

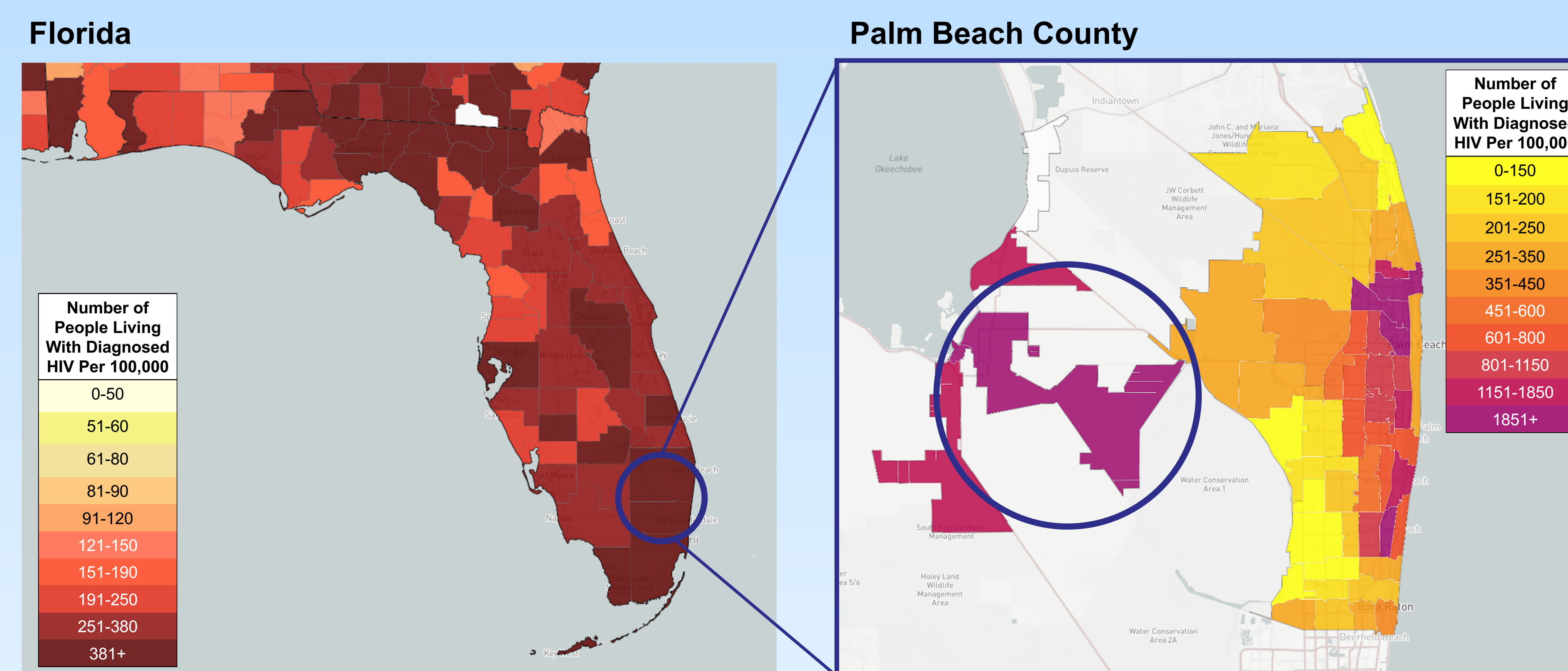
Introduction

- HIV remains prevalent in the US, with over 39,000 new cases diagnosed in 2016.
- Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), is a daily regimen that significantly reduces the chance of acquiring HIV.
- Comprised of two drugs, Emitricitabine and Tenofovir (FTC/TDF), and is given to prevent HIV infection in adult patients.
- In spite of FDA approval in 2012, the spread of HIV continues.
- Many providers are not yet comfortable with use of the regimen and how to counsel patients for appropriate use.
- Our goal was to train Family Medicine Resident Physicians at Lakeside Medical Center in Belle Glade, FL- a population with a particularly high prevalence of HIV (Figure 1) in using PrEP.

Description

- The team consists of a fourth year medical student, Family Medicine faculty and an expert infectious Disease consultant
- Designed a curriculum specific to Belle Glade, an area of high HIV prevalence with a predominantly heterosexual pattern of HIV transmission.
- Prepared by attending several PrEP lectures from the Infectious Disease specialist in order to become familiar with regimen and training content.
- Preparation and delivery of the lecture, as well as logistics coordination were supported by Family Medicine specialist from FAU's College of Medicine.
- During regularly scheduled didactics at the Family Medicine Residency Program at Lakeside Medical Center in Belle Glade, FL, 4 residents, 2 medical students and 6 program faculty were provided a two-hour lecture covering the rationale, patient selection, initiation and monitoring required for PrEP usage.
- Pre and post session surveys were given to assess knowledge gained.
- Approval was obtained from Florida Atlantic University's IRB.

Figure 1: Prevalence of HIV Infection



636 of 100,000 persons in Palm Beach County are living with diagnosed HIV.

2,877 of every 100,000 people in Belle Glade are living with diagnosed HIV.

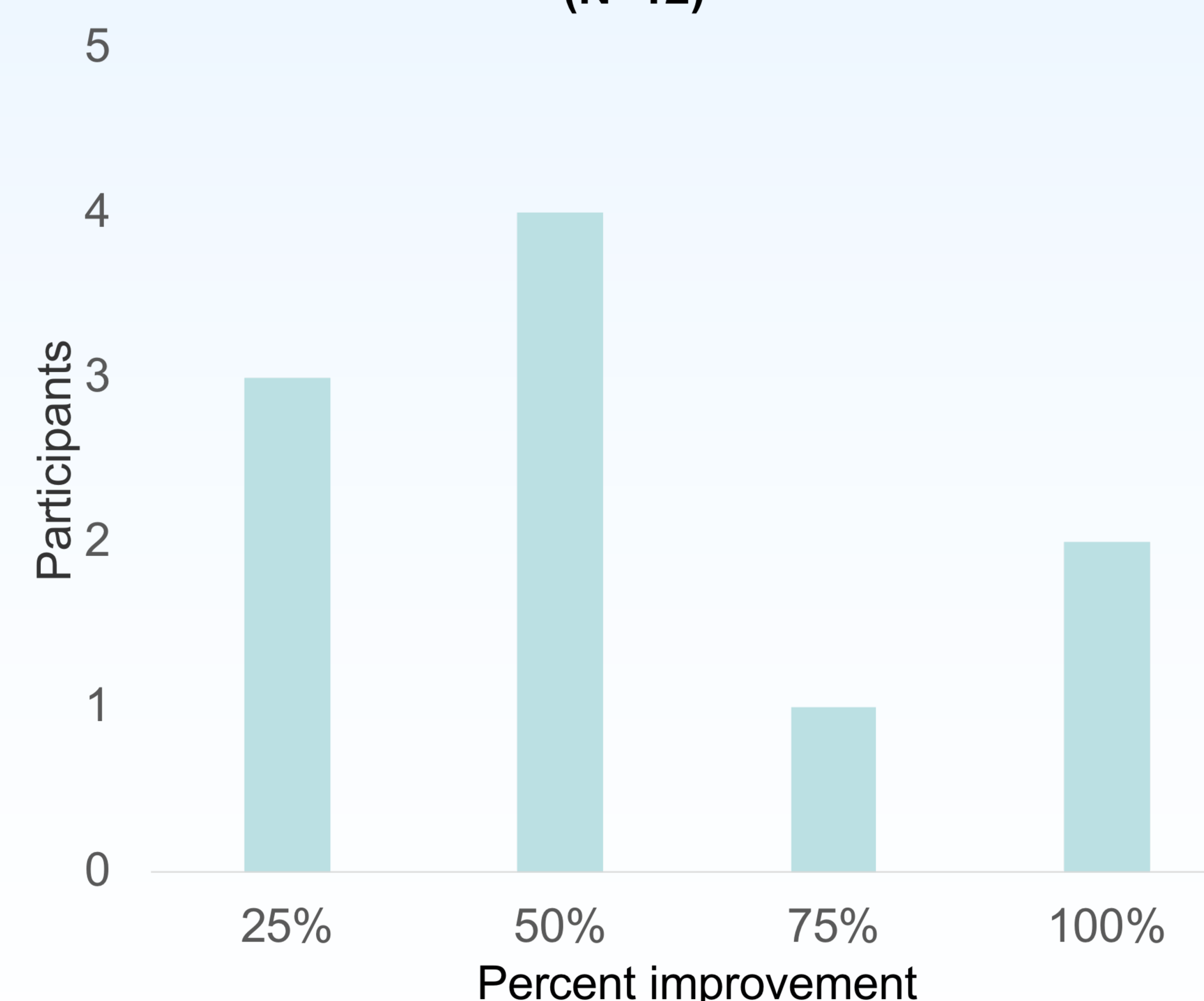
Assessment and Outcomes of PrEP Training

Sample Survey Questions

Participants were asked to indicate "True", "False", or "I don't know" to the following statements.

- Truvada for PrEP should only be used by HIV negative women if they have an HIV positive sexual partner.
- People taking Truvada for a PrEP indication should have an HIV test at least every three months.
- People with Hepatitis B cannot take Truvada for a PrEP indication.
- The FDA has approved Truvada for a PrEP indication for women at risk of HIV infection.

Percent Improvement in Survey Scores (N=12)



Amongst the 12 learners, average survey scores improved from 41.5% (pre-lecture) to 100% (post-lecture).

Lessons Learned

- Of the 12 learners who attended the lecture and filled out both a pre- and post-session survey, over 80% demonstrated increased knowledge and comfort in using PrEP.
- Of participants who increased their knowledge, 3 increased their knowledge by 25%, while 4 had an increase of 50%, 1 had an increase of 75% and 2 by 100%
- 2 hours of training on the rationale, initiation and monitoring of PrEP can increase knowledge among providers in a high risk area.

Recommendations

- Engaging medical students in training clinical staff on PrEP usage is an effective tool to educate other health care providers on PrEP usage.
- The introduction of PrEP lectures to medical students during their clerkship years can help raise awareness and enable future physicians to effectively counsel their patients.
- In order to make the PrEP educational program sustainable, the graduating fourth year medical student trained a current fourth year medical student to deliver this PrEP training.
- Identifying and educating medical students who are interested in PrEP and outreach to community physicians will be vital in increasing appropriate utilization in PrEP to reduce the spread of HIV.
- Additional clinical sites will be identified for offering student-led PrEP training.

References

- "HIV/AIDS." *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 7 May 2018, www.cdc.gov/hiv/statistics/overview/index.html.
- "HIV Infection Rates In Florida." *Map - AIDSVu*, map.aidsvu.org/map?state=FL.