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Presenter Names: Britney Johnson

Presenter Affiliations: New York State Department of Health

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State's Integrated HIV/STD Field Services Program

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Using PBRNs to Spur Innovation: Measuring Quality in New York State's Integrated HIV/STD Field Services Program

Britney Johnson, MPH
Program Research Specialist
New York State Department of Health

Disclosure

My spouse and I have not had any relevant financial relationship with any commercial interests or conflicts of interest in the conduct of this study.

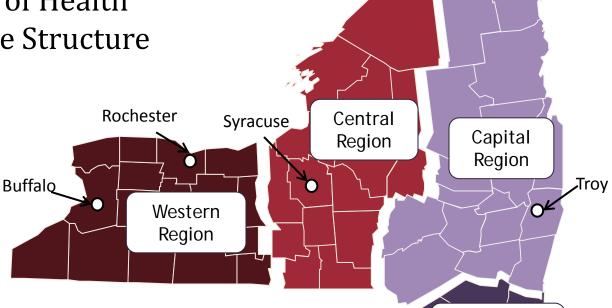
Overview

- Background of Research
- What We Found
- What We Did
- How it's Helped
- Challenges
- Moving Forward

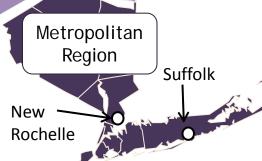
PBRN Grant: Measuring and Improving Quality

- Assessing the integration of HIV Counseling & Testing and STD Partner Services (PS) Programs
 - 56.5 staff in 5 regional offices
 - Done via staff surveys, focus groups, provider survey, outcomes assessment, economic evaluation
- Objective: To assess quality outcomes related to effectiveness, efficiency and acceptability of the integrated HIV and STD partner services model as perceived by state health department staff





- Partner Services staff conduct:
 - Risk reduction and prevention counseling
 - Partner elicitation
 - Condom distribution
 - Partner notification
 - Point-of-notification rapid HIV testing
 - Linkage to care, patient/partner follow up

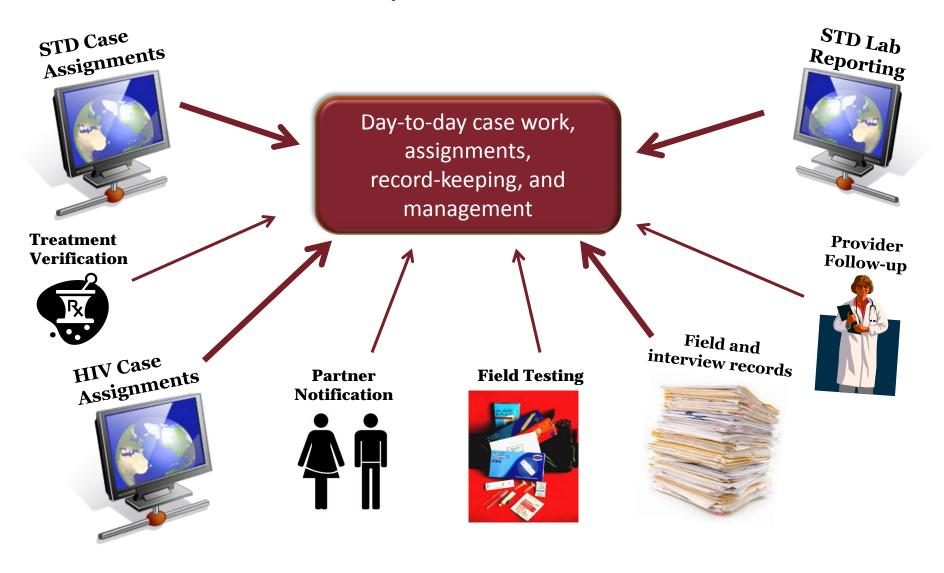


What We Found

- Integration: great in theory, more complicated in practice
 - High levels of worker stress and dissatisfaction with integrated roles (survey)
 - Lack of feedback on performance (focus groups)
 - Timeliness of feedback (focus groups)
- Lack of worker, manager understanding of PS processes
 - All 'quality' measures were outcomes data collected through surveillance systems



What Goes into HIV/STD Partner Services Work?



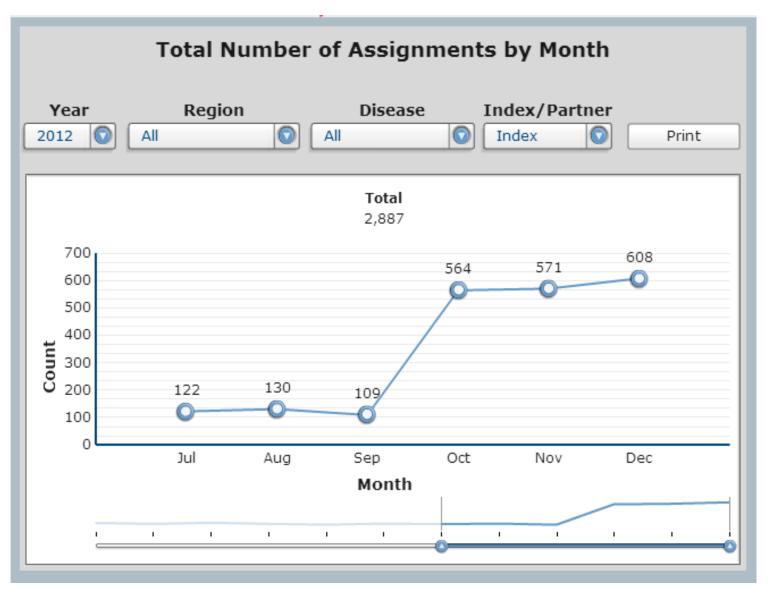
What We Did

- Expanded 'quality' definition to include process (not just outcome) measures
 - Identified quality metrics not captured by current systems
 - Applied Performance Management principles to improve integrated operations
- Developed a Program Management Application (PMA)
 - Collaborative workgroup emphasis on staff input
 - Used Information Systems Office to help with in-house development

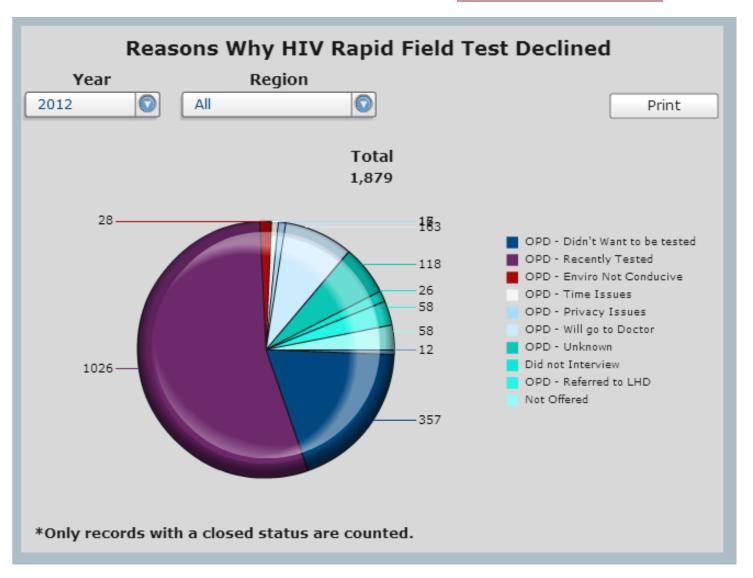


Benefits of PMA

- Regional control of case assignment and workload
- Easier to assess case allocation among PS staff
- Easier to identify successful practices
- Helps to track the HIV/STD Integration process
- Manage open, closed, and problem cases more effectively
- Use performance measures to track changes over time
- Provide real-time access to assigned HIV/STD cases to respond to queries
- Complements surveillance data systems



Note: Jul-Sep data only reflects one pilot office; PMA was implemented in all offices in Oct 2012



Example of how PMA can be used to assess the acceptability of new interventions; in this case, offering point-of-notification HIV testing to partners exposed to HIV/STDs.

Challenges of Implementing PMA

- Security and confidentiality of HIV vs. STD data
- Lack of trained data-entry staff
- Concerns about duplicating systems

Key Role of PBRN in PMA Development

- Objective, evidence-based research demonstrated a practice need
 - Academic influence adds weight to research findings
- PBRN emphasis on dissemination of findings prompts timely administrative response
 - Helps break through the bureaucratic inertia

Summary

- PBRN research revealed gaps in quality assessment of HIV/STD Partner Services integration
 - Outcomes quality ≠ Process quality
 - Need for evidence-based decision making in delivery of Partner Services programs
- Development of PMA to improve understanding of integrated operations
 - Collaborative, in-house effort
 - Direct response to worker, manager concerns

Moving Forward

- PMA as a performance management / quality improvement tool
- Junior Investigator Grant to use PMA to evaluate program performance
 - Identify best practices, provide guidance for staff
- Use PMA to assess cost-effectiveness of different Partner Services strategies

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Questions, Comments, Suggestions

Britney Johnson, MPH blj01@health.state.ny.us