

Photographic verification of self-reported HIV self-testing results among Chinese MSM

4th APACC

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Outline



Background

HIV self test & role of social media



Methods

Secondary distribution, objectives & implementation



Results

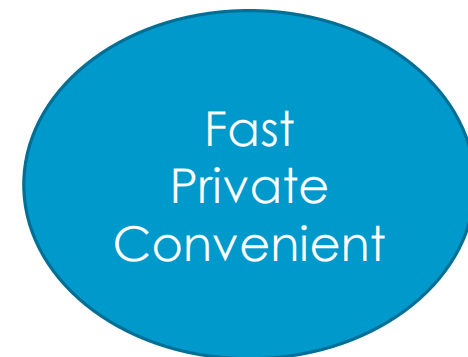
Results & conclusions



Background and Objectives

1, HIV self testing & social media

- In China, 40-50% of men who have sex with men (MSM) living with HIV never tested for HIV (1,2)
- HIV self testing: high demand and acceptability (3)
- Social media: widespread use & effective tool in improving test uptake



2 Project objectives

- To evaluate the effectiveness of a social-media based secondary distribution model of HIV self testing in reaching new testers and identifying new cases among MSM
- To assess whether a photographic verification approach could facilitate HIV self testing results return

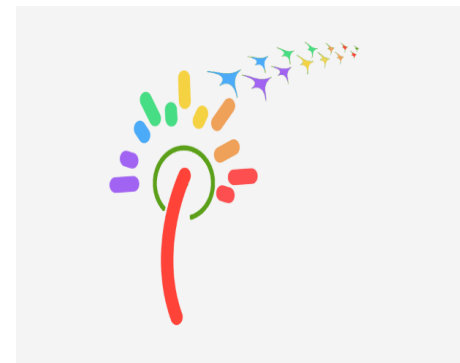
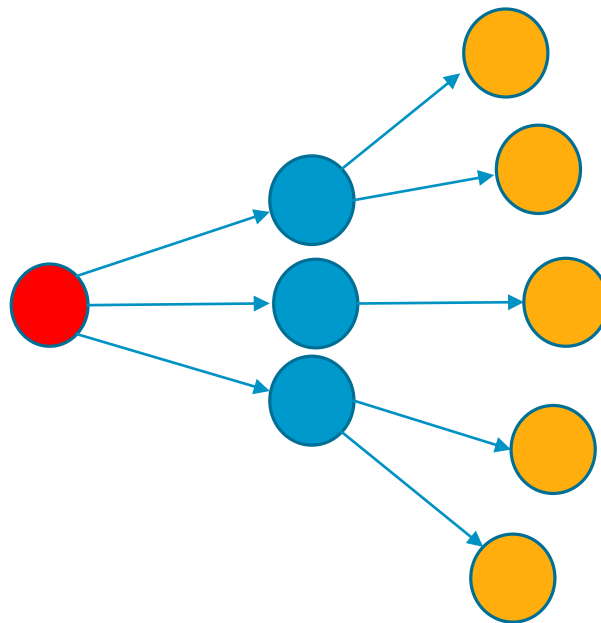


Methods

Secondary distribution, objectives & implementation

1 What is secondary distribution?

Secondary distribution (SD) of HIVST involves giving one individual (an index) multiple self-testing kits to distribute to other people (alters) within his/her social networks



2 Why secondary distribution?



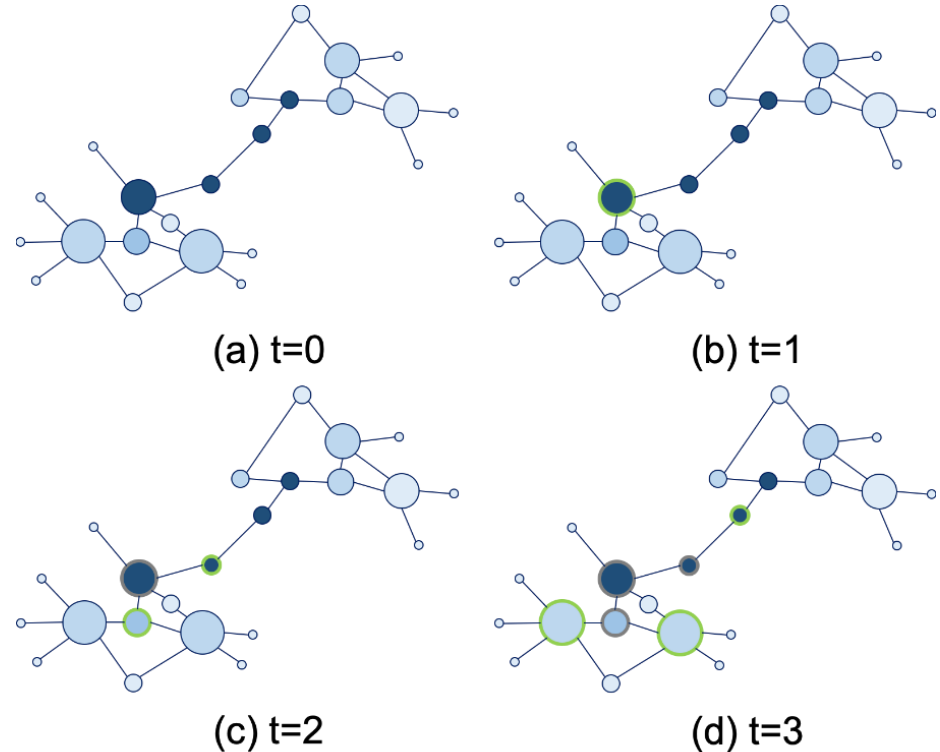
Everyone can be a tester
AND a distributor



Using the sexual/social
network of individuals



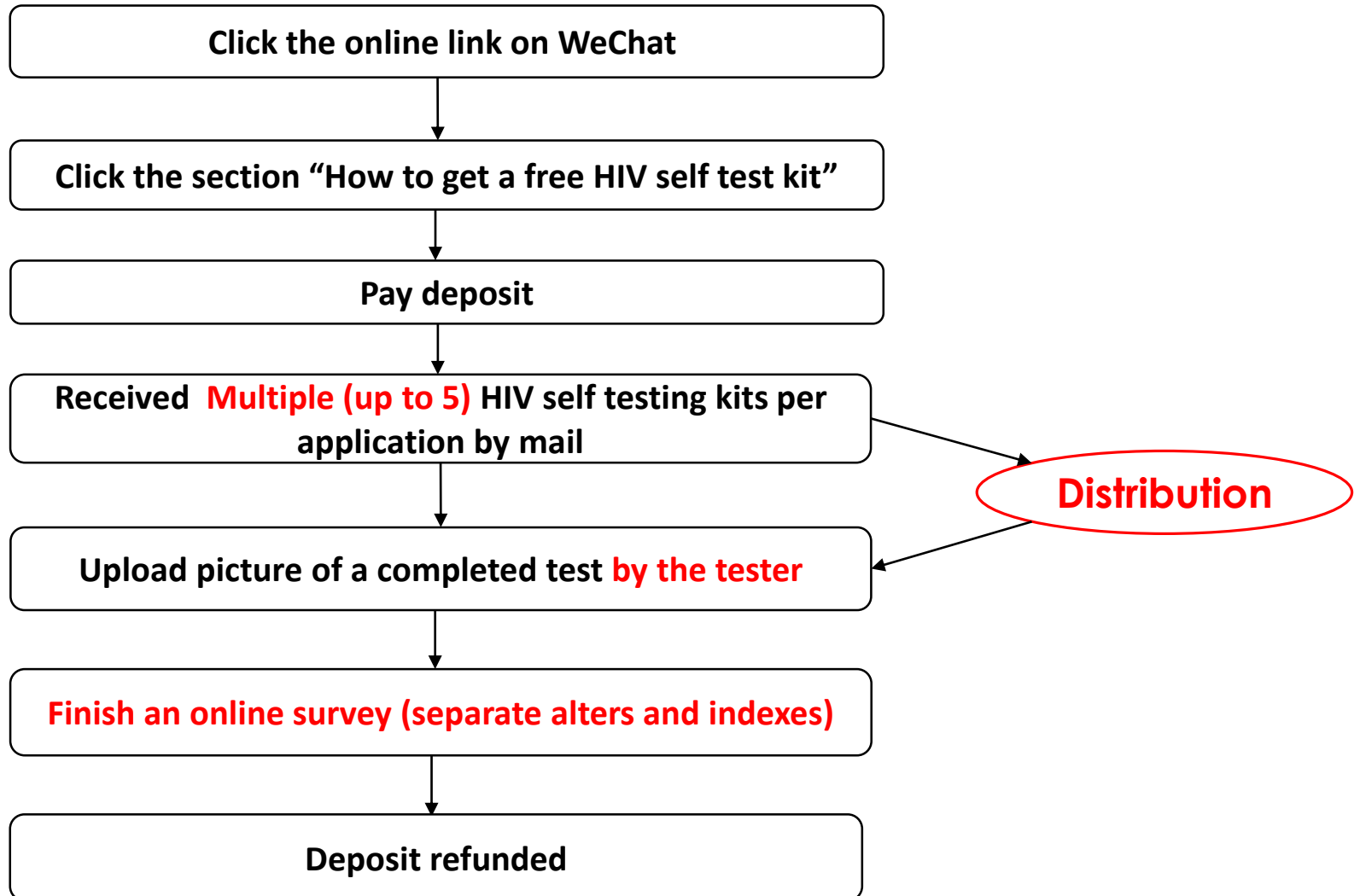
Use HIVST model to reach
hard-to-reach individuals



3 Inclusion criteria

- Men who were 16 years or older
- Born biologically male
- Ever had sex with another man
- Willing to finish an online survey

4 FlowChart





Results

Results & conclusions



1 Preliminary results

Timeline: from June 2018 to March 2019

Applications

- 642 eligible applicants (index MSM)
- A total of 1141 HIV test kits were distributed (mean=1.78), and 43.2% applied for 2 or more test kits

2 Preliminary results

Test results returned with photographic evidence

- 1039 test results were returned (return rate = 91.1%)
- 1000 were valid and 39 were invalid due to wrong operation, duplicate uploads, poor quality of photograph
- Among the 1000 test results, 742 (74.2%) were from indexes (310 unique testers), 258 (25.8%) were from alters (250 unique testers).
- Among the 250 alters, **39.9%** were new testers (**20%** index participants were new testers).

3 Preliminary results

HIV positive test results

- 20 were found to be HIV positive (3.57%)
- 15 of them were alters (HIV positive rate 6%), 11 were new cases
- 5 were indexes (HIV positive rate 1.6%).
- Confirmed linkage to facility-based care: 14 (70%)

4 Preliminary results

Photographic verification of self-interpreted HIVST result

- Among 250 alters, 238 provided self-interpreted results
- 215 (90.3%) results were interpreted correctly; new testers (85.3%) had significantly lower correct interpretation rate than previous testers (93.7%)
- 10 (4.2%) results were interpreted incorrectly

Subgroup analysis

POLs VS. Non-POLs							
	POL (N=64)		non-POL (N=304)		Rate ratio	95% CI	P
	number of alters	alters per index	number of alters	alters per index			
total recip (mean)	103	1.61	145	0.48	3.37	2.62-4.34	<0.001
first time test	39	0.61	66	0.22	2.81	1.89-4.17	<0.001
couples test	46	0.72	79	0.26	2.77	1.92-3.98	<0.001
HIV+	9	0.14	7	0.02	6.11	2.27-16.40	<0.001
Syphilis+	5	0.08	3	0.01	7.92	1.89-33.13	0.005

5 Take home messages

- The social-media based secondary distribution model is feasible and acceptable to MSM
- The secondary distribution effectively reached to new testers and facilitated positive case identification
- Our model allows alters to return self-testing results themselves
- A refundable deposit and photo verification of a completed test is a feasible approach to collecting results from self-test kits
- The model facilitated follow-up with the positive cases
- New testers had significantly higher rate of mis-interpretation of HIV self test results

Acknowledgement

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