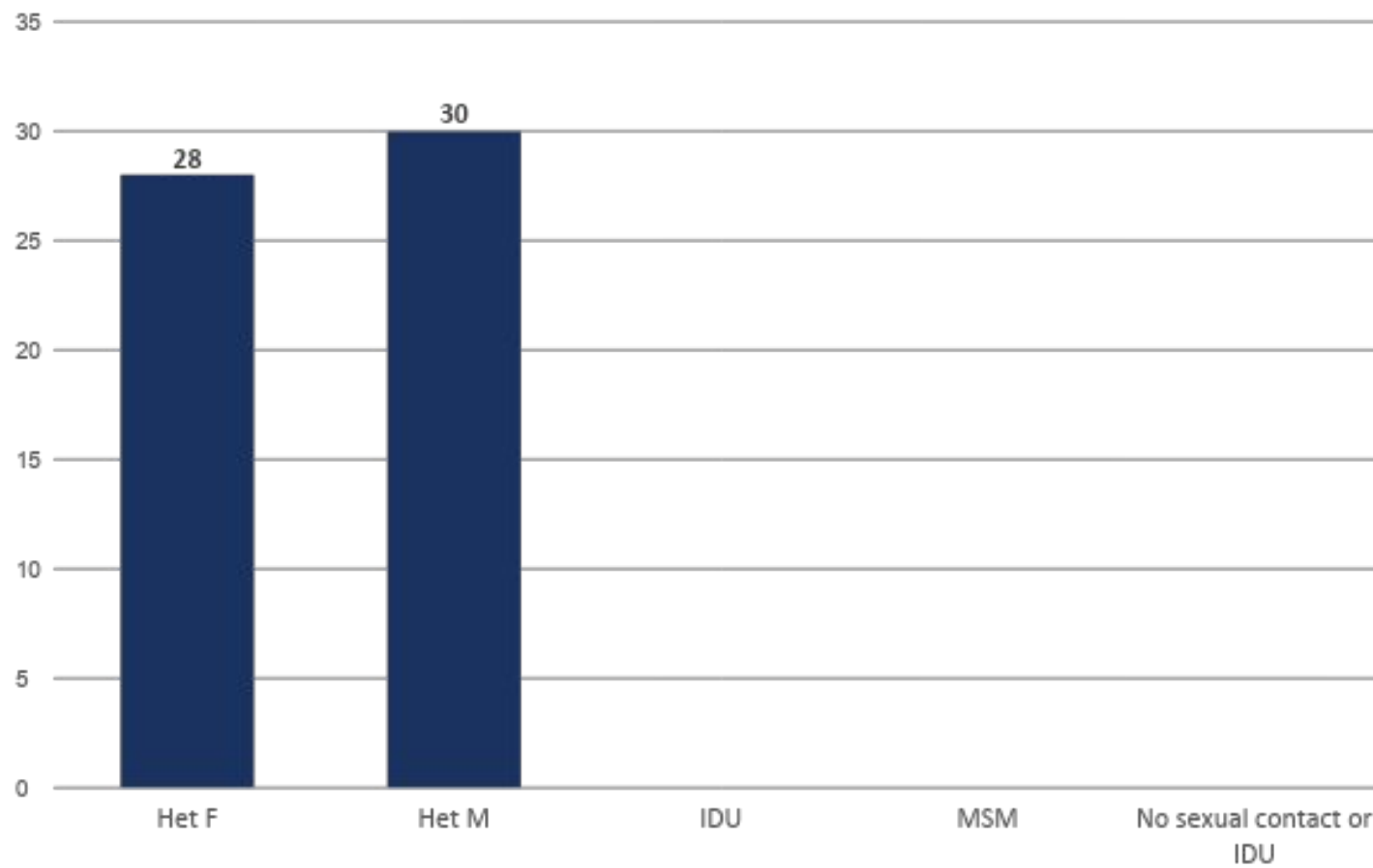


PROGRAM DATA

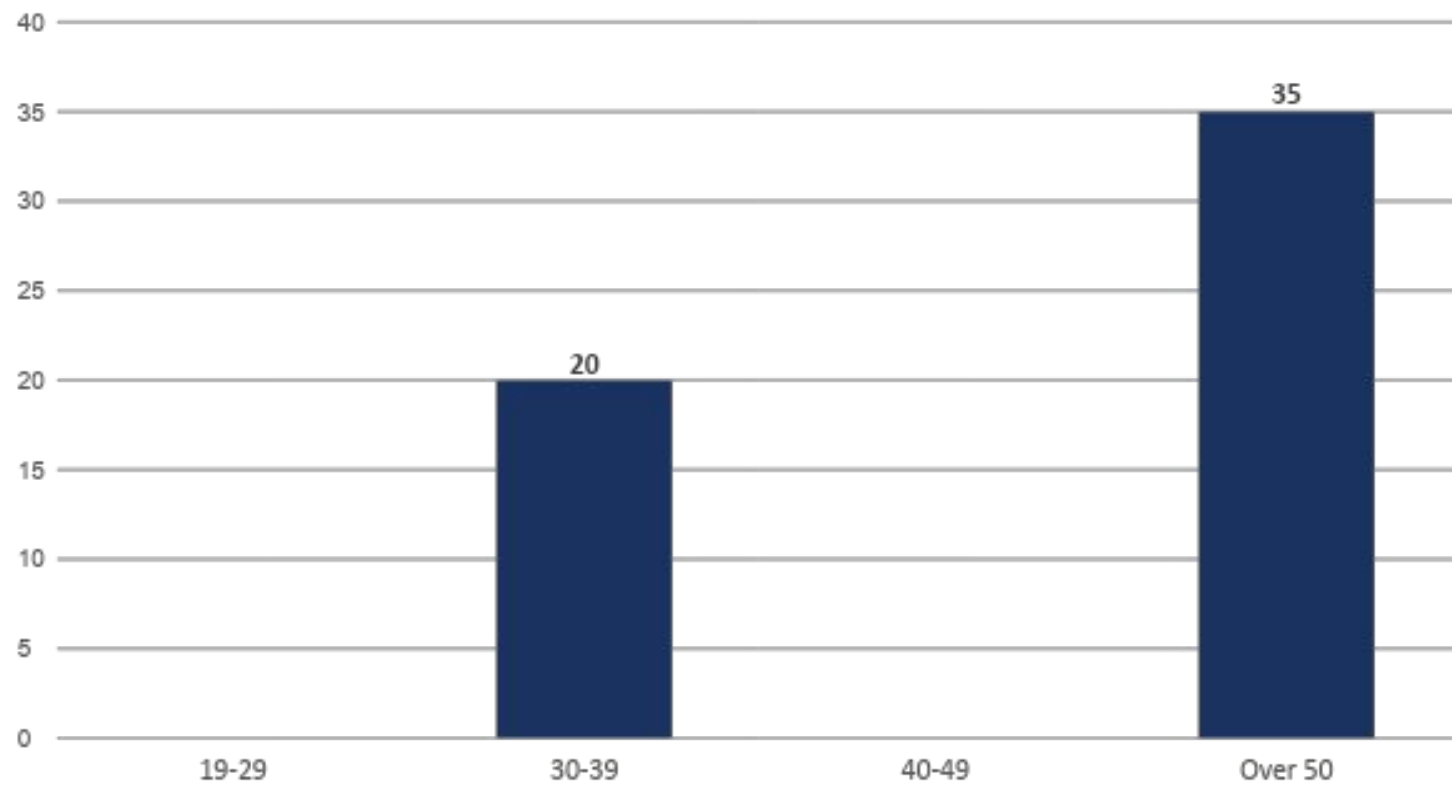
Pharmacy Testing by Client Zip Code



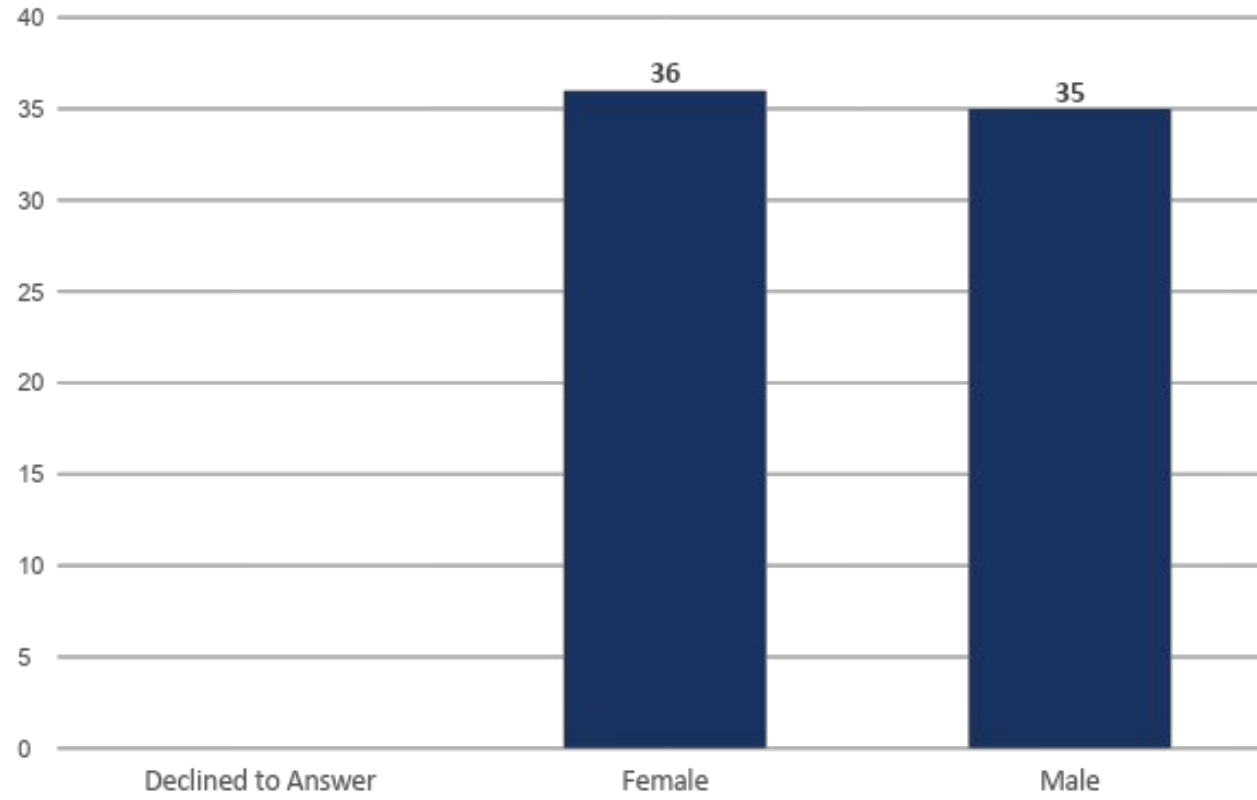
Priority Populations (risks reported in past 5 years)



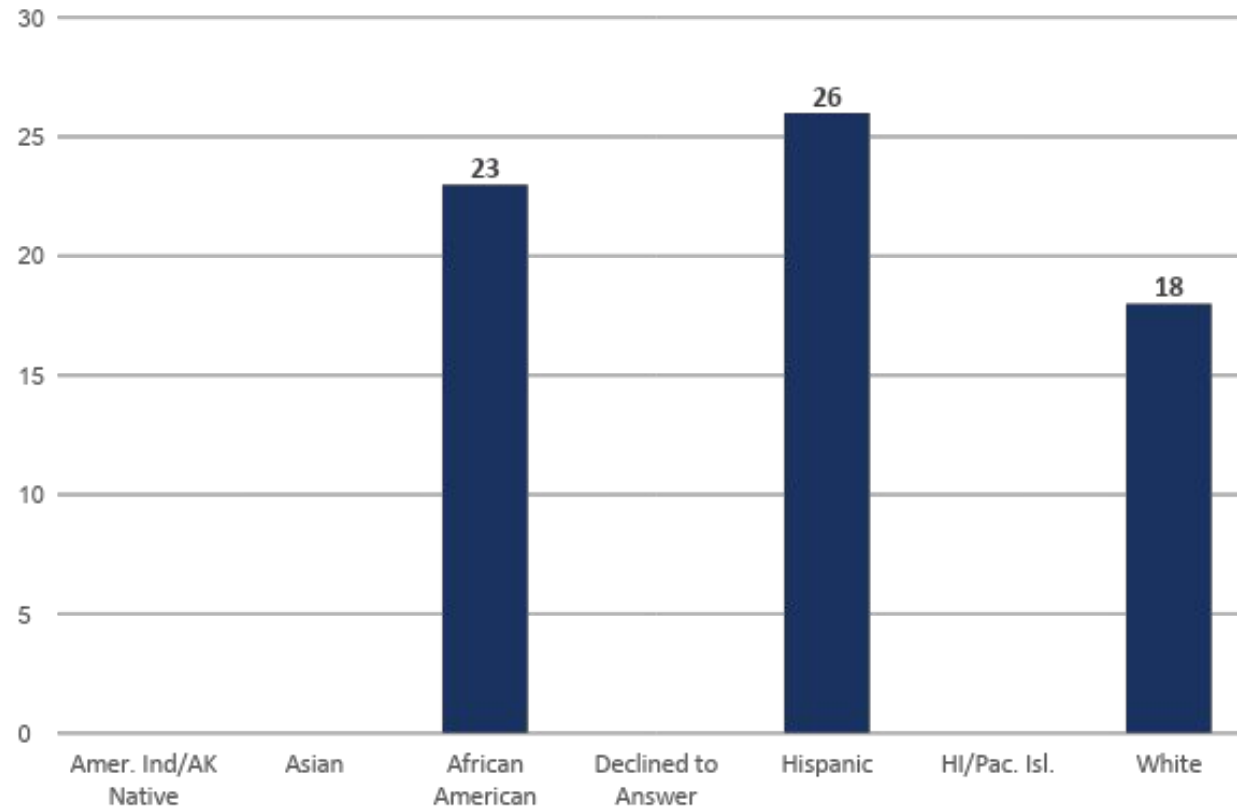
Pharmacy Testing by Age Range



Pharmacy Testing by Current Gender



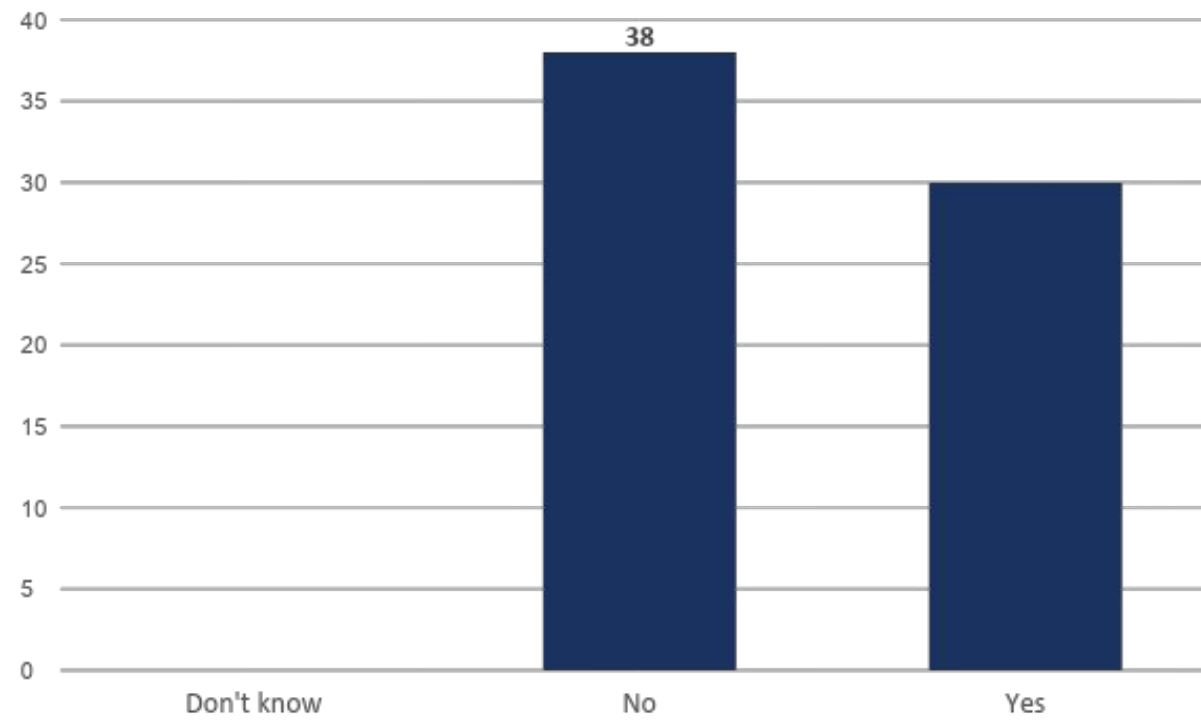
Pharmacy Testing by Race and Ethnicity



PrEP Cascade in Pharmacy Testing Program



Pharmacy Testing Clients—Ever Had an HIV Test?





PROGRAM MARKETING

WE'LL TREAT YOU RIGHT

Walk in for the quality health care you
deserve at **La Vida Discount Pharmacy**



Free rapid
HIV testing



Walk-ins
available



Info about
referral services

We also offer

- Blood glucose test
- Pneumonia vaccine
- Tdap
- Blood pressure check
- Shingles vaccine
- RSV vaccine
- COVID-19 vaccination
- Flu vaccine
- Other vaccines by request



WE'LL TREAT YOU RIGHT

Walk in for the quality
health care you deserve at
La Vida Discount Pharmacy

- ✓ Free rapid HIV testing
- ✓ Walk-ins available
- ✓ Info about referral services

We also offer

- Blood glucose test
- Blood pressure check
- COVID-19 vaccination
- Pneumonia vaccine
- Shingles vaccine
- Flu vaccine
- Tdap
- RSV vaccine
- Other vaccines by request





**WE'LL
TREAT
YOU
RIGHT**

WELCOME TO
**La Vida
Discount Pharmacy**

2363 E Allegheny Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19134

215-427-1603

**Walk in for the quality
health care you deserve.**

- ✓ Free rapid HIV testing
- ✓ Walk-ins available
- ✓ Info about referral services

And more!



MORE LOCATIONS:

Sunray Drugs – K&A
825 E. Allegheny Ave.
215-425-7700

Sunray Drugs – 52nd St
142 S. 52nd St.
215-474-4615

OTHER FORMS OF PROGRAM PROMOTION

- In-person outreach to local areas and businesses
- Promotion on-site through physical resources and electronic displays
- Client interactions
- Information about pharmacy testing services in the testing directory on PhillyKeepOnLoving.com

NEXT STEPS

- Development of specific language/scripts for pharmacy staff to use when offering HIV testing to clients
 - Normalizing HIV testing as part of more comprehensive health screening/services
- Deeper look into why testing uptake is low among PWID despite strategic geographic placement of pharmacies