



Early Results of Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis Program in Georgia

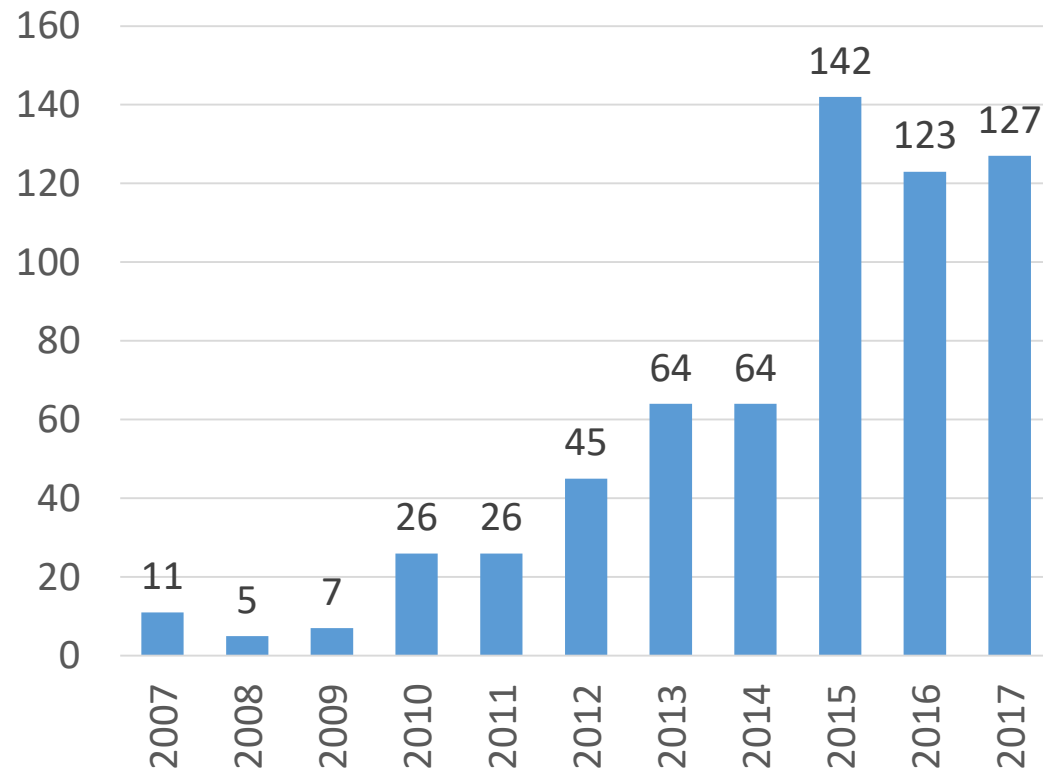
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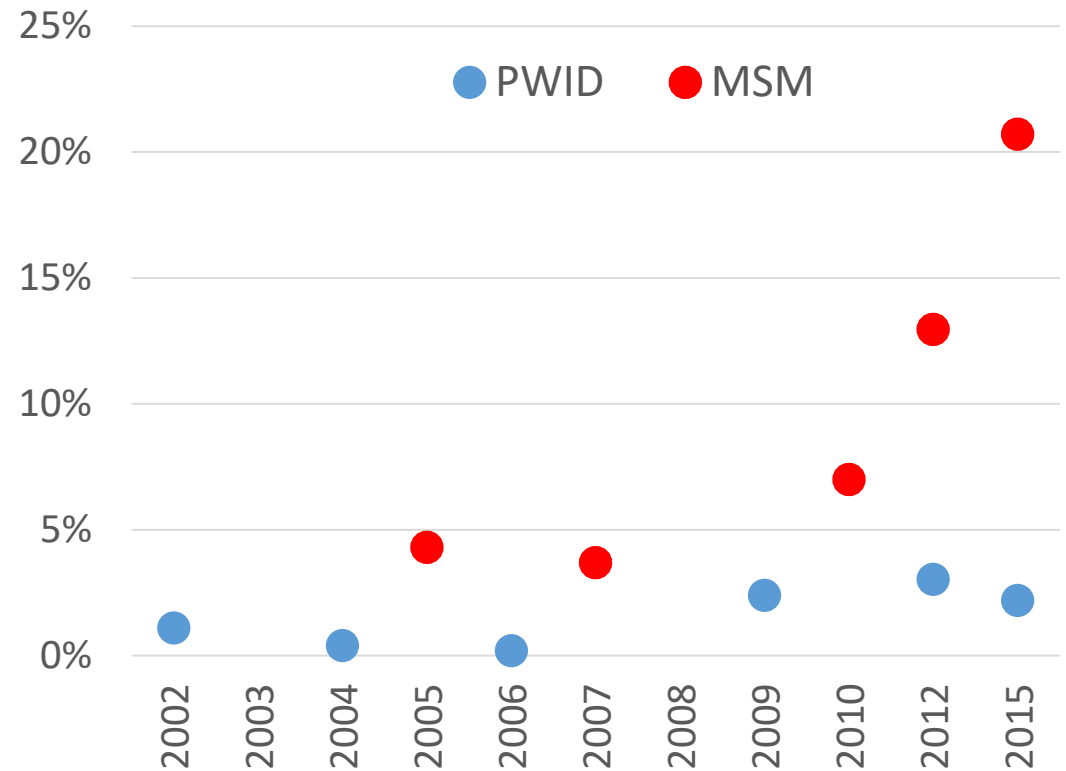
Background

Estimated adult HIV prevalence in general population: 0.4%

New HIV diagnoses in MSM



HIV prevalence in MSM



Pilot PrEP Project

- Started in September 2017 with the support of the Global Fund for high risk MSM and transgender women
- Capital city of Tbilisi
- Services provided:
 - Continuous daily dosage of TDF/FTC; Laboratory and clinical monitoring; Awareness rising; Risk reduction counseling; Adherence support
- Implementing organizations:
 - Infectious Diseases, AIDS & Clinical Immunology Research Center
 - CBO Equality Movement

All services are free

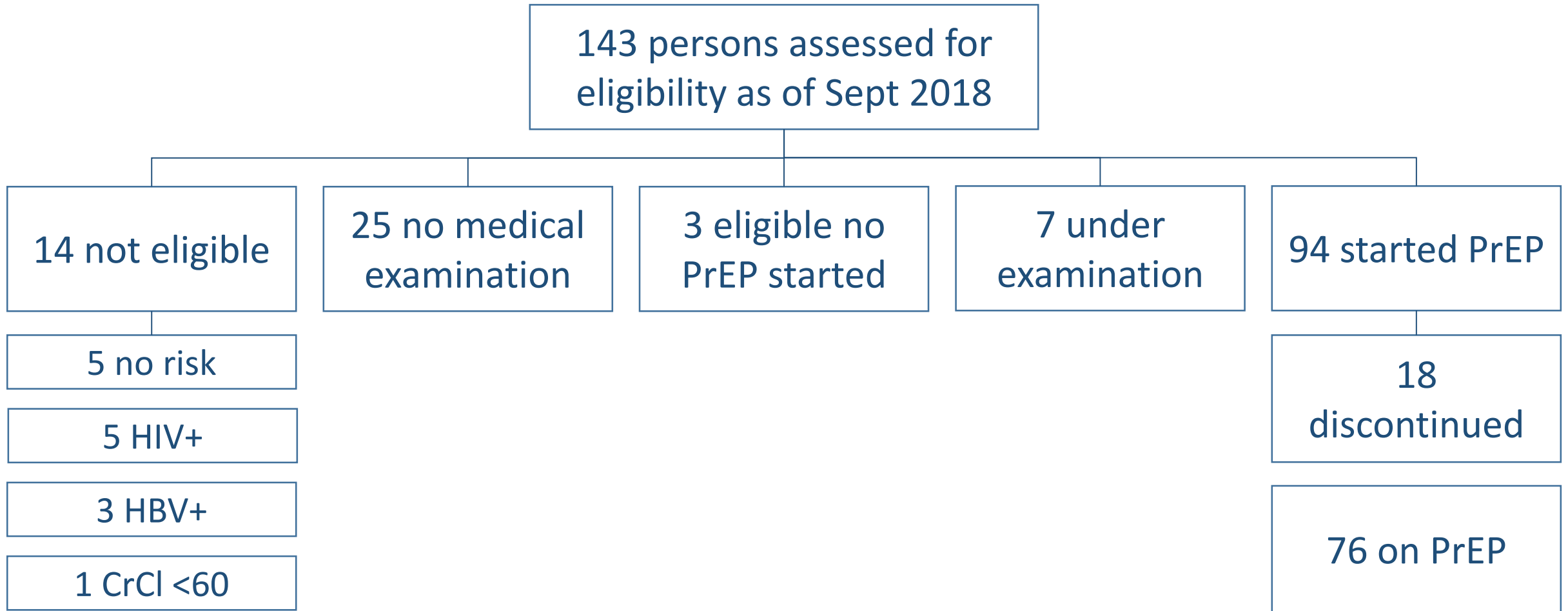
Eligibility Criteria

- Age \geq 18 years
- Substantial risk for HIV infection
 - Defined as score of at least 15 on 9-item risk assessment questionnaire on sexual behavior, substance use, engagement in sex work
- HIV negative
- HBV negative
- CrCl >60 mL/min

Medical Assessment and Monitoring

	Baseline		Months on PrEP											
	Stage 1	Stage 2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
anti-HIV	X		X		X			X			X			X
CrCl	X		X		X			X			X			X
HBsAg	X							X						X
anti-HBs		X												X
anti-HCV		X						X						X
Syphilis		X						X						X
CBC		X	X		X			X						X
Drug pick-up		X	X	X	X			X			X			X
Physician consultation	X	X			X			X			X			X

Enrollment Flowchart



Baseline Characteristics (n=94)

Characteristic	N=94
Age, median years (IQR)	24 (21-28)
Identity, n (%)	
Gay	54 (57.4)
Bisexual	17 (18.1)
Transgender women	4 (4.3)
Not specified	19 (20.2)
anti-HCV+, n (%)	0 (0)
TPHA+, n (%)	28 (29.8)



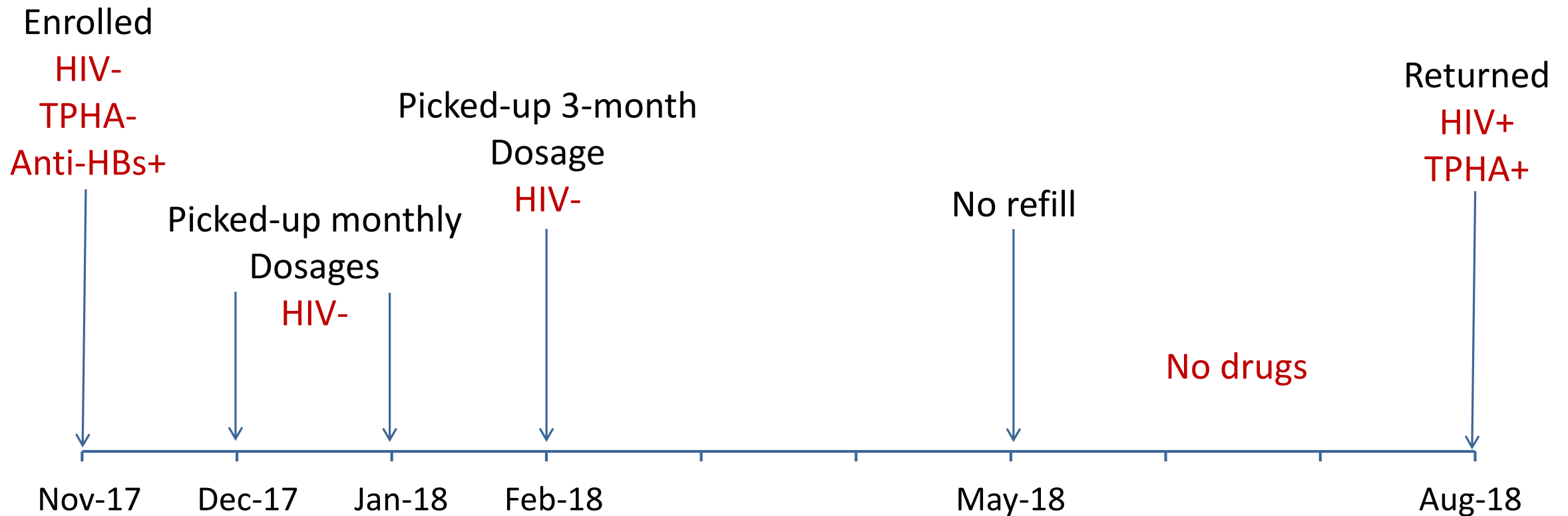
Follow-up

Median time on PrEP in months (IQR)	2.3 (1.1-4.9)
New HIV infections while on PrEP	0 (incidence 0/person-month)
New syphilis infections while on PrEP	3 (incidence 0.9/person-month)



Case of HIV Seroconversion After Interrupting PrEP

19 years old gay man

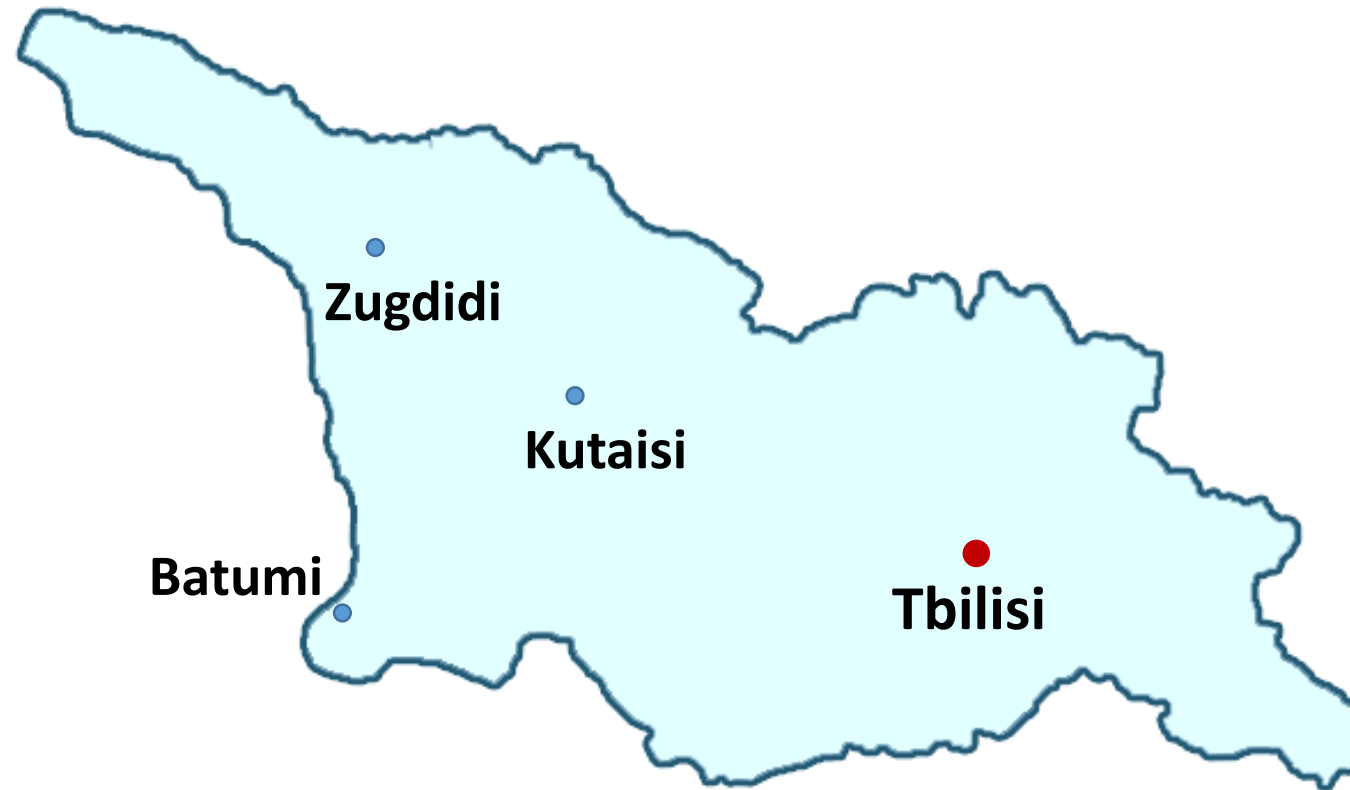


Summary

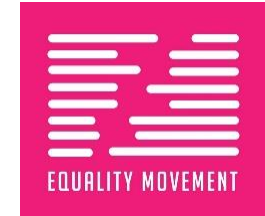
- Georgia successfully launched PrEP program
- Increasing awareness and greater access to PrEP is needed to achieve the impact on epidemic
- Particular attention should be paid to risk reduction, prevention and management of sexually transmitted infections

Future Strategy

- Expansion of program to 3 major cities in November 2018
- Transition to domestic funding in July 2019
- Community-based delivery of PrEP



Acknowledgement



**Infectious Diseases, AIDS and
Clinical Immunology Research Center**

All Participants Enrolled in PrEP Program