

# Evaluating services for people living with HIV in New York City using Ryan White Part A data

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*An overview of Ryan White  
Part A*



# RYAN WHITE PART A

- Ryan White Part A (RWPA) provides assistance to Eligible Metropolitan Areas (EMAs) and Transitional Grant Areas (TGAs) that are most severely affected by HIV/AIDS
- Designed to fill gaps in medical and social services for PLWH by funding services that are not covered by other sources, such as Medicaid/Medicare or services that would not be available to people based on income or immigration status
- Individuals must live in the RWPA-funded EMA and have an income below 435% of the Federal Poverty Level to be eligible for RWPA services



# RYAN WHITE PART A “CORE” SERVICES (AS DEFINED BY HRSA)

ADAP

Early Intervention  
Services

Health Insurance  
Premium and  
Cost-sharing  
Assistance

Home and  
Community-  
based Health  
Service

Hospice

Substance Abuse  
Services -  
outpatient

Local AIDS  
Pharmaceutical  
Assistance  
Program (LPAP)

Medical Case  
Management

Medication  
Nutrition Therapy

Mental Health  
Services

Oral Health  
Services

Outpatient and  
Ambulatory  
Medical Care  
(ADAP Plus)

\*Services categories in the darker shaded boxes are currently funded in the New York City EMA



# RYAN WHITE PART A

## “SUPPORT” SERVICES (AS DEFINED BY HRSA)

Case Management  
(Non-medical)

Child Care  
Services

Recreational and  
Social Activities

Emergency  
Financial  
Assistance  
(EFA)

Food  
Bank/Home-  
delivered Meals

Health  
Education/Risk  
Reduction

Housing  
Services

Legal Services

Linguistic  
Services

Medical  
Transportation  
Services

Outreach  
Services

Psychosocial  
Support  
Services

Pastoral  
care/counseling

Referral for  
Health  
Care/Supportive  
Services

Rehabilitation  
Services

Respite Care

Substance  
Abuse  
Treatment –  
Residential

Treatment  
Adherence  
Counseling

\*Services categories in the darker shaded boxes are currently funded in the New York City EMA

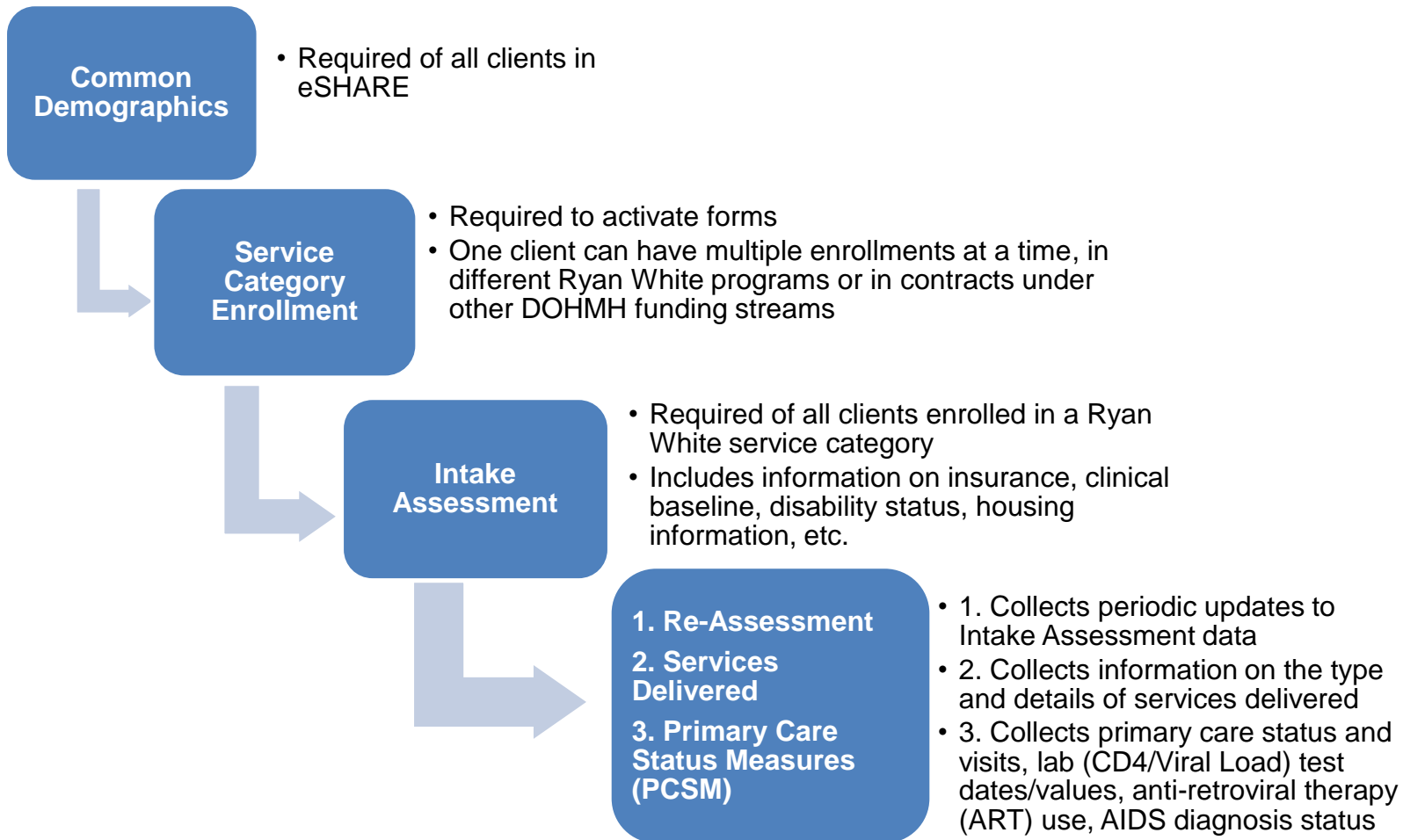


# THE ELECTRONIC SYSTEM FOR HIV/AIDS REPORTING AND EVALUATION (ESHARE)

- Primary data system for contracts with the Bureau of HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control at the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (NYC DOHMH), including RWPA funded contracts
- Web-based data reporting system by the NYC DOHMH
- Captures demographics, enrollments, services (individual and group), referrals, assessments and outcome measures over time



# MAIN DATA COLLECTION STEPS IN ESHARE



# THE NYC HIV SURVEILLANCE REGISTRY

- Contains comprehensive information on HIV diagnoses and HIV-related laboratory results (CD4 counts and viral loads) from medical providers and laboratories
- Continuously updated with new deduplicated data on PLWH in NYC.
- New York State requires named reporting of all diagnoses of HIV and AIDS, HIV-related illnesses, positive HIV diagnostic tests, HIV genotypes, dates and values for viral load tests and CD4 cell counts





## *Research:*

*The association between  
food insufficiency and HIV  
medical outcomes in a  
longitudinal analysis of  
HIV-infected individuals in  
New York City*



# FOOD INSECURITY

“the limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate and safe foods or uncertain ability to acquire acceptable foods in socially acceptable ways”  
(USDA)



# FOOD INSECURITY AND HIV

- 14.5% (17.6 million) of 121.5 million households in the U.S. were food insecure at some time in 2012 (USDA, 2013)
- Rates of food insecurity range from 24%-71% among HIV-infected individuals in the U.S. and Canada (Anema et al., 2011; Aidala et al., 2011; Kalichman et al., 2010; Normen et al., 2005; Weiser et al., 2009; Wang et al., 2011)
- Food insecurity is associated with:
  - poor nutritional outcomes
  - ART non-adherence (Weiser et al., 2011)
  - unsuppressed viral load (Aidala et al., 2011; Wang et al., 2011; Weiser et al., 2009; 2013)



# STUDY AIM

To examine the association between food insufficiency (FI)\* and HIV medical outcomes (unsuppressed viral load, low CD4 counts) in a longitudinal analysis of Ryan White Part A-funded food and nutrition services clients

\*refers to periods of time when individuals or households have an inadequate amount of food intake because of a lack of social or economic resources (Anema et al., 2013)

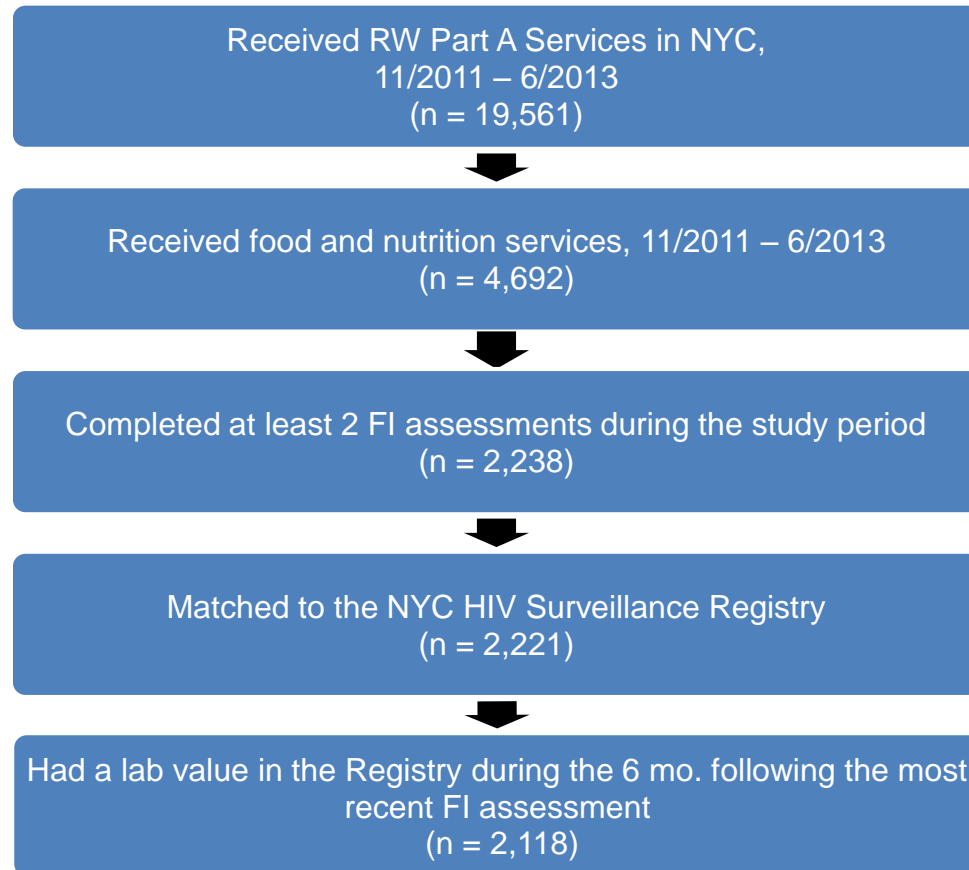


# RWPA-FUNDED FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICES FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV IN NEW YORK CITY

- Ryan White Part A funds food and nutrition services, including:
  - Congregate meals
  - Home-delivered meals
  - Pantry bags
  - Supplemental and emergency food vouchers
  - Nutritional counseling
- To be eligible for food and nutrition services, individuals must meet the income and residence guidelines for RWPA services and have a documented need for nutritional services or the inability to purchase or prepare nutritious food



# CLIENT POPULATION



# FOOD INSUFFICIENCY

## Items used to assess food insufficiency in eSHARE (USDA, 2000)

1. “fairly” or “very” often not having enough money for food in the past 3 months; and/or
2. “sometimes” or “often” not having enough to eat; and/or
3. going a whole day in the past 30 days without anything to eat

## Food insufficiency variable

- Consistently FI (FI reported on both assessments)
- Consistently food sufficient (food sufficiency reported on both assessments)
- Inconsistently FI (FI reported on 1 assessment)



# HIV MEDICAL OUTCOMES

**Unsuppressed viral load (VL):** VL > 200 copies/mL

**Low CD4 counts:** CD4 < 350 cells/mm<sup>3</sup>

- For each participant, the viral load and CD4 count closest to the date of the second eligible FI assessment (and within the 6-month period after this assessment) were selected from the Registry.
- Data on viral load and CD4 are from the Registry as reported by June 30, 2014.





# A COMPARISON OF SOCIODEMOGRAPHIC, BEHAVIORAL, AND CLINICAL CHARACTERISTICS BY FOOD INSUFFICIENCY STATUS

		Consistently food sufficient	Inconsistently food insufficient	Consistently food insufficient	<i>P</i>
<b>Overall, n (%)</b>		298 (14%)	530 (25%)	1290 (61%)	-
<b>Gender, n (%)</b>	<i>Male</i>	214 (71.8%)	386 (72.8%)	848 (65.7%)	0.005
	<i>Female</i>	84 (28.2%)	144 (27.2%)	442 (34.3%)	
<b>Age (Mean; SD)</b>		55.0 (10.5)	51.1 (10.1)	50.2 (9.9)	< 0.0001
<b>Race/ethnicity, n (%)</b>	<i>White</i>	49 (16.7%)	73 (13.8%)	152 (11.9%)	0.10
	<i>Black</i>	135 (45.9%)	276 (52.3%)	691 (54.2%)	
	<i>Hispanic</i>	105 (35.7%)	163 (30.9%)	397 (31.1%)	
	<i>Other</i>	5 (1.7%)	16 (3.0%)	36 (2.8%)	
<b>Education level, n (%)</b>	<i>≥ HS diploma/GED</i>	205 (70.0%)	345 (67.3%)	802 (63.5%)	0.06
	<i>&lt; HS diploma/GED</i>	88 (30.0%)	168 (32.8%)	461 (36.5%)	
<b>Employment status, n (%)</b>	<i>Employed</i>	33 (11.1%)	36 (6.8%)	50 (3.9%)	< 0.0001
	<i>Unemployed</i>	265 (88.9%)	494 (93.2%)	1240 (96.1%)	
<b>Income, n (%)</b>	<i>≥ 100% FPL</i>	98 (38.4%)	112 (24.8%)	288 (24.9%)	< 0.0001
	<i>&lt; 100% FPL</i>	157 (61.6%)	340 (75.2%)	871 (75.2%)	

# A COMPARISON OF SOCIODEMOGRAPHIC, BEHAVIORAL, AND CLINICAL CHARACTERISTICS BY FOOD INSUFFICIENCY STATUS

		Consistently food sufficient	Inconsistently food insufficient	Consistently food insufficient	<i>P</i>
<b>Housing status, n (%)</b>	<i>Stable/permanent</i>	258 (88.7%)	426 (81.8%)	997 (78.5%)	0.0003
	<i>Unstable/temporary</i>	33 (11.3%)	95 (18.2%)	273 (21.5%)	
<b>Recent hard drug use, n (%)</b>	<i>No</i>	283 (96.6%)	498 (95.4%)	1215 (94.9%)	0.47
	<i>Yes</i>	10 (3.4%)	24 (4.6%)	65 (5.1%)	
<b>Food aid, n (%)</b>	<i>No food aid</i>	82 (27.5%)	71 (13.4%)	132 (10.2%)	< 0.0001
	<i>Received food aid</i>	216 (72.5%)	459 (86.6%)	1158 (89.8%)	
<b>Body Mass Index, n (%)</b>	<i>Normal weight</i>	118 (39.6%)	204 (38.5%)	507 (39.3%)	0.63
	<i>Overweight/obese</i>	168 (56.4%)	294 (55.5%)	726 (56.3%)	
	<i>Underweight</i>	12 (4.0%)	32 (6.0%)	57 (4.4%)	



# A COMPARISON OF SOCIODEMOGRAPHIC, BEHAVIORAL, AND CLINICAL CHARACTERISTICS BY FOOD INSUFFICIENCY STATUS

		Consistently food sufficient	Inconsistently food insufficient	Consistently food insufficient	<i>P</i>
<b>Years living with diagnosed HIV (Mean, SD)</b>		14.9 (6.6)	14.5 (6.4)	14.3 (6.5)	0.34
<b>ART prescription status, n (%)</b>	<i>Prescribed ART</i>	288 (98.3%)	493 (93.9%)	1196 (93.3%)	0.004
	<i>Not prescribed ART</i>	5 (1.7%)	32 (6.1%)	86 (6.7%)	
<b>Viral load, n (%)</b>	$\leq 200$	252 (86.6%)	410 (78.1%)	900 (70.8%)	< 0.0001
	$> 200$	39 (13.4%)	115 (21.9%)	372 (29.3%)	
<b>CD4 count, n (%)</b>	$\geq 200$	258 (88.7%)	450 (86.7%)	1050 (82.7%)	0.01
	$< 200$	33 (11.3%)	69 (13.3%)	219 (17.3%)	



# FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH UNSUPPRESSED VIRAL LOAD (>200 COPIES/ML), ADJUSTED ODDS RATIOS

		VL > 200 copies/mL	Adjusted OR (95% CI)
Food insufficiency status, n (%)	<i>Food sufficient</i>	39 (13.4%)	Reference
	<i>Inconsistently food insufficient</i>	115 (21.9%)	1.2 (0.8-2.0)
	<i>Consistently food insufficient</i>	372 (29.3%)	1.6 (1.1-2.5)*
Age (Mean; SD)		48.4 (9.7)	1.0 (1.0-1.0)**
Race/ethnicity, n (%)	<i>White</i>	37 (13.8%)	Reference
	<i>Black</i>	321 (29.6%)	2.5 (1.6-4.1)***
	<i>Hispanic</i>	142 (21.6%)	1.8 (1.1-3.0)*
	<i>Other</i>	18 (32.1%)	3.1 (1.4-6.7)**
Education level, n (%)	<i>≥ HS diploma/GED</i>	303 (22.7%)	Reference
	<i>&lt; HS diploma/GED</i>	214 (30.4%)	1.3 (1.0-1.6)
Employment status, n (%)	<i>Employed</i>	20 (17.1%)	Reference
	<i>Unemployed</i>	506 (25.7%)	1.2 (0.7-2.2)
Income, n (%)	<i>≥ 100% FPL</i>	85 (17.4%)	Reference
	<i>&lt; 100% FPL</i>	387 (28.7%)	1.5 (1.1-2.0)*
Housing status, n (%)	<i>Stable/permanent</i>	366 (22.1%)	Reference
	<i>Unstable/temporary</i>	154 (38.8%)	1.5 (1.1-2.0)**
Recent hard drug use, n (%)	<i>No</i>	475 (24.1%)	Reference
	<i>Yes</i>	46 (46.9%)	2.2 (1.4-3.6)**
Years living with diagnosed HIV (Mean; SD)		14.0 (6.4)	1.0 (1.0-1.0)
ART prescription status, n (%)	<i>Prescribed ART</i>	463 (23.7%)	Reference
	<i>Not prescribed ART</i>	59 (49.2%)	2.5 (1.6-4.0)***
CD4 count, n (%)	<i>≥ 200</i>	327 (18.9%)	Reference
	<i>&lt; 200</i>	186 (58.7%)	5.7 (4.3-7.7)***
Body Mass Index, n (%)	<i>Normal Weight</i>	233 (28.5%)	Reference
	<i>Overweight/Obese</i>	254 (21.7%)	0.8 (0.6-1.0)
	<i>Underweight</i>	39 (39.4%)	1.7 (1.0-2.9)

\*p < 0.05 \*\*p < 0.01 \*\*\*p < 0.0001



# FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH LOW CD4 COUNTS (<200 CELLS/MM<sup>3</sup>), ADJUSTED ODDS RATIOS

		CD4 < 200	Adjusted OR (95% CI)
Food insufficiency status, n (%)	<i>Food sufficient</i>	33 (11.3%)	Reference
	<i>Inconsistently food insufficient</i>	69 (13.3%)	1.1 (0.7-1.8)
	<i>Consistently food insufficient</i>	219 (17.3%)	1.3 (0.9-2.2)
Age (Mean; SD)		49.9 (9.4)	1.0 (1.0-1.0)**
Race/ethnicity, n (%)	<i>White</i>	31 (11.7%)	Reference
	<i>Black</i>	197 (18.1%)	1.6 (1.0-2.5)*
	<i>Hispanic</i>	84 (12.9%)	1.0 (0.6-1.6)
	<i>Other</i>	6 (10.5%)	0.8 (0.3-2.0)
Income, n (%)	<i>≥ 100% FPL</i>	62 (12.6%)	Reference
	<i>&lt; 100% FPL</i>	226 (16.9%)	1.4 (1.0-1.9)*
Housing status, n (%)	<i>Stable/permanent</i>	229 (13.9%)	Reference
	<i>Unstable/temporary</i>	89 (22.4%)	1.5 (1.1-2.1)**
Recent hard drug use, n (%)	<i>No</i>	298 (15.2%)	Reference
	<i>Yes</i>	22 (22.9%)	1.2 (0.7-2.0)
Years living with diagnosed HIV (Mean; SD)		15.7 (6.2)	1.0 (1.0-1.1)***
ART prescription status, n (%)	<i>Prescribed ART</i>	299 (15.4%)	Reference
	<i>Not prescribed ART</i>	19 (16.0%)	0.7 (0.4-1.3)
Body Mass Index, n (%)	<i>Normal Weight</i>	158 (19.3%)	Reference
	<i>Overweight/Obese</i>	138 (11.9%)	0.6 (0.5-0.8)**
	<i>Underweight</i>	25 (25.3%)	2.0 (1.2-3.3)*

\*p < 0.05 \*\*p < 0.01 \*\*\*p < 0.0001



# DISCUSSION

- 86% of the overall sample reported FI at 1 or more assessment, which is higher than the proportions found in other studies of food insufficiency/insecurity in the U.S.
- Consistent FI had an independent association with unsuppressed viral load, but not low CD4 counts
- Findings underscore the need for “safety-net” services and services that promote long-term economic security (e.g., vocational counseling)



*Evaluation:*

*Mental health service  
utilization and mental health  
functioning among Ryan  
White clients living with HIV  
in New York City*



# MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR PLWH

- Elements of efficacy study designs limit the ability to reflect how mental health services function in “real-world” settings:
  - variable treatment lengths
  - less strict eligibility criteria
  - interventions implemented differently in terms of structure and/or content
  - fewer resources for ensuring intervention fidelity and participant retention (Owczarzak & Dickson-Gomez, 2011)





# MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR PLWH

- To date, two studies have found that higher levels of mental health services are associated with improved health and mental health outcomes among PLWH (Mkanta, Mejia, and Duncan, 2010; Winiarski, Beckett, and Salcedo, 2005)
- Studies of mental health service utilization are needed to inform the design and implementation of these services for PLWH, particularly in identifying adequate treatment dosages that will result in clinically significant improvements



# AIMS

1. To assess changes in mental health functioning among RWPA-funded mental health services clients
2. To examine the association between mental health service utilization and improvement in mental health functioning



# RWPA FUNDED MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR PLWH IN NEW YORK CITY

- Services include:
  - Individual/family/group mental health counseling
  - HIV treatment adherence counseling
  - Alcohol or drug (AOD) counseling
  - Psychiatric consultations
  - Care coordination
- Mental health services are provided by licensed clinicians (e.g., social workers, mental health counselors), psychiatrists, and certified peer workers
- To be eligible for mental health services, individuals must meet the income and residence guidelines for RWPA services and have a DSM diagnosis



# CLIENT POPULATION

Individuals who met the following criteria were included in our analysis:

- age 18 or older
- continuous enrollment in a RWPA-funded mental health services program at one of 11 sites in NYC for  $\geq 4$  months between 6/2012 and 5/2016
- $\geq 1$  clinical visit (i.e., an individual or group mental health, AOD, or HIV treatment adherence counseling session or a psychiatric consultation)
- an intake assessment completed upon program enrollment
- a reassessment completed between 4 and 8 months post-intake



# PRIMARY OUTCOME

## MENTAL HEALTH FUNCTIONING

- Mental component summary (MCS) score data from the Short Form 12 (SF-12)<sup>(Ware et al., 1996)</sup> were analyzed at program intake and reassessment
- A clinically significant improvement in mental health functioning was defined as a  $\geq 3.5$  point increase on the MCS score from program intake to the reassessment <sup>(Maruish, 2012)</sup>



# PRIMARY EXPOSURE

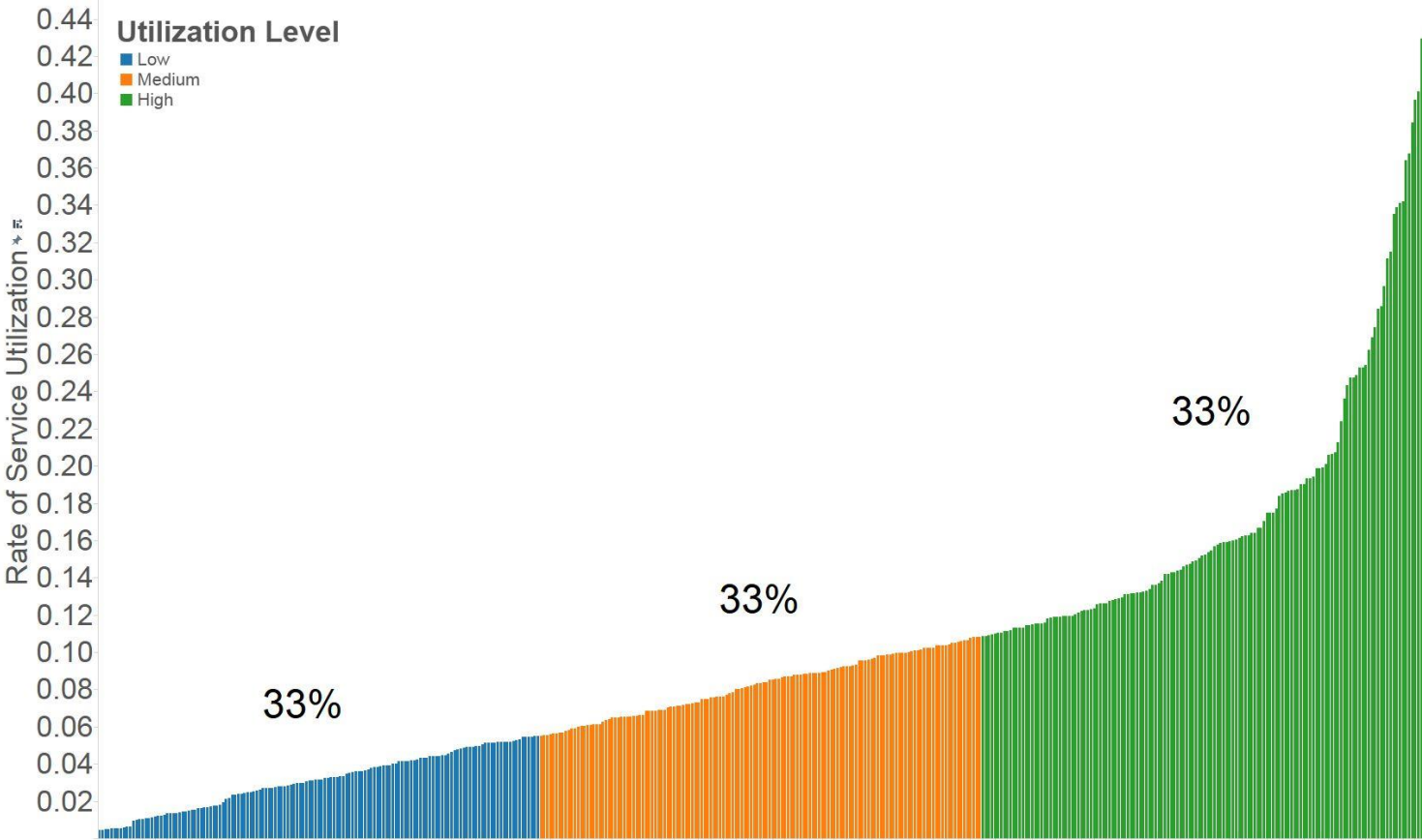
## LEVELS OF MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES UTILIZATION

- Calculated using the number of clinical services received per day between the intake and reassessment
- Three categories were created based on the terciles of the distribution of the average number of clinical services utilized per day:

Low	0.004 - 0.05 services/day
Medium	0.05 - 0.1 services/day
High	>0.1 services/day



# PRIMARY EXPOSURE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES UTILIZATION



# CLIENT POPULATION (N= 429) CHARACTERISTICS

		n (%) or M (SD)
<b>Gender</b>	<i>Male</i>	
	<i>Female</i>	130 (30.3%)
	<i>Transgender</i>	13 (3.0%)
<b>Age</b>		47.3 (11.1)
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	<i>Black/African-American</i>	
	<i>Hispanic</i>	121 (28.2%)
	<i>Other</i>	19 (4.4%)
	<i>White</i>	80 (18.7%)
<b>Primary Language</b>	<i>English speaking</i>	377 (87.9%)
<b>Country of origin</b>	<i>Born outside USA/US territory</i>	47 (11.0%)
<b>Education</b>	<i>≥ HS diploma/GED</i>	274 (63.9%)
<b>Employment Status</b>	<i>Unemployed</i>	379 (88.3%)
<b>Income</b>	<i>&lt; 100% Federal Poverty Level</i>	310 (72.3%)
<b>Housing Status</b>	<i>Unstable housing (intake)</i>	112 (26.1%)
<b>Improved housing status (from intake to reassessment)</b>		22 (5.1%)
<b>Lifetime history of incarceration</b>		187 (43.6%)
<b>Cigarette smoking (past 3 months)</b>		223 (52.0%)
<b>Hard drug use (past 3 months)</b>		93 (21.7%)
<b>Lifetime history of IDU</b>		94 (21.9%)
<b>IDU (past 3 months)</b>		34 (7.9%)





# CLIENT POPULATION (N= 429) CHARACTERISTICS

		n (%) or M (SD) or Median (range)
Years living with diagnosed HIV*		14.4 (8.7)
Current ART prescription		382 (89.0%)
Suppressed viral load ( $\leq 200$ copies/mL)*		317 (73.9%)
Improved viral load status (from intake to reassessment)*		42 (9.8%)
Previous mental health treatment**		287 (66.9%)
Location of mental health services received	<i>Non-AIDS CBO</i>	62 (14.5%)
	<i>Healthcare facility</i>	32 (7.5%)
	<i>AIDS CBO</i>	335 (78.1%)
Type of mental health services received**	<i>Treatment adherence</i>	399 (93.0%)
	<i>AOD</i>	211 (49.2%)
	<i>Mental health counseling/psychiatric consultation</i>	270 (62.9%)
Counseling sessions received		15 (1-93)
Treatment length (days)		182 (122-243)

\*Data are based on information reported to the Registry as of 6/30/16

\*n= 376 (due to missing data on an optional question in eSHARE)

\*\* $\geq 1$  visit



# MENTAL HEALTH FUNCTIONING (N= 429)

		n (%) or M (SD) or Median (range)
<b>Baseline MCS Score</b>		37.6 (12.1)
<b>Mental health status (intake to reassessment)</b>	<i>Improvement (<math>\geq 3.5</math> point increase)</i>	170 (40.0%)
	<i>Deterioration (<math>\leq 3.5</math> point decrease)</i>	108 (25.2%)
	<i>No change</i>	151 (35.2%)
<b>Improved mental health status from intake to reassessment (among clients with an MCS &lt; 37.0 at intake, n= 195)</b>		114 (58.5%)

# FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH IMPROVEMENT IN MENTAL HEALTH FUNCTIONING

		Improvement in MH functioning n (%) or M (SD)	Unadjusted OR (95% CI)	Adjusted OR (95% CI)
<b>Employment Status</b>	<i>Unemployed</i>	142 (85.5%)	0.52 (0.28-0.98)	0.59 (0.28-1.09)
<b>Baseline MCS</b>		31.7 (10.9)	0.93 (0.91-0.94)	0.92 (0.91-0.94)
<b>Level of mental health services participation</b>	<i>Low</i>	42 (24.7%)	Reference	Reference
	<i>Medium</i>	65 (38.2%)	2.0 (1.23-3.26)	1.90 (1.11-3.24)
	<i>High</i>	63 (37.1%)	1.89 (1.16-3.09)	1.82 (1.06-3.12)

# DISCUSSION

- Importance of understanding mental health service utilization in planning these services for PLWH (e.g., performance-based contracts)
- Need to examine utilization patterns across different mental health services (i.e., funded by RWPA, Medicaid, etc.)
- Prevalence of recent tobacco use (52%) underscores the need to address it in the context of mental health services

# *Intervention Development:*

*Leveraging ancillary service staff to support HIV care and treatment adherence*



# THE IDEA

- Are there clients who only access RWPA services that focus on meeting basic needs (e.g., housing)?
- Do these clients have challenges in achieving/maintaining VLS?
- Do the relationships that these clients have with their RWPA providers represent an untapped opportunity to provide HIV care and treatment adherence support?



# THE DATA

Population of interest was PLWH who:

- had 1 or more visits in RWPA ancillary services (i.e., food/nutrition, housing, legal, and/or substance abuse treatment services)
- were not enrolled in an RWPA service offering ART treatment adherence support (medical case management, mental health, or psychosocial support services)



# THE DATA

- Of the 14,267 PLWH who received RWPA services in NYC from 3/1/2014-2/28/2015, 41% fit this description
  - Of these, 98% (N= 5731) had  $\geq 1$  viral load value in the Registry
    - Of these, 36% (N= 2046) were **virally unsuppressed\*** at some point in this time period
      - Of these, 60% had at least 1 additional unsuppressed viral load

\*Viral load data are from NYC HIV/AIDS Surveillance Registry as reported by 6/30/16. Clients were counted as unsuppressed if they had  $\geq 1$  VL value that was  $>200$  copies/mL.





# THE PROPOSED PROJECT

- Government-academic collaboration between NYC DOHMH and the HIV Center for Clinical and Behavioral Studies at the Columbia University Medical Center and the New York State Psychiatric Institute
- Purpose: to develop feasible and acceptable interventions that leverage ancillary service providers to promote HIV care and treatment adherence in this RWPA client population
- Design: a *concurrent mixed methods design* will be used that analyzes existing data on:
  - (a) **Clients:** The Registry (viral loads), eSHARE (RWPA client data), the Salient Information Miner (Medicaid enrollment and services), qualitative interviews
  - (b) **Providers** (qualitative interviews)
  - (c) **Agencies** (RWPA program administrator questionnaire)



# POTENTIAL IMPACT

- Based on this formative research, brief, low intensity, cost-effective interventions would be developed that would:
  - Improve health outcomes among RWPA clients who might not otherwise be reached
  - Leverage the ancillary service infrastructure that exist at many RWPA agencies



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