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NATIONAL **HIV** NURSES ASSOCIATION
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21st Annual Conference *of the* **National HIV Nurses Association (NHIVNA)**

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21st

Annual Conference of the National HIV Nurses Association (NHIVNA)



The challenges of getting people tested for HIV

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Declaration of interests relating to this presentation

Nothing to declare



MAC AIDS FUND



bacp
British Association for
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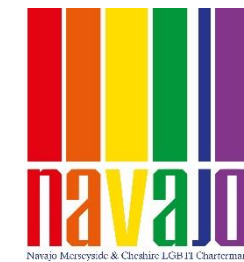
WIRRAL



Sefton Council



MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT



Sahir House W-SPOT

Wirral Sexual health Prevention, Outreach & HIV Testing Service

- 🚫 Weekly HIV (INSTI) point of care testing clinic for marginalised at risk groups providing instant results, advice and onward referral.
- 🚫 Condom distribution scheme providing free and easy access to condoms and lubricant.
- 🚫 Public sex environments (PSE) outreach team working across saunas for gay and bisexual men providing information, condoms and advice on sexual health and HIV testing.



Priority groups (PG's) identified for testing

- 🚫 Migrant heterosexual men and women
- 🚫 Men who have sex with men (MSM)
- 🚫 People who inject drugs
- 🚫 Risk of HIV transmission with overlapping partners

Wirral Public Sex Environments

- 🚫 Town House - swinging, fetish and alternative lifestyle club where W-SPOT offer on site POCT to its large and varied membership
- 🚫 Cruising (PSE) sites on Wirral seafront sites in New Brighton and Moreton
- 🚫 Dolphin Sauna, the North West's oldest sauna for gay and bi-sexual men. Hosts a "T" Girl day each Saturday
- 🚫 All the above are agreed condom distribution sites. Other sites include Wirral Multicultural Centre, Age UK Wirral, Tomorrow's Women Wirral and Wirral Change.

Prevention challenges people face

Many people, regardless of level of HIV risk, do not get tested because:

- 🚫 They do not believe they are at risk of HIV
- 🚫 Misunderstand the testing process and confidentiality... "If I test positive, people will find out"
- 🚫 Low socioeconomic status may increase risk to HIV e.g. transactional sex, low levels of health literacy, reduced access to condoms
- 🚫 Low levels of health literacy may result in lack of information regarding PrEP, U=U, PEP, poor uptake of services and understanding of risk

Public Awareness of HIV Transmission by Age

Report 2014 - National AIDS Trust

16 – 24	41%
25 – 34	46%
25 – 44	54%
45 – 54	50%
55 – 64	47%
65 – 74	44%
75 +	24%

How Sahir House address these challenges?

- 🚫 Sahir House Training Service provide HIV awareness and stigma reduction training commissioned by public health targeting public, voluntary, private and statutory services who then cascade information to clients and wider public.
- 🚫 W-SPOT PSE Outreach Team take HIV prevention to people where they feel safe and comfortable.
- 🚫 W-SPOT HIV POCT clinic is located in central Birkenhead, an area in Wirral that is accessible to transport links and close to services and amenities that priority groups use.
- 🚫 W-SPOT host pop up clinics at health and wellbeing events with partner agencies. This provides more immediate access to testing and builds trust within marginalised communities with poor uptake of testing.
- 🚫 Sahir House Support and Counselling Service can direct untested partners to the clinic and vice versa the W-SPOT Clinic refer newly diagnosed people for support, advice and counselling.
- 🚫 Close working relationship with local GU clinic team enables seamless referral.

W-SPOT POCT combined with GC and CT tests

April and May 2019

April

11 people tested for HIV:

- 🚫 9/11 had HIV and GC&CT at Town House
- 🚫 2/11 tested at W-SPOT Clinic (1 had a HIV and GC&CT)

May

7 people tested for HIV:

- 🚫 All 7 tested at W-SPOT Clinic
- 🚫 1/7 had GC&CT test alongside HIV POCT

Examples of priority group clients who have tested for HIV

- 🚫 Trans female client in an open relationship with a partner who is an escort. The client uses the Dolphin Sauna and attends events at Town House
- 🚫 MSM escort workers providing services to men and women
- 🚫 MSM needing advice on safe use of Chems during sex
- 🚫 BAMER heterosexual males who self refer
- 🚫 Trans female in new relationship with a cis female
- 🚫 Bi-sexual men and women attending Town House fetish nights

Q4 2018: All MSM following their pre-test assessment, requested signposting to PrEP trial

Thank you so much for listening...time for

