



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**AUCKLAND**  
Te Whare Wānanga o Tāmaki Makaurau  
NEW ZEALAND

MEDICAL AND  
HEALTH SCIENCES

# Sexual partnering of HIV positive gay and bisexual men

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Te Whare Wānanga o Ōtago



New Zealand AIDS Foundation  
Te Tuāpapa Mate Āraikore o Aotearoa



# Prevention today

- Prevention is in flux
- T&T, PrEP “game-changers”
- Other factors haven’t changed (anal intercourse efficiency, networks, stigma, STIs)
- Understand responses of HIV positive and HIV negative GBM

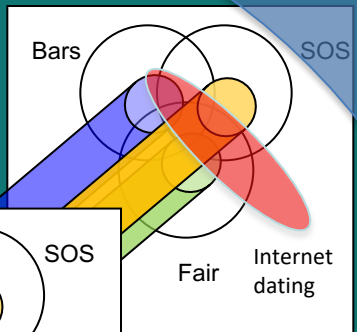


# Aims

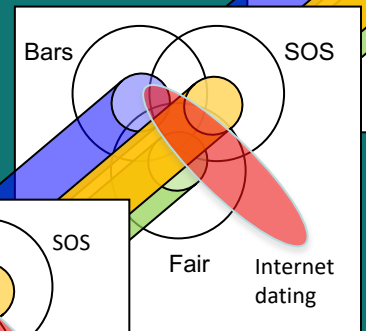
- Describe HIV positive GBM in repeat behavioural surveys
- Examine sexual partnerships and HIV concordancy
- Explore associations with potential HIV and STI exposure



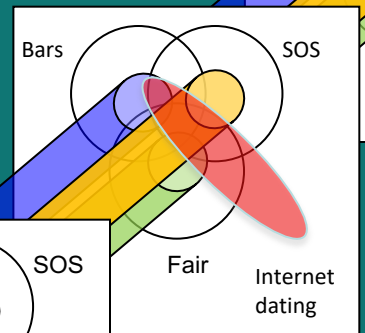
2014 n=1421



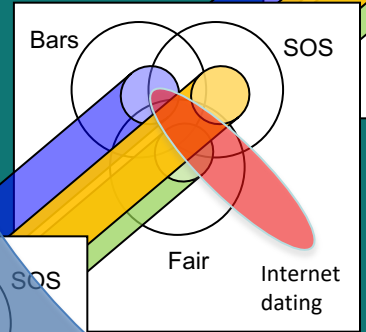
2011 n=1320



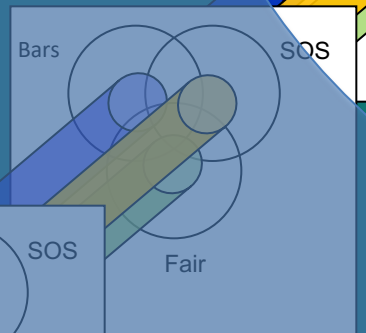
2008 n=1527



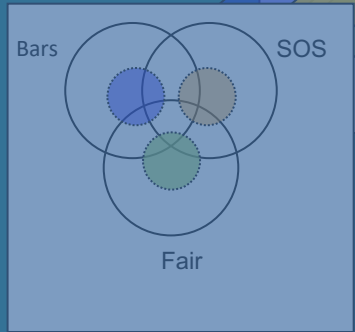
2006 n=1228



2004 n=1220



2002 n=812



2014 N=1793

2011 N=1917

2008 n=1477

2006 N=2141

### Gay men's Online Sex Survey (GOSS)

Recruitment starts after GAPSS on Internet dating sites.

## Gay Auckland Periodic Sex Survey (GAPSS)

Recruitment at Big Gay Out, then bars and sex-on-site (SOS) venues simultaneously over subsequent week

# Measures

- Casual partners <6 months; Current regular partner
- Condomless anal intercourse (CAI) <6 months
- HIV seroconcordancy (+/-) (+/?) (+/+)
- ART status
- STI diagnosis <12 months



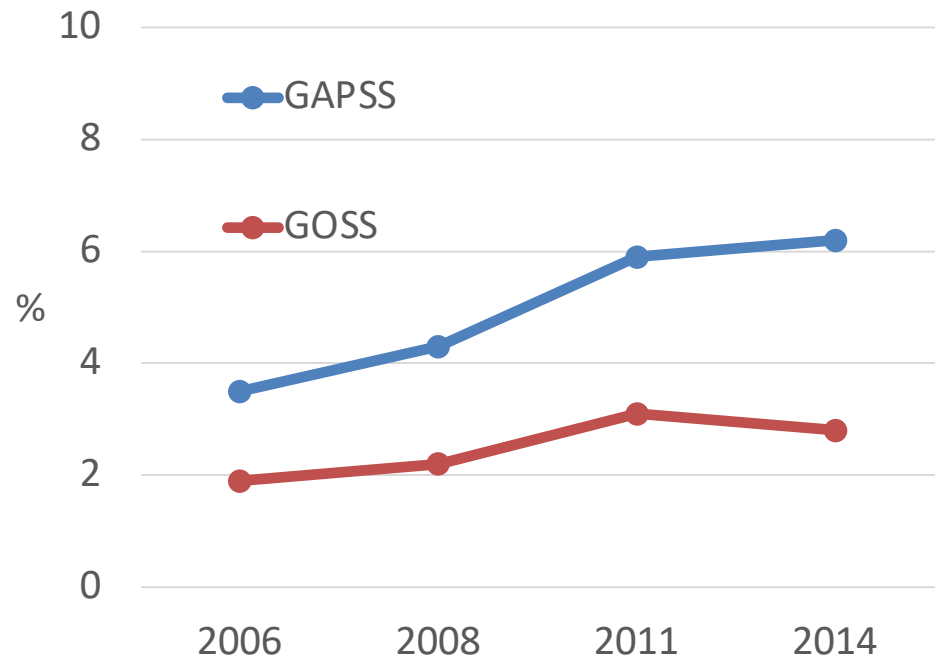
# HIV positive GBM

- Total sample 2006-2014 n=12,809
- Diagnosed HIV positive n=458
- 3.7%



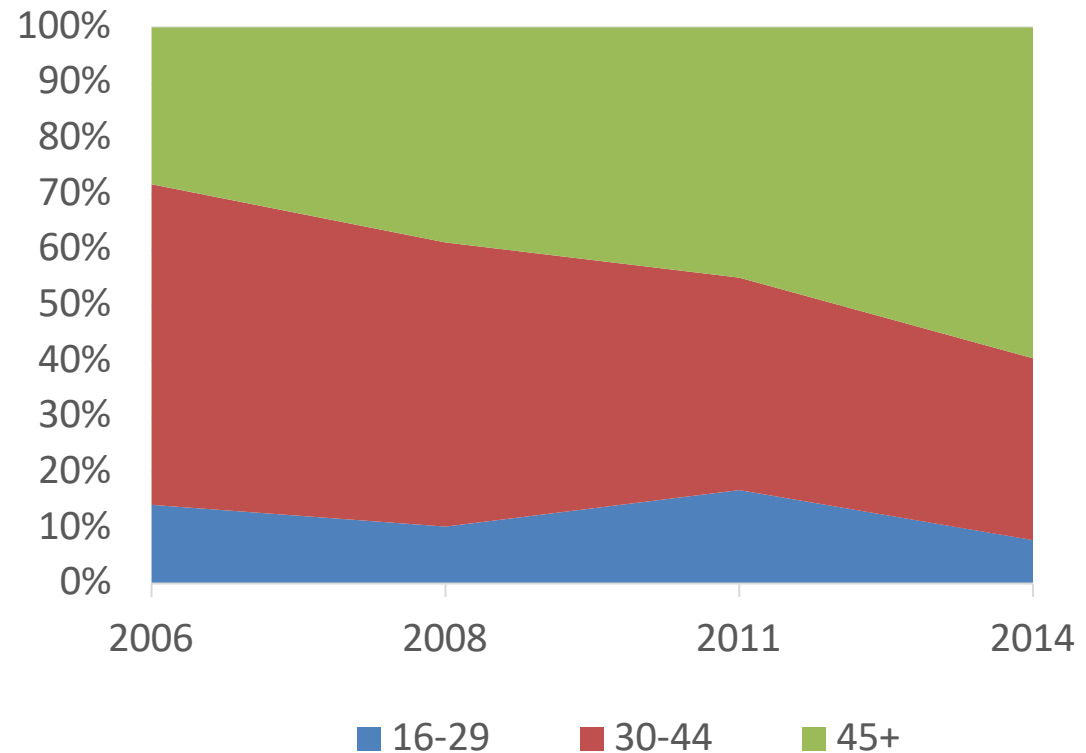
# Proportion diagnosed HIV positive

- Rising over time
- Higher in GAPSS (Auckland)
- Consistent with ongoing diagnoses



# Age profile

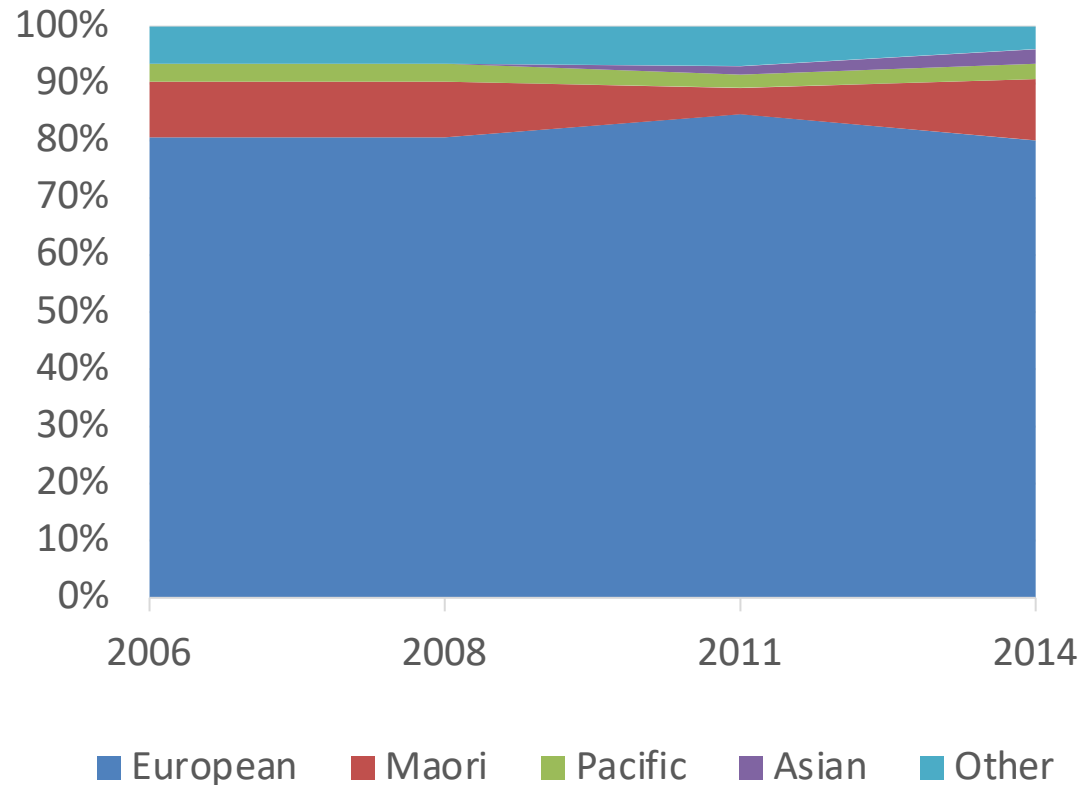
- Ageing population
- By 2014:
  - 60% aged 45+
  - 33% aged 30-44
  - 8% under 30





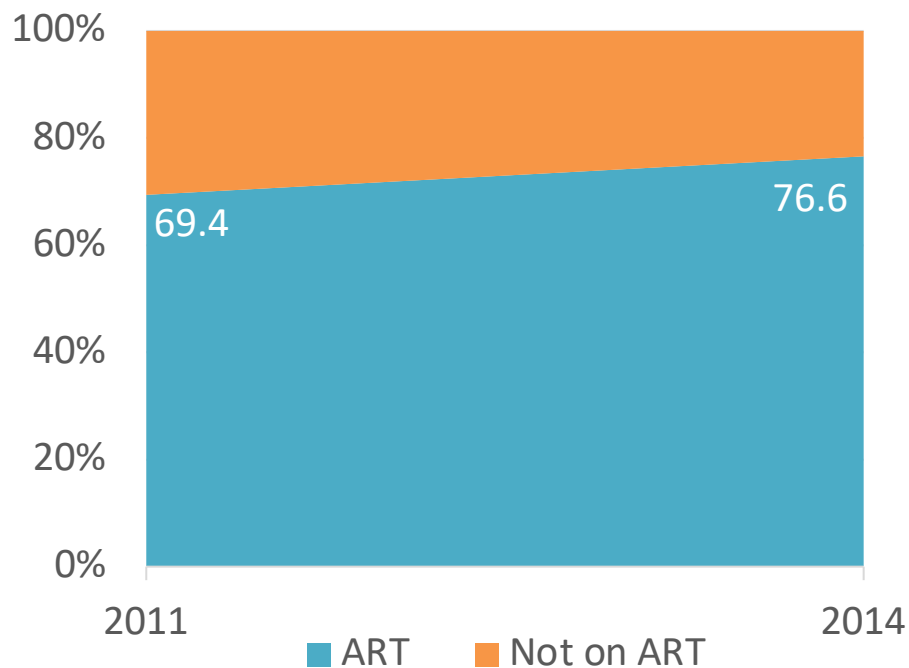
# Ethnicity profile

- Majority European
- By 2014:
  - 11% Maori
  - 5% Asian
  - 3% Pacific

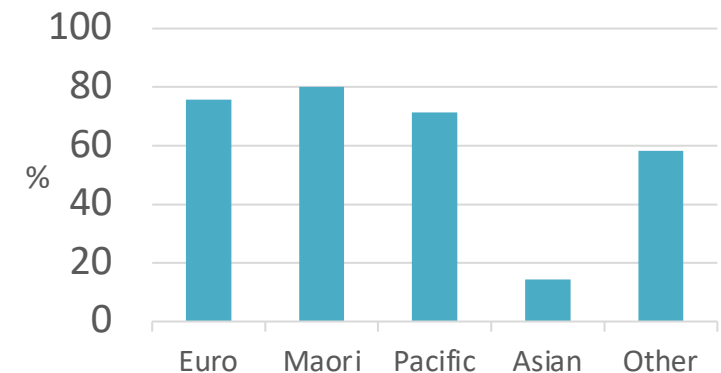
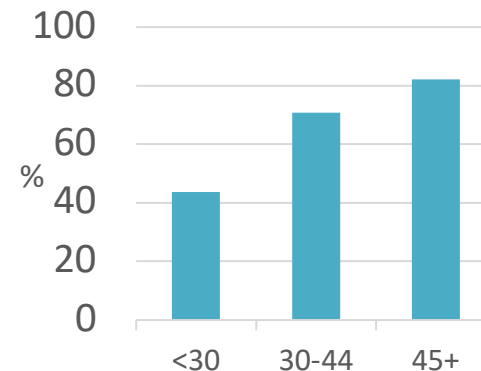


# Anti-retroviral therapy (ART)

- 73.3% overall

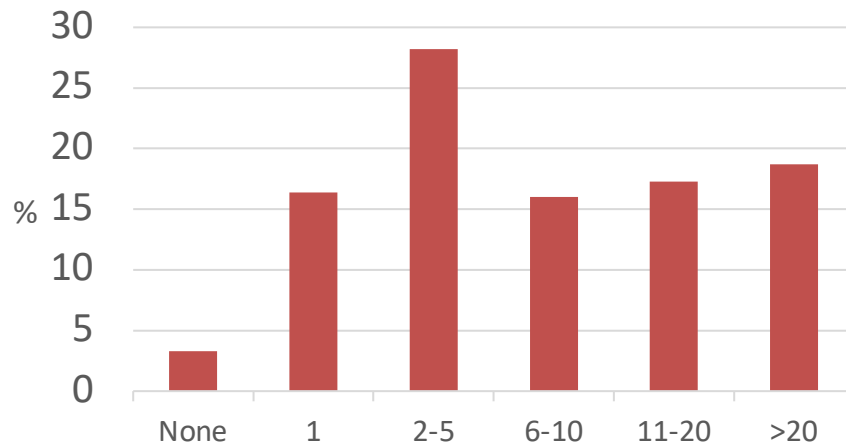


ART by age, ethnicity (2011-14)



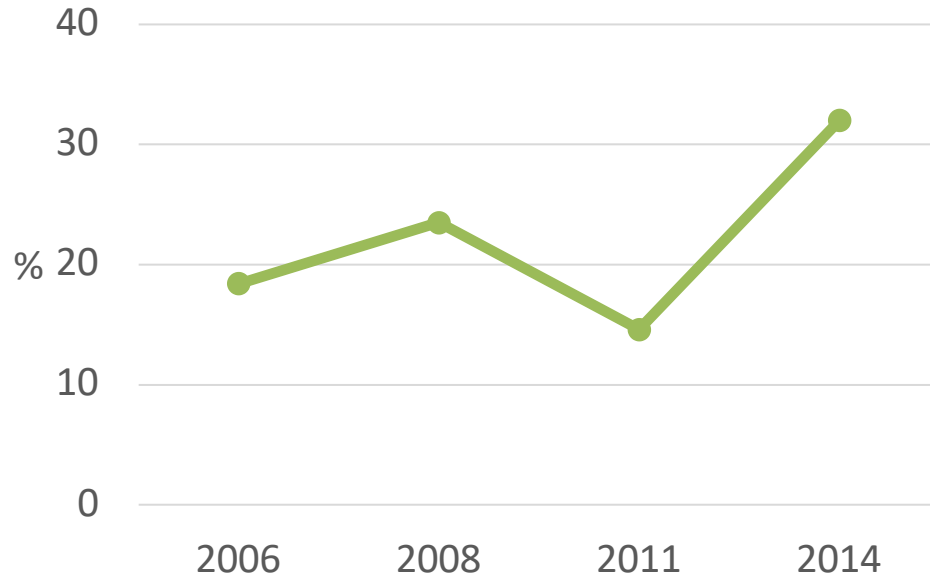
# Number of male partners <6 months

- 18.7% (almost 1 in 5) >20 partners

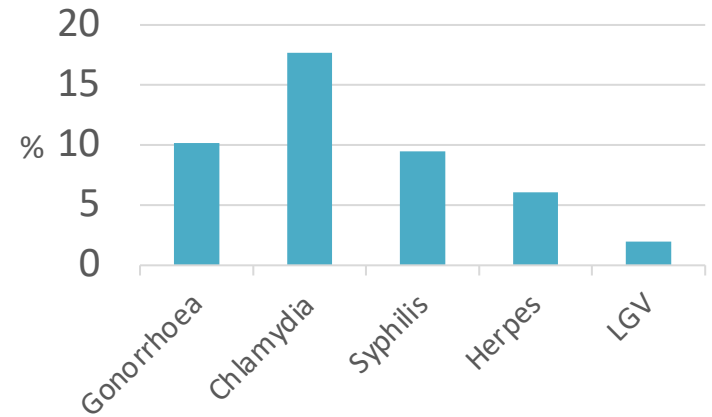


# STI <12 months

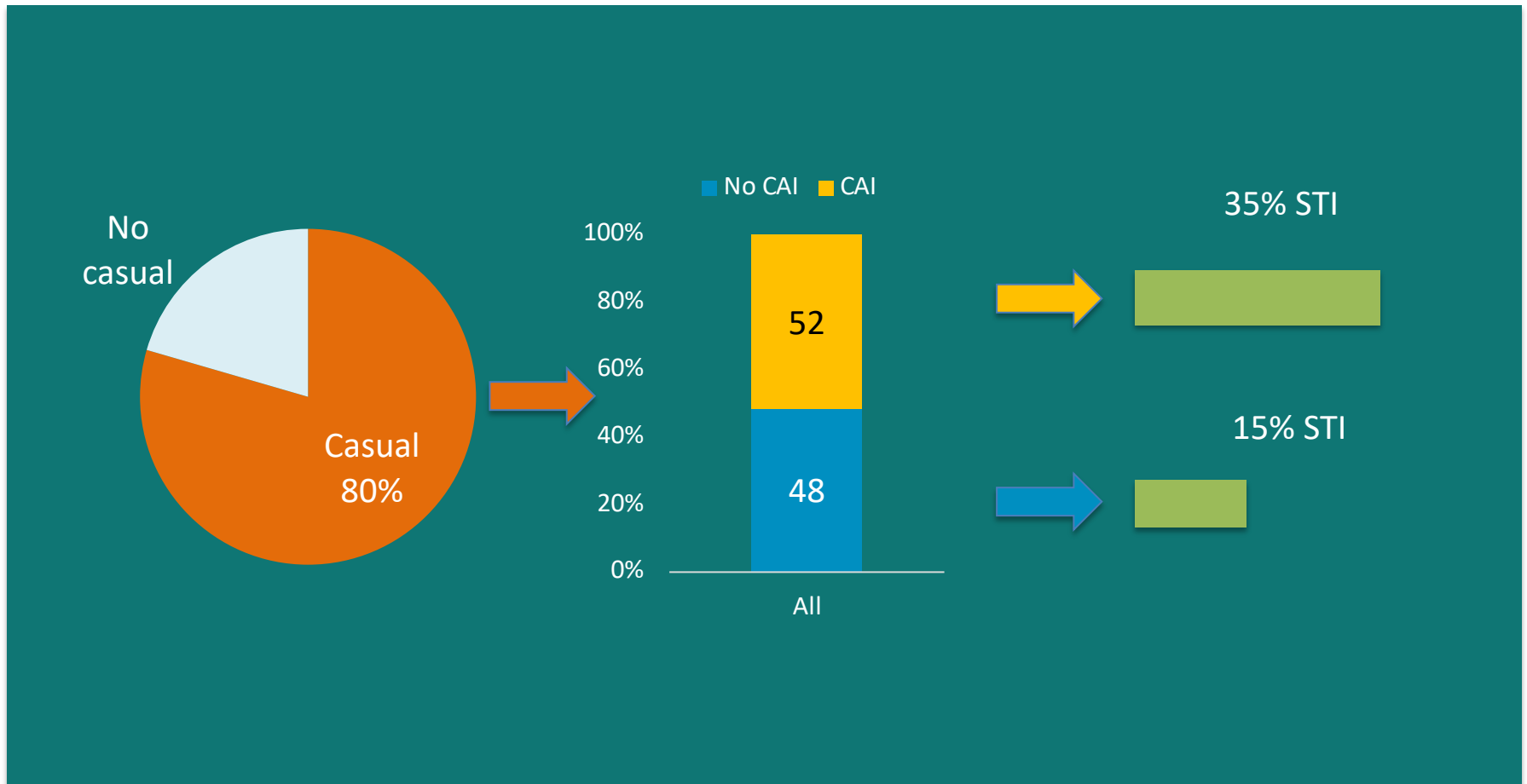
- 22.8% overall



STIs <12m in 2014

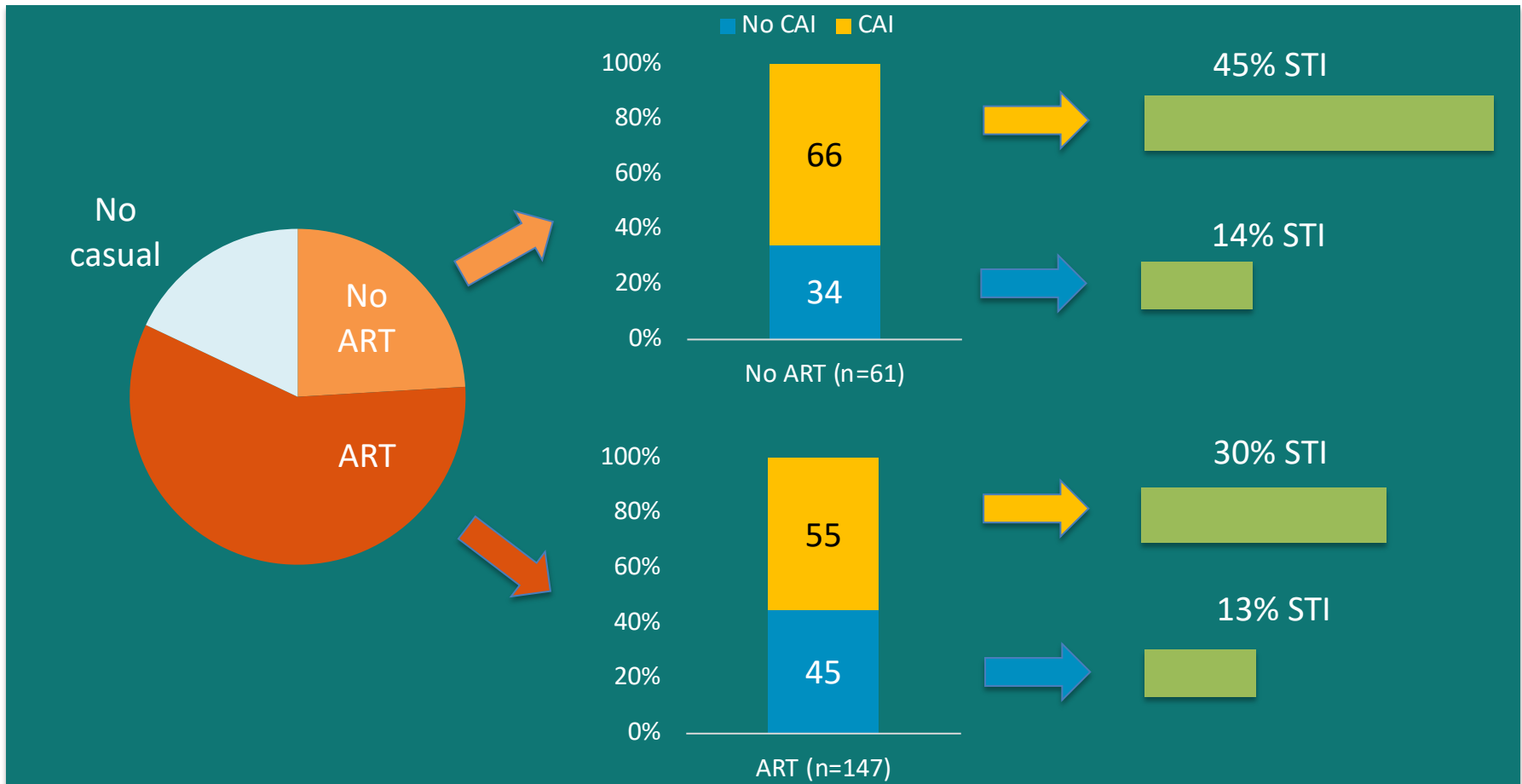


# Casual partnering



CAI = condomless anal intercourse

# Casual partnering by ART status

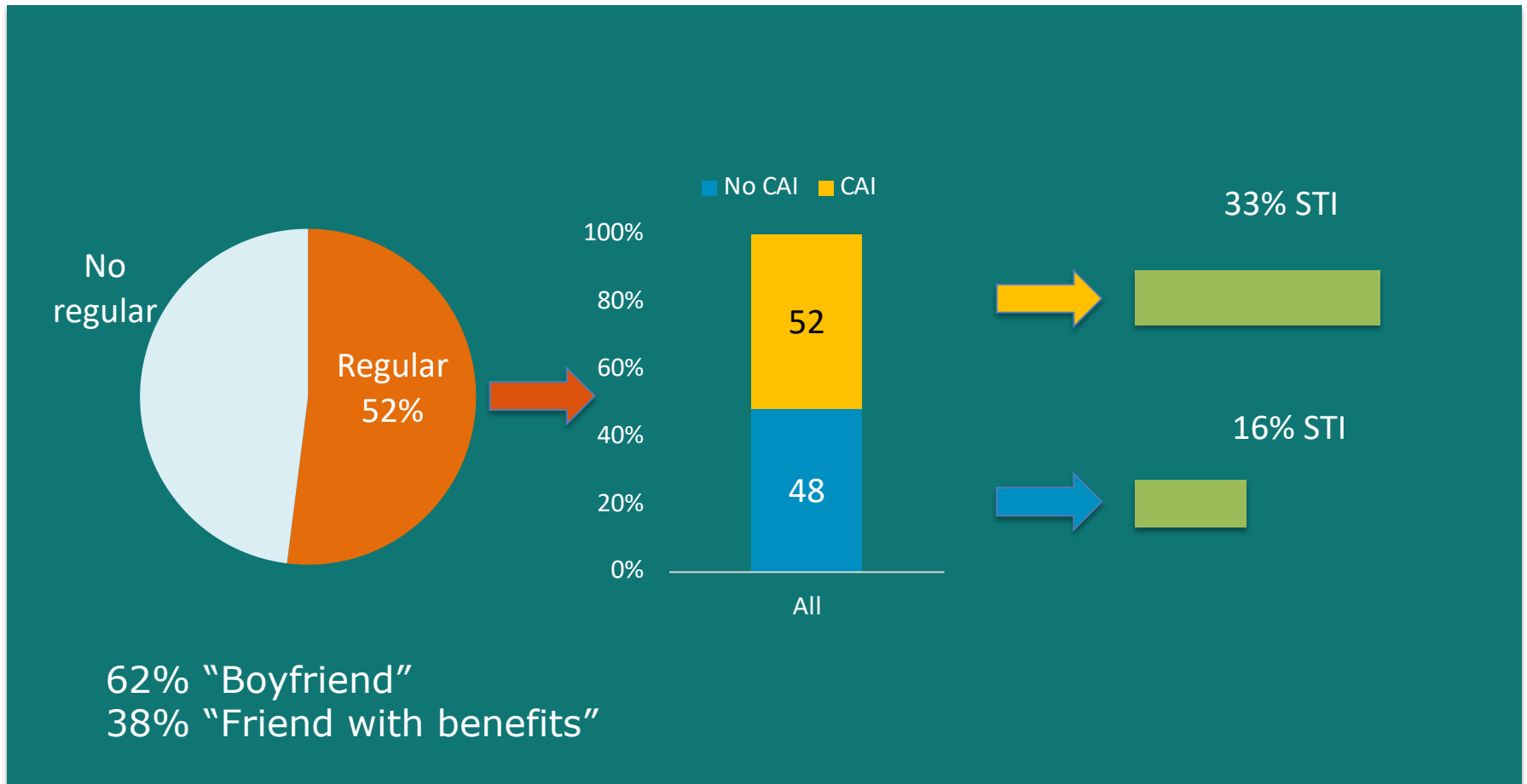


CAI = condomless anal intercourse

P=ns

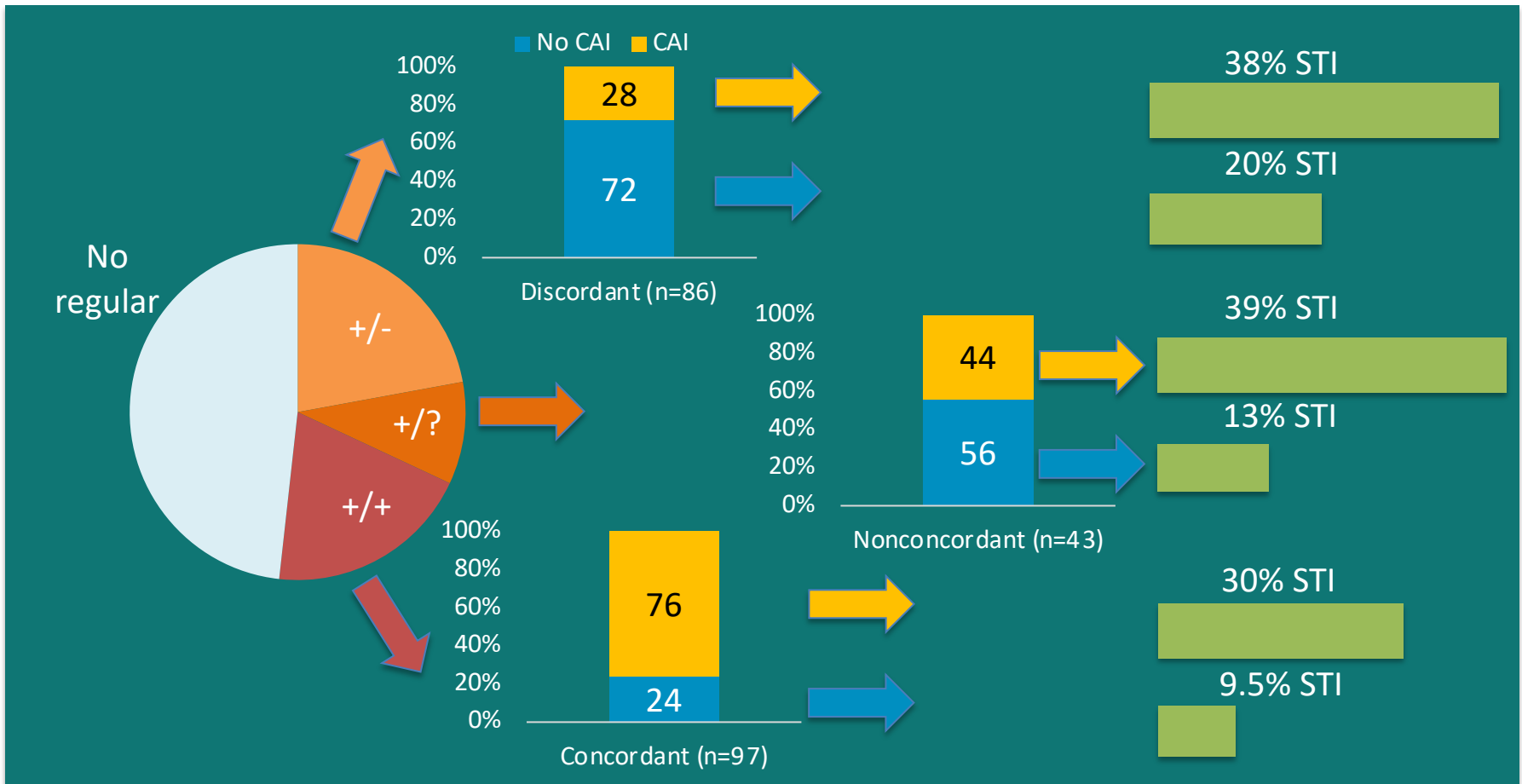
P<0.05

# Current regular partner



CAI = condomless anal intercourse

# Regular partner by seroconcordancy



CAI = condomless anal intercourse



# Comparisons: CAI with casual

New Zealand 2014\*

Australia 2015\*\*

Positive

	casual	anal
No anal	10.7	
Condom	33.9	38.0
CAI	55.4	62.0

	casual	anal
No anal	11.6	
Condom	17.0	19.2
CAI	71.4	80.8

Negative/  
unknown

	casual	anal
No anal	22.5	
Condom	47.1	60.7
CAI	30.4	39.3

	casual	anal
No anal	19.9	
Condom	44.8	55.9
CAI	35.3	44.1

\* From GAPSS 2014

\*\* From Holt et al. 2016 Sexual Health

CAI = condomless anal intercourse

# Strengths and limitations

## Strengths

- Large non-clinic sample of NZ HIV positive GBM
- Sexual behaviour and risk reduction data
- Monitor changes over time

## Limitations

- Not generaliseable to all HIV positive GBM
- Limited data on strategic positioning, serosorting with casual partner, further statistical analysis

# Conclusion

- Increasing proportion of GBM HIV positive
- Many are reducing risks (condoms, ART, sorting)
- Condomless anal intercourse common, more so than among HIV negative GBM
- STIs epidemic, enabled by low condom use
- ART potent tool to remove HIV stigma; does STI burden among HIV positive GBM risk undoing this?

# Acknowledgements

HIV positive participants and venues

Team

- Tony Hughes, Nigel Dickson, Adrian Ludlam

Funding

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- NZAF Fellowship

HIV Treatments Update organisers and sponsors