



Pragmatic Open-Label Randomised Trial of Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis: the PROUD study

<http://www.proud.mrc.ac.uk/>

Disclaimers

- Gilead Sciences plc provided drug free of charge, and distributed it to participating clinics
- Gilead Sciences plc provided funds for the additional diagnostics including the pharmacokinetic sub-study

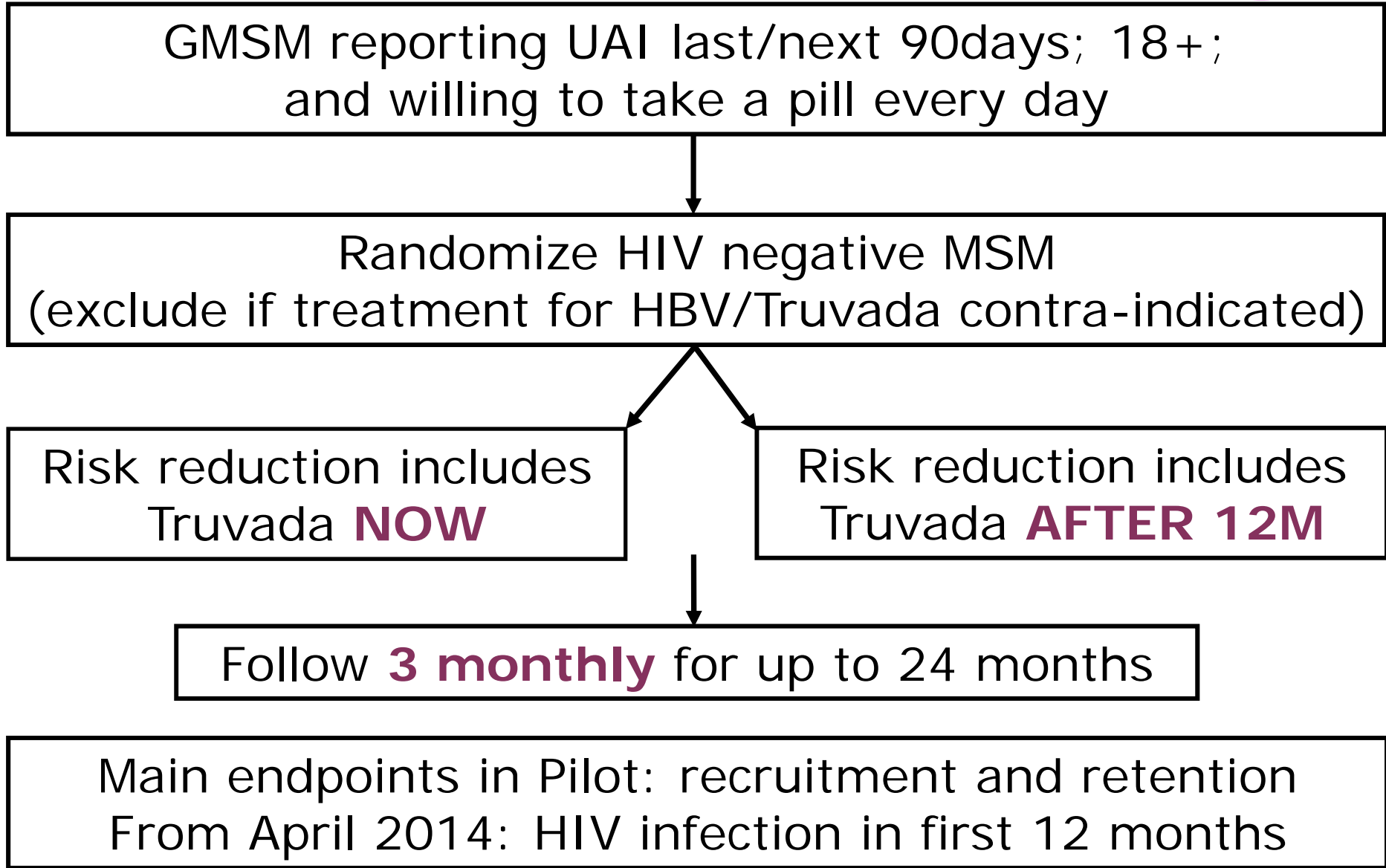
Sexual health service in England

- ~220 sexual health clinics, linked through professional guidelines
- Accessed by 110,000 HIV negative gay men per year
- Diagnoses made and services provided reported to Public Health England

Rationale

- To determine whether PrEP worked as well as iPrEx in this setting (44% reduction in HIV)
- **Why might effectiveness be less in real world?**
- Adherence less
 - trial schedules monthly
 - well resourced for adherence support
- Behaviour riskier
 - participants constantly reminded that they could be on placebo, and that effectiveness was unknown
 - well resourced for behaviour change interventions

PROUD Pilot



Designed to mimic real-world

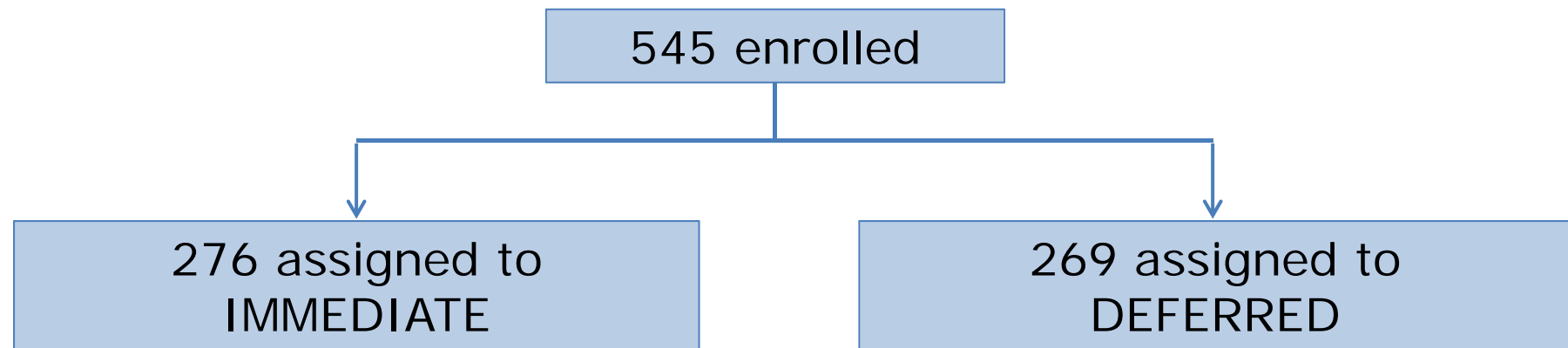
- Eligibility: routine clinic data and p24Ag/Ab serology at enrolment (no PCR)
- Safety: serum creatinine when starting and annually; additional tests if 1+ protein on dipstick
- STIs: (mainly) quarterly HIV, syphilis, HCV, gonorrhoea and chlamydia according to routine clinic
- Behaviour change interventions according to routine clinic (sexual risk, adherence, addiction)
- **Study procedures: web-randomisation, data entry, participant-completed questionnaires**



Results:

Population, Prescribing, Tolerability

Participant randomization



Baseline demographics¹

Characteristics		Immediate	Deferred
Age, median (IQR)		35 (30 – 43)	35 (29 – 42)
Ethnicity	White	80%	82%
Born UK	No	40%	40%
Education	University	59%	60%
Employment	Full-time	70%	73%
Sexuality	Gay	96%	94%
Current relationship	No	53%	55%
Recreational drug use²	Yes	76%	64%

¹ 539/545 (99%) questionnaires returned

² in the last 90 days

Prescriptions of PrEP and PEP

Immediate

- 14 (5%) **never started PrEP**
- 156 (56%) prescribed sufficient drug for 100% daily dosing
- Overall, drug prescribed covered 86% of days in follow-up

- 13 (5%) prescribed **PEP** (total 15 prescriptions)

Deferred

- Anecdotally, **rare use of PrEP**

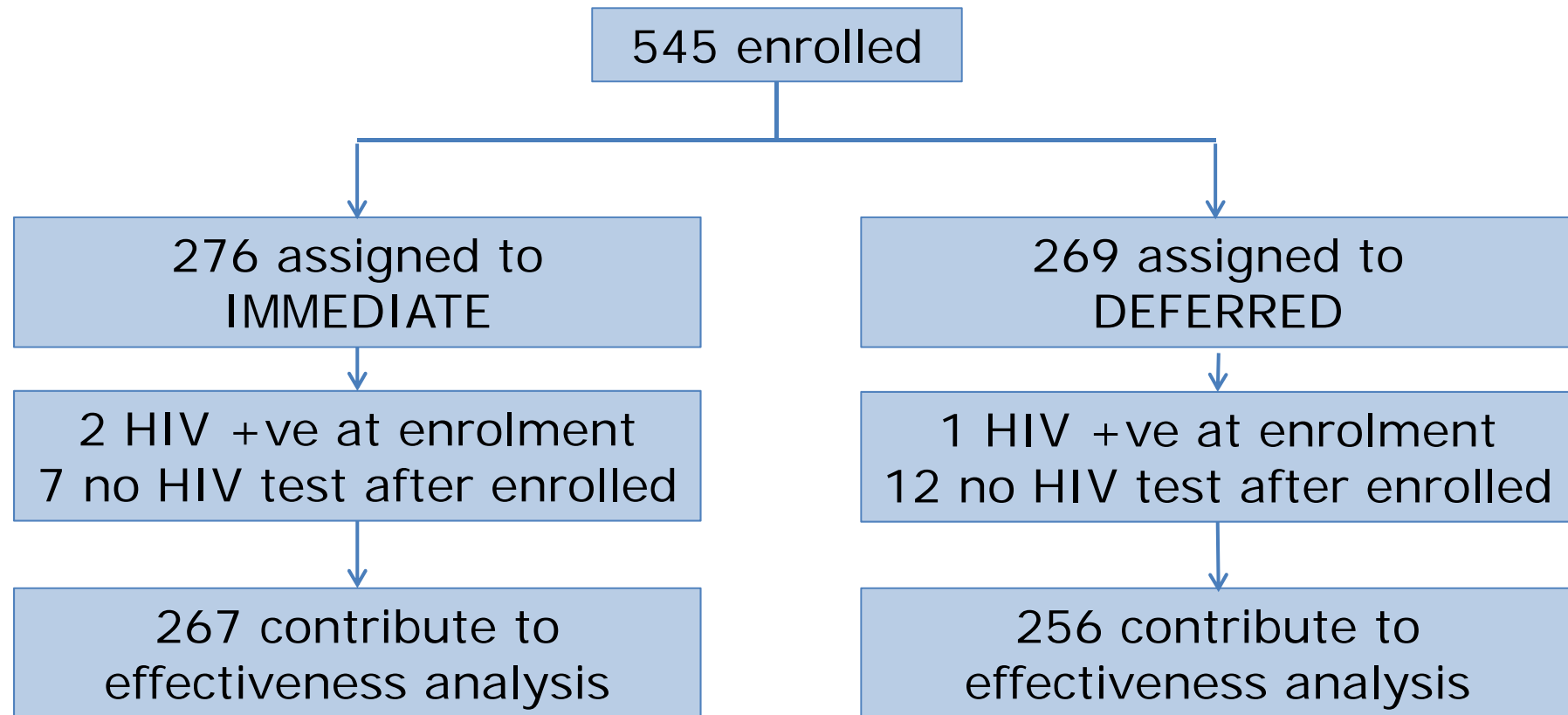
 - 83 (31%) prescribed **PEP** (total 174 prescriptions)
-

PrEP interruptions for medical event

- **PrEP interrupted** by 28 participants (**both groups**) but only **13** had events considered related to drug:
 - nausea alone or with diarrhoea/abdominal pain/aches and fatigue (n=5)
 - decline in creatinine clearance (n=2)
 - headache (n=2)
 - joint pain, with fatigue in one case (n=2)
 - sleep disturbance (n=1)
 - flu-like illness (n=1)
- **PrEP re-started** by 11 of 13 participants above



Results:
HIV endpoint



Calculation of person-years:

From enrolment to the first of the following

- HIV test at m12, or
- HIV test at the time of access to PrEP, or
- diagnosis of HIV infection

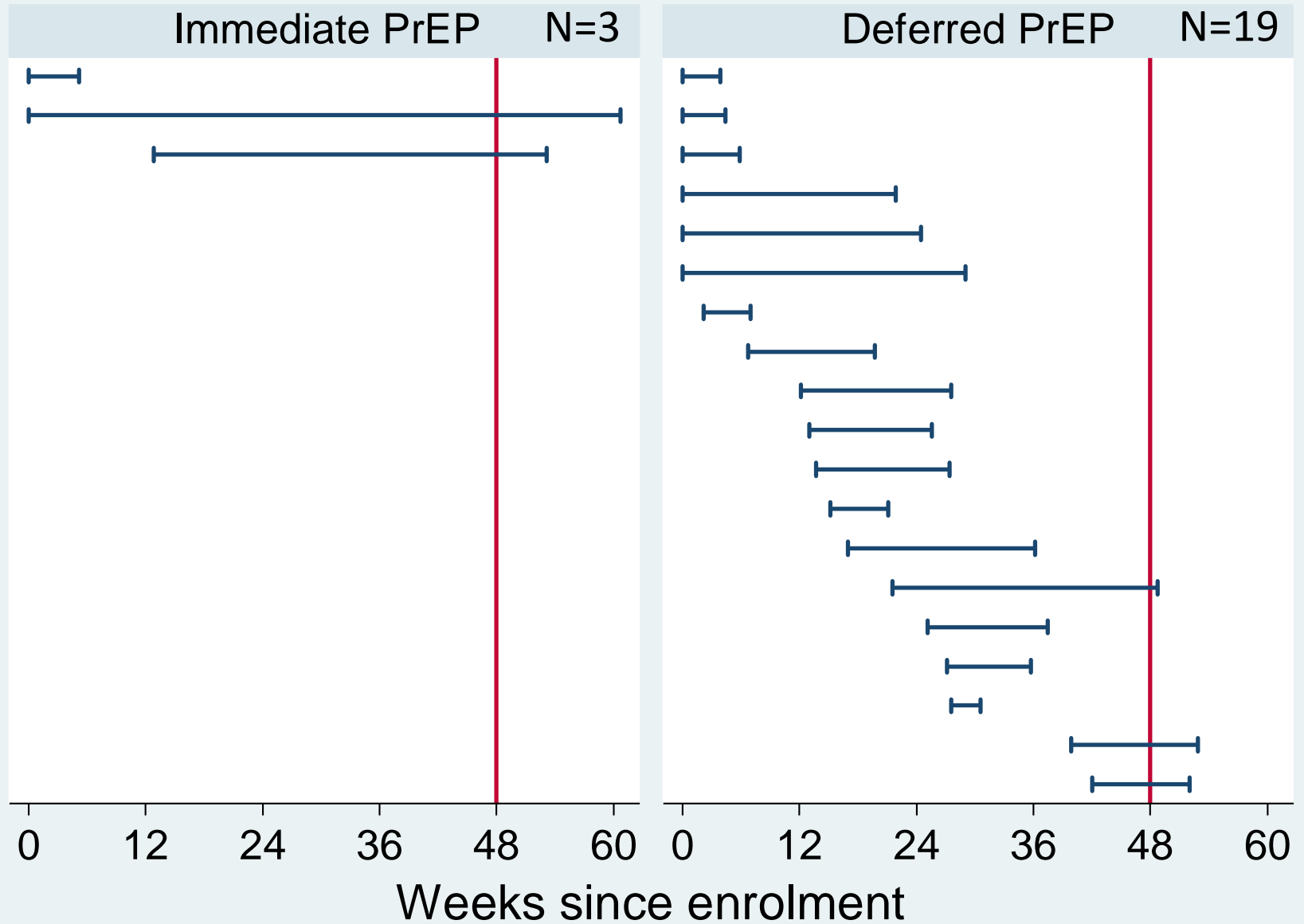
Completeness of follow-up for HIV

- **Expected** person-years calculated assuming they had precisely followed protocol schedule

Observed/expected follow-up:

- Immediate: 239/261 person years (92%)
- Deferred: 214/242 person years (88%)

Individual incident HIV infections



HIV Incidence

Group	No. of infections	Follow-up (PY)	Incidence (per 100 PY)	90% CI
Overall	22	453	4.9	3.4–6.8
Immediate	3	239	1.3	0.4–3.0
Deferred	19	214	8.9	6.0–12.7

Efficacy =86% (90% CI: 58 – 96%)

P value =0.0002

Rate Difference =7.6 (90% CI: 4.1 – 11.2)

Number Needed to Treat =13 (90% CI: 9 – 25)

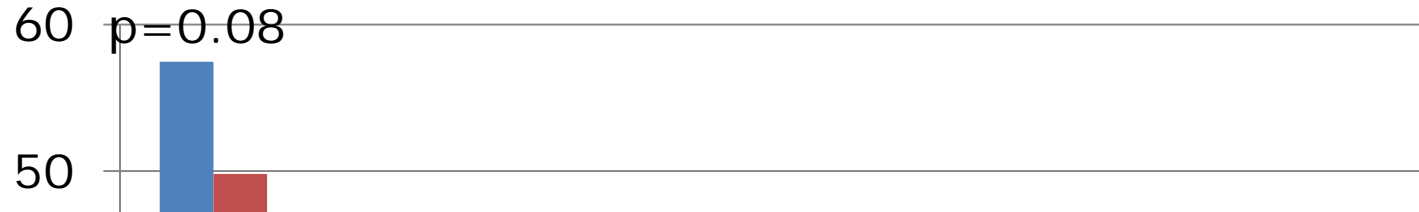
Drug Resistance

- **3** of **6** individuals who were seroconverting around baseline (immediate group) or month 12 (deferred group) developed **M184V/I** mutations (as a mixture with wild type)
- **K65R** was not detected



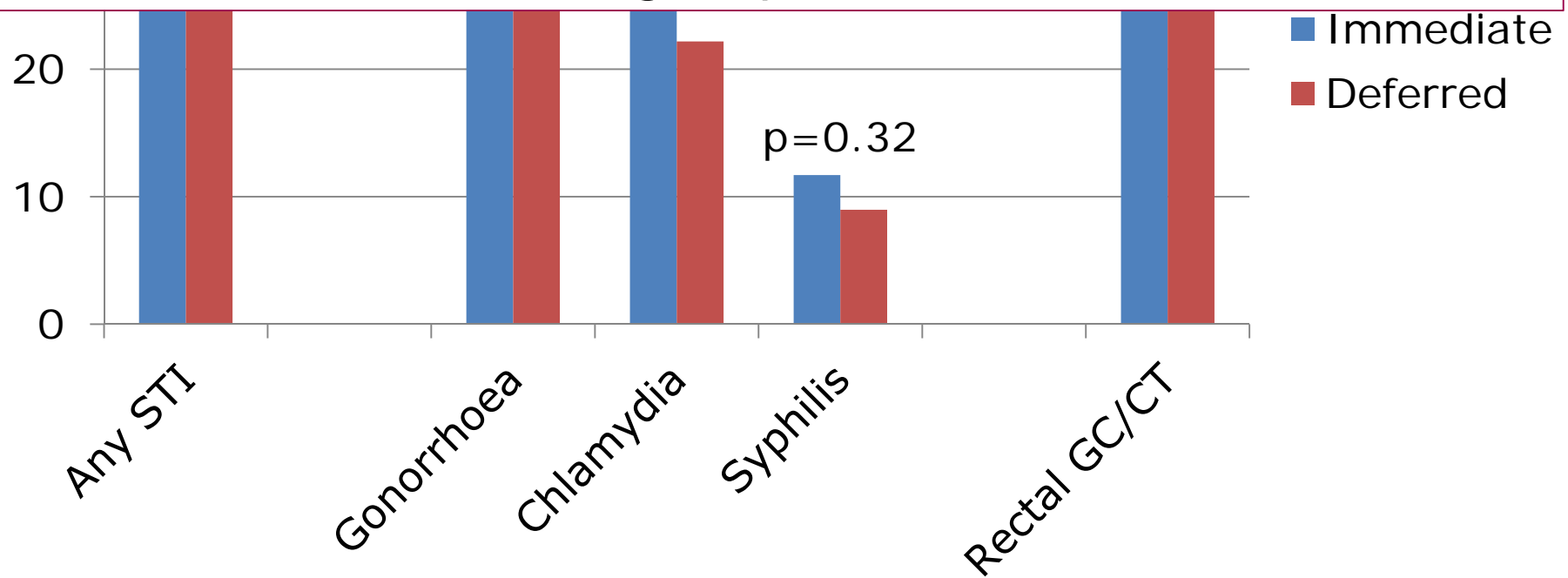
Results: STI endpoints

STIs



Caveat

Number of screens differed between the groups:
e.g. Rectal gonorrhoea/chlamydia
974 in the IMM group and 749 in the DEF





Results:

Sexual behaviour

Reported sexual behaviour (preliminary)

Anal sex partners in last 90 days BASELINE n=539	Immediate Median (IQR)	Deferred Median (IQR)
Total number of partners	10.5 (5-20)	10 (4-20)
Condomless partners, participant receptive	3 (1-5)	2 (1-5)
Condomless partners, participant insertive	2.5 (1-6)	3 (1-7)
<hr/>		
Anal sex partners in last 90 days MONTH 12 n=349	Immediate Median (IQR)	Deferred Median (IQR)
Total number of partners	10 (3-24)	8 (3-15)
Condomless partners, participant receptive	3 (1-8)	2 (1-5)
Condomless partners, participant insertive	3 (1-8)	3 (1-6)

Conclusions

- HIV incidence in the population who came forward to access PrEP was much higher than predicted based on all MSM attending sexual health clinics
- Despite extensive use of PEP in the deferred period
- Our concerns about PrEP being less effective in the real world were unfounded

- MSM incorporated PrEP into existing risk reduction strategies which continued to include condom use
- There was no difference in STIs, which were common in both groups

- Clinics were able to adapt routine practice to incorporate PrEP

Acknowledgements (1)



Study participants

MRC CTU at UCL

Sarah Banbury, Liz Brodnicki, Christina Chung, Yolanda Collaco-Moraes, Monica Desai, David Dolling, David Dunn, Mitzy Gafos, Sajad Khan, Brendan Mauger, Sheena McCormack, Yinka Sowunmi, Gemma Wood

HIV & STI Dept, PHE

Monica Desai, Sarika Desai, Noel Gill, Anthony Nardone, GUMCAD team, HIV team

Clinics

Vanessa Apea, John Saunders, Mags Portman (Barts Health NHS Trust), Christine Bowman (Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust), Michael Brady (Kings College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust), Martin Fisher, Amanda Clarke (Claude Nichol Centre), Julie Fox (Guy's and St Thomas's NHS Foundation Trust), Richard Gilson (The Mortimer Market Centre), Charles Lacey (York Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust), Nicola Mackie (St Mary's Hospital), Alan McOwan, Simone Antonucci (56 Dean Street), Iain Reeves (Homerton University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust), Gabriel Schembri (Manchester Centre for Sexual Health), Ann Sullivan (John Hunter Clinic for Sexual Health), Steve Taylor, David White (Heart of England NHS Foundation Trust)

Acknowledgements (2)



Trial Steering Committee

Independent members: Mike Adler (Co-Chair), Gus Cairns (Co-Chair), Dan Clutterbuck, Rob Cookson, Claire Foreman, Stephen Nicholson, Tariq Sadiq, Matthew Williams

Investigator members: Brian Gazzard, Noel Gill, Anne Johnson, Sheena McCormack, Andrew Phillips

Gilead: Matt Bosse, Rich Clarke, Jim Rooney, Murad Ruf

University of Liverpool: Saye Khoo

Independent Data Monitoring Committee: Anton Pozniak, Simon Collins, Fiona Lampe

Community Engagement Group

Community: Yusef Azad (NAT), Gus Cairns (NAM), Rob Cookson (LGF), Tom Doyle (Mesmac), Justin Harbottle (THT), Marion Wadibia (NAZ), Matthew Hodson (GMFA), Cary James (THT), Roger Pebody (NAM)

Clinics: Anthony Bains, Alan McOwan (Lead),

MRC CTU at UCL: Sheena McCormack, Mitzy Gafos, Annabelle South

Social Science Advisory Group

Interviewers: Caroline Rae, Gill Bell, Michael Rayment, Sonali Wayal, Will Nutland, Mitzy Gafos

Advisors: Ingrid Young, Ford Hickson, Lisa McDaid, Marsha Rosengarten, Nicolas Lorente, Agata Pacho, Elizabeth Poliquin, Anthony Nardone, Catherine Dodds, Adam Bourne, David Dolling, Sheena McCormack, Rob Horne