

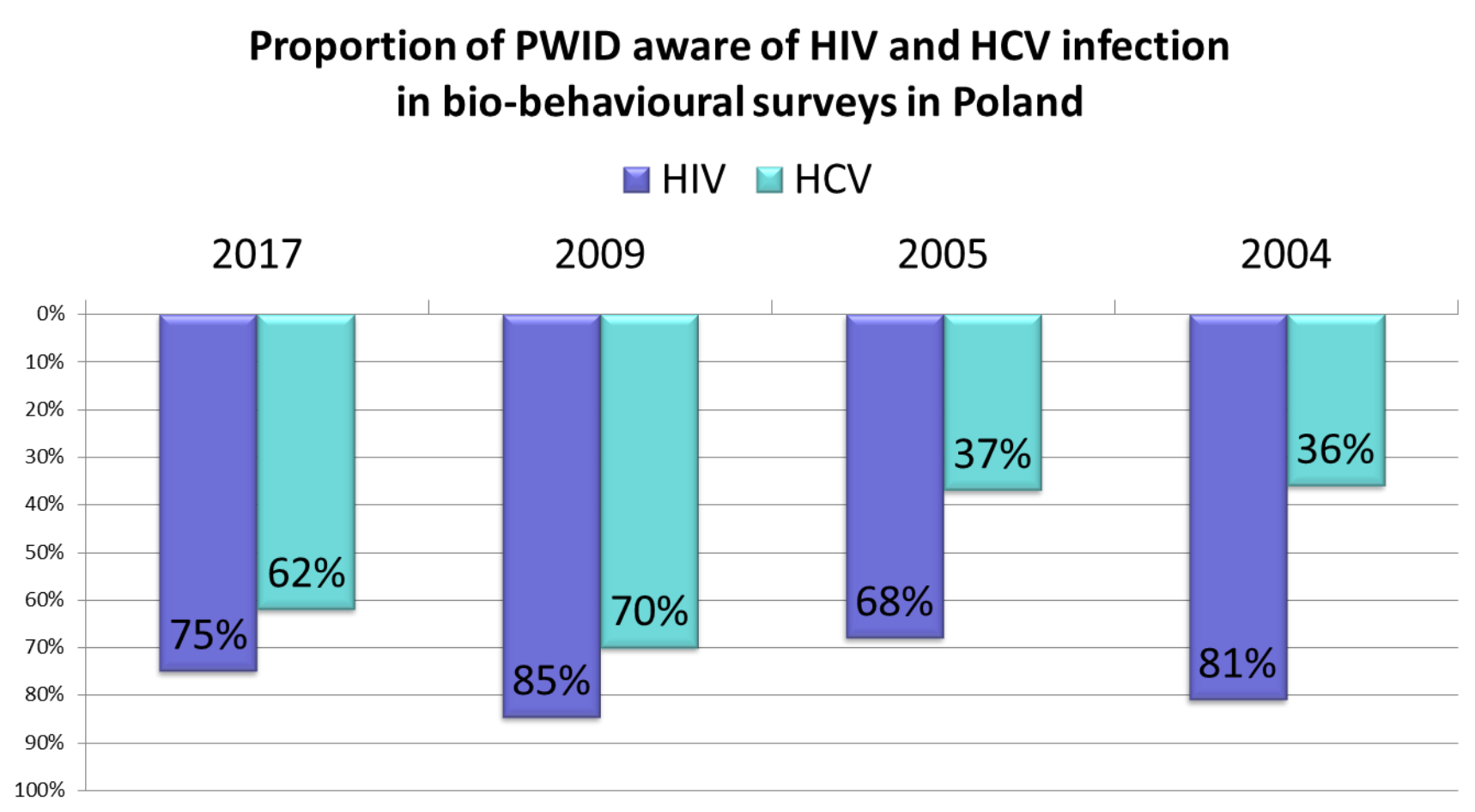
Low access to HIV and HCV testing among People Who Inject Drugs (PWID) in Poland. Cross-sectional multicenter study 2017.



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BACKGROUND

Previous studies among PWID in Poland identified the need to improve blood-borne diseases testing rates in order to reach the WHO and UNAIDS targets for 2030.



OBJECTIVES

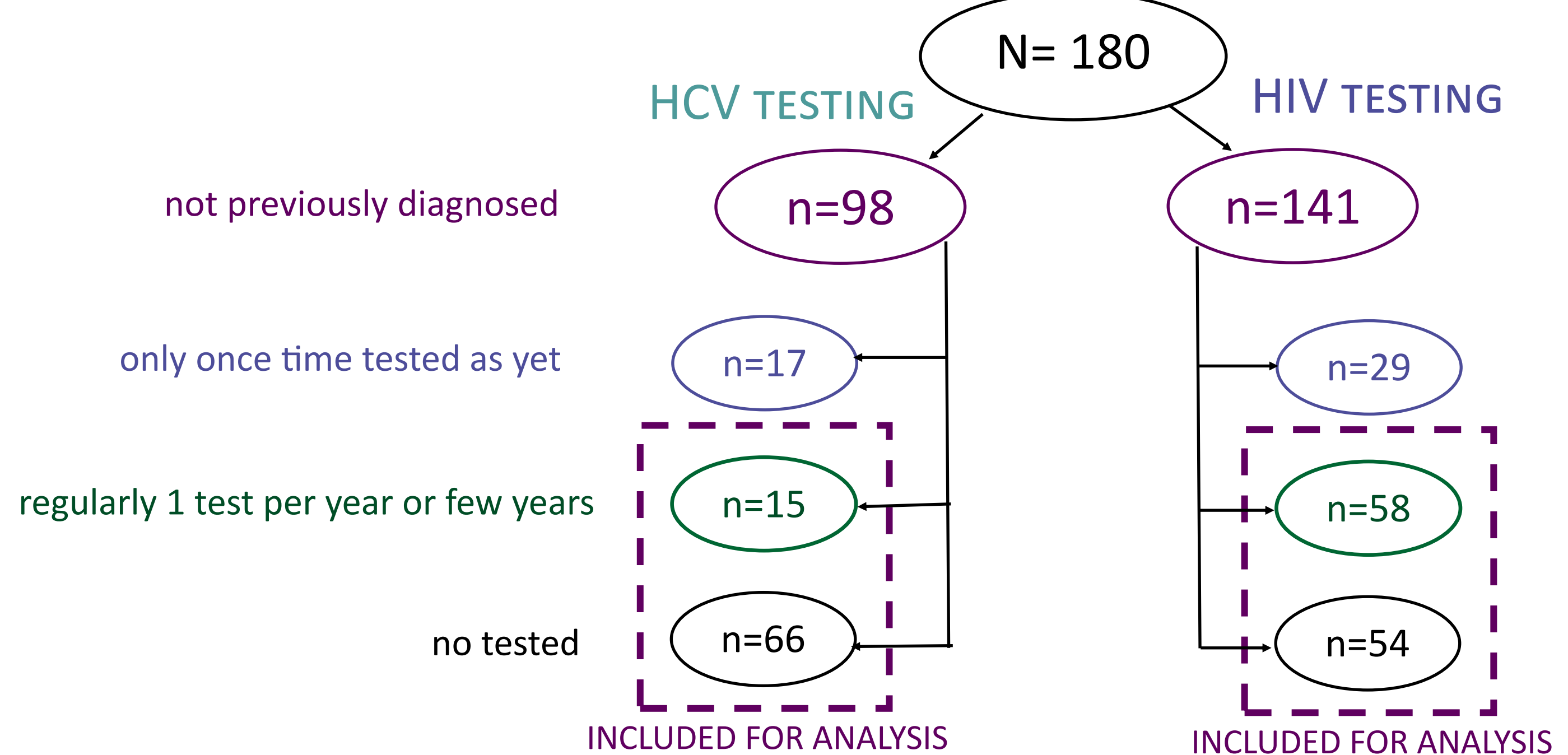
We aimed to trace the testing patterns of HIV and HCV among PWID in Poland, to quantify testing uptake and the predictors of regular testing.

METHODS

- STUDY DESIGN:** cross-sectional bio-behavioral study
- SAMPLING METHOD:** Respondent Driven Sampling (RDS)
- PARTICIPANTS:** People who EVER inject drugs (N=180)
- TIME OF RECRUITMENT:** September-November 2017
- PLACE OF RECRUITMENT:** four cities in Poland:
 - Chorzow (n=50)
 - Cracow (n=40)
 - Warsaw (n=70)
 - Wroclaw (n=20)
- INCLUSION CRITERIA FOR THE STUDY:**
 1. valid RDS coupon
 2. age 18+
 3. injecting drugs at least once in life
 4. residing in the studied areas for at least 3 months
- INCLUSION CRITERIA FOR ANALYSIS:**
 1. in respective analysis: not previously diagnosed with HIV OR HCV infection
 2. in respective analysis: >1 test for HIV OR for HCV before the study
- TESTING INDICATOR:**
 - number of HIV(HCV) tests
 - year of last HIV(HCV) test
 - year of first HIV(HCV) test

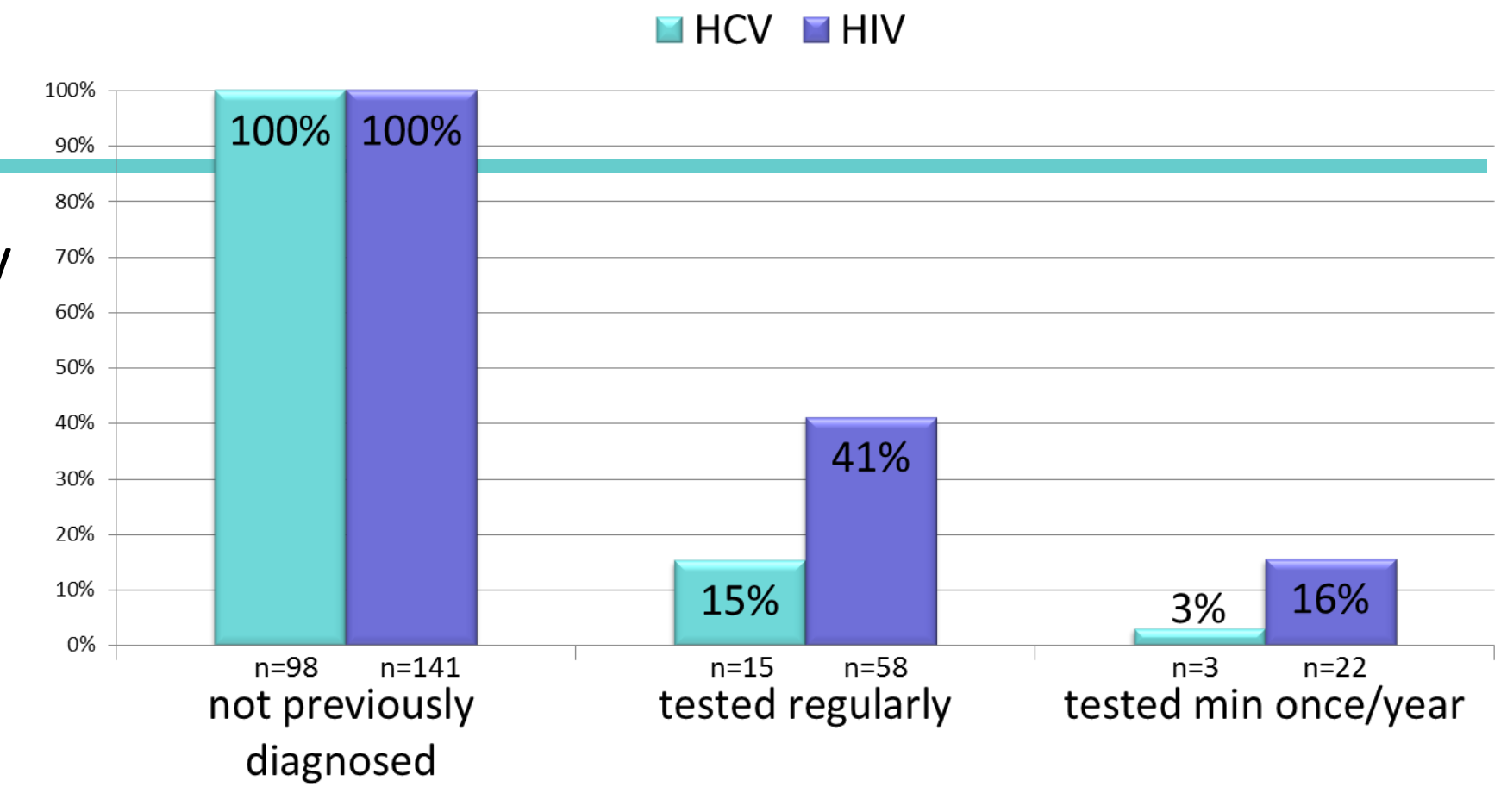


STATISTICAL ANALYSIS: Pearson chi-square tests
 level of significance: 5%



RESULTS

Among PWID, who were not previously diagnosed with HCV/HIV infection, 15 (15%) and 58 (41%) persons tested regularly, respectively. Of them, 3 respondents for HCV and 22 for HIV have tested minimum once per year.



	HCV testing		HIV testing	
	No regular	1 test/ year or more	No regular	1 test/ year or more
sex characteristic				
male	n = 48	n = 12	n = 39	n = 47
	% = 80.0	% = 20.0	% = 45.4	% = 54.6
female	n = 18	n = 3	n = 15	n = 11
	% = 85.7	% = 14.3	% = 57.7	% = 42.3
age				
<25 years	n = 23	n = 2	n = 20	n = 4
	% = 92.0	% = 8.0	% = 83.3	% = 16.7
≥25 years	n = 43	n = 13	n = 34	n = 54
	% = 76.8	% = 23.2	% = 38.6	% = 61.4
first injection				
<2 years ago	n = 18	n = 3	n = 16	n = 7
	% = 85.7	% = 14.3	% = 69.6	% = 30.4
2-10 years ago	n = 29	n = 2	n = 23	n = 11
	% = 93.6	% = 6.4	% = 67.7	% = 32.3
≥10 years ago	n = 17	n = 10	n = 14	n = 38
	% = 63.0	% = 37.0	% = 26.9	% = 73.1
last injection				
<30 days ago	n = 37	n = 11	n = 33	n = 40
	% = 77.1	% = 22.9	% = 45.2	% = 54.8
30 days-12 months ago	n = 7	n = 1	n = 6	n = 9
	% = 87.5	% = 12.5	% = 40.0	% = 60.0
>1 year ago	n = 21	n = 3	n = 14	n = 9
	% = 87.5	% = 12.5	% = 60.9	% = 39.1
new psychoactive substances as main drug -> last 30 days				
yes	n = 50	n = 11	n = 40	n = 43
	% = 82.0	% = 18.0	% = 48.2	% = 51.8
no	n = 16	n = 4	n = 14	n = 15
	% = 80.0	% = 20.0	% = 48.3	% = 51.7

highlighted purple = p<0.05

CONCLUSION

The access to HIV/HCV testing among PWID in Poland is low. There is a need to intensify access to testing, especially for the young and new PWID. Without this, reaching the WHO's/UNAIDS targets are at risk.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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