

Social Marketing Campaign to Identify MSM Unaware of Their HIV Infection in Providence, RI

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Rhode Island Public Health Institute
The Miriam Hospital Center for Infectious Disease

RIPHI Mission

To promote community health and to reduce health disparities in Rhode Island and beyond.

We develop innovative public health programs, conduct translational and policy research, and train students and public health practitioners.



Partner Agencies



The Rhode Island STD Clinic

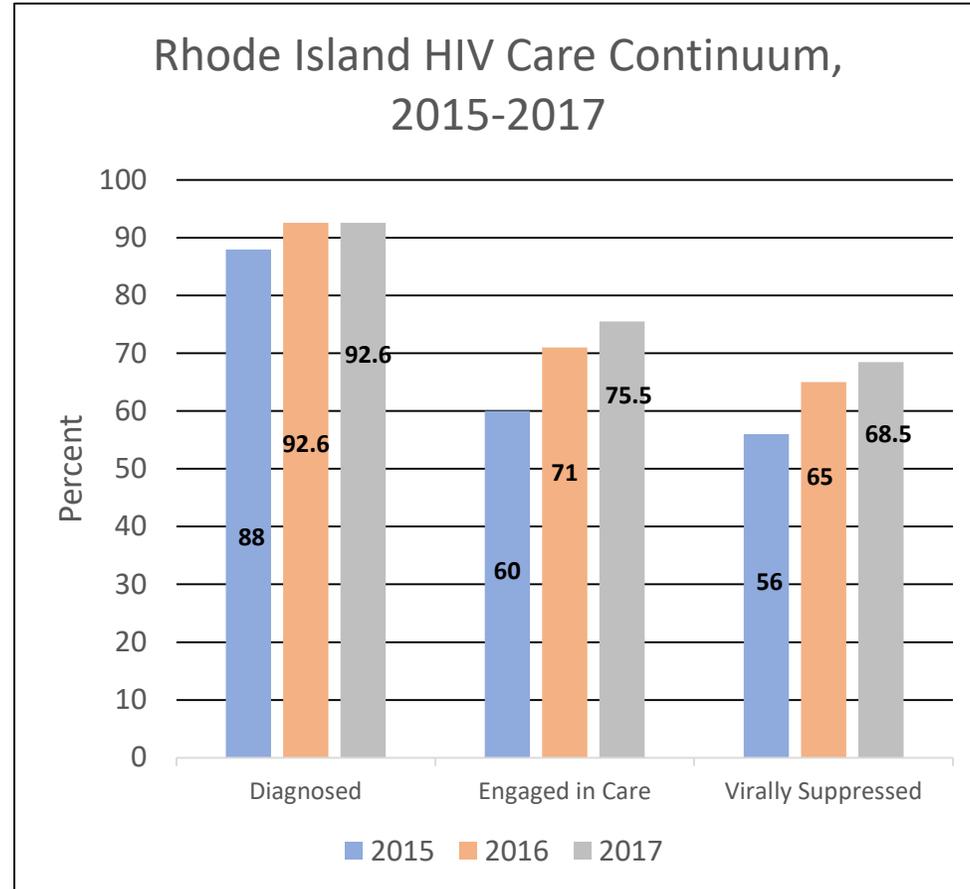
A collaboration between RIDOH and The Miriam Hospital



Testing for HIV and other STDs
Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday
12:30-3:30pm

RIPHI CoEXIST Background

- Approximately 400 Rhode Islanders are living with HIV and are unaware of their infection.
- There is currently no integrated tracking system to identify these individuals, link them to care, and follow them to viral suppression and beyond.
- The majority of people who are newly diagnosed with HIV meet their partners online.



RI DOH, 2018

Online Hookup Sites for Meeting Sexual Partners Among Men Who Sex with Men in Rhode Island, 2011: A Call for Public Health Action

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ABSTRACT

Frequent use of websites and mobile telephone applications who have sex with men (MSM) to meet sexual partners, to as "hookup" sites, make them ideal platforms for HIV prevention. This Rhode Island case study demonstrated widespread use of these sites among MSM recently diagnosed with HIV. We present the prevalence and corporate social responsibility (CSR) program used by newly diagnosed HIV-positive MSM to meet sex partners. Adam4Adam, Manhunt, Scruff, and Craigslist. Craigslist advertising. Scruff offered free online advertising to selected nonprofit organizations. Grindr and Manhunt offered reduced, but widespread, advertising. More than half (60%, 26/43) of newly diagnosed MSM reported meeting sexual partners online in the 12 months prior to their diagnosis. Opportunities for public health agencies to promote HIV-related health messaging on these sites were limited. Partnering with hookup sites to reach high-risk MSM for HIV prevention and treatment messaging is an important public health opportunity for reducing disease transmission risks in Rhode Island and across the United States.

Company name	Number of newly diagnosed MSM reporting meeting sexual partners on the hookup site in the previous 12 months (percent) ^{a,b}	Number of newly diagnosed MSM who believe the sexual partner who infected them was met on this site (percent) ^{b,c}	Availability of corporate social responsibility programs ^d	Reduced public health advertising costs ^e
Total	26	22		
Grindr ^f	14 (54)	4 (18)	Reduced pricing for nonprofit organizations Grindr for Equality promotes lesbian/gay/bisexual/transgender rights; no CSR policy listed related to disease transmission	Banner advertisements (RI users): \$4 CPM at 25% share of voice = \$400/day Pop-ups (RI users): \$150/day for one pop-up per day
Adam4Adam	15 (58)	5 (23)	Did not return inquiries	Did not return inquiries
Manhunt and Jack'd (Online Buddies, Inc.) ^g	8 (31)	7 (32)	Reduced pricing for nonprofit organizations	Manhunt banner advertisements (RI users): \$2,000/month at 25% share of voice. Manhunt Monthly e-mail (RI users): \$4,000/month Jack'd Mobile banner advertisements (RI users): \$3,000/month
Scruff ^h	5 (19)	2 (9)	Free advertising for selected nonprofit organizations	Free for selected nonprofit companies who apply through Benevolads
Craigslist ⁱ	5 (19)	1 (5)	Craigslist Foundation; donates to philanthropic organizations	Always offers free advertising

New Frontiers: Online-to-Offline Linkage to Care

Chan, Nunn, et al. Public Health Reports, 2016

A Network Analysis of Sexually Transmitted Diseases and Online Hookup Sites Among Men Who Have Sex With Men

Philip A. Chan, MD,*† Christina Crowley, MPH,* Jennifer S. Rose, PhD,‡ Trace Kershaw, PhD,§ Alec Tributino, BS,* Madeline C. Montgomery, MPH,* Alexi Almonte, BA,* Julia Raifman, ScD,¶ Rupa Patel, MD,** and Amy Nunn, ScD†

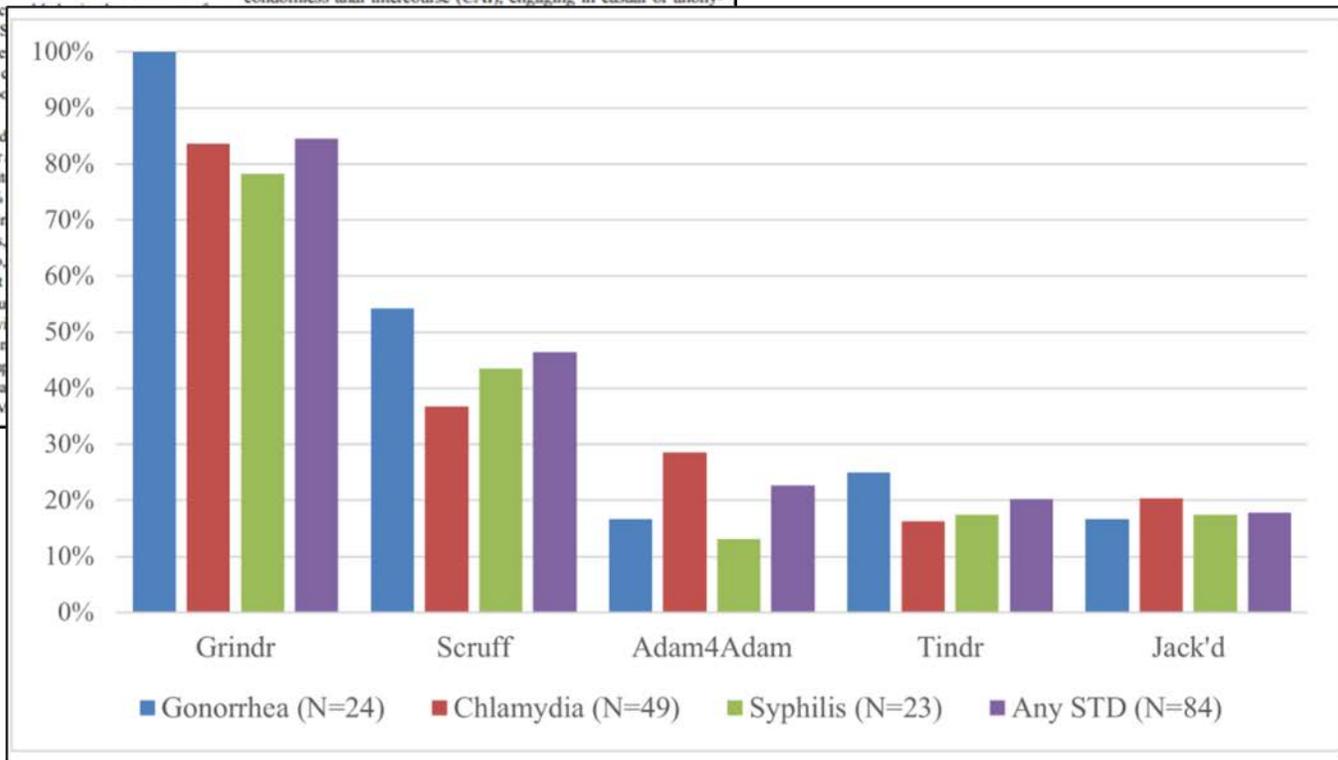
Background: Sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) are increasing among gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men (MSM). Little is known about the use of websites and mobile phone applications to meet sexual partners (“hookup sites”) and association with STD diagnoses.

Methods: We performed a demographic and network analysis of 415 MSM presenting to the Rhode Island STD/STI Clinic. Multivariable analyses assessed associations between being testing positive for syphilis, gonorrhea, or chlamydia and use of hookup sites. Social network analysis was used to evaluate how social networks were created to evaluate hookups and association with STD diagnoses.

Results: Among 415 MSM, 78% reported meeting a sexual partner in the last 12 months, and 25% tested positive for an STD. Men who met partners online were more likely to be white, have more than 10 lifetime partners (87%), and use hookup sites (22%). Commonly used hookup sites included Grindr (22%), Scruff (15%), Adam4Adam (13%), Tinder (15%), and Jack’d (15%). In the multivariable analysis, use of hookup sites was associated with testing positive for an STD (odds ratio, 1.09–4.94). However, among men who met partners online, 100% of those who were diagnosed as having an STD had met a sexual partner online.

Conclusions: Use of hookup sites was associated with testing positive for an STD among MSM. Specific hookup sites were associated with STD diagnoses among MSM. Greater use of STD screening and prevention among MSM

have a disproportionate impact on gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men (MSM).¹ In 2015, MSM accounted for 60% of all syphilis and 42% of gonorrhea cases, a 13% and 15% increase from 2014, respectively.^{1,2} Among MSM, behaviors such as condomless anal intercourse (CAI), engaging in casual or anonymous



Chan, Nunn, et al. Sexually Transmitted Diseases, 2018

RIPHI Objectives

1. Develop an EIS program designed to serve all of Rhode Island;
2. Raise awareness about HIV screening and linkage to care services on “hookup apps” among MSM who may be unaware of their HIV infection, with a focus on promoting screening at partner locations;
3. Screen 400 MSM annually;
4. Link newly diagnosed MSM who meet their partners online to HIV care and treatment services within 24 hours of diagnosis;
5. Achieve viral suppression in 100% of people who are diagnosed.

HIV Screening & Linkage to Care

Table 1. Demographics and key characteristics of MSM screened for HIV between August 1, 2017 and August 31, 2018 (n = 1207)

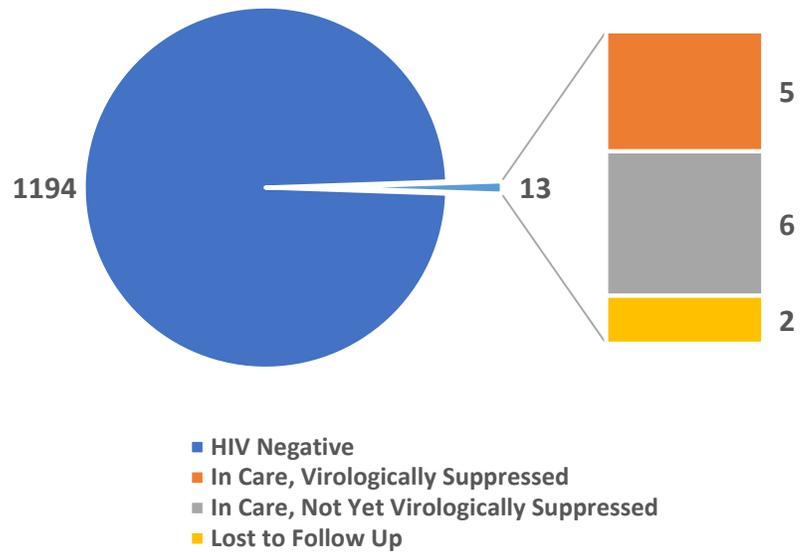
	n (%)
Age	
15-19	44 (4.0)
20-29	535 (44.0)
30-39	304 (25.0)
40+	308 (26.0)
Hispanic/Latino	258 (21.2)
Race	
Black/African American	146 (11.9)
White	809 (66.0)
Other	272 (22.1)
Sexual Orientation	
Heterosexual	25 (2.0)
Gay	931 (75.9)
Bisexual	190 (15.5)
Other	81 (6.6)
Met Partners Online	502 (42%)

Table 2. Demographics and key characteristics of MSM receiving a reactive HIV test between August 1, 2017 and August 31, 2018 (n = 13)

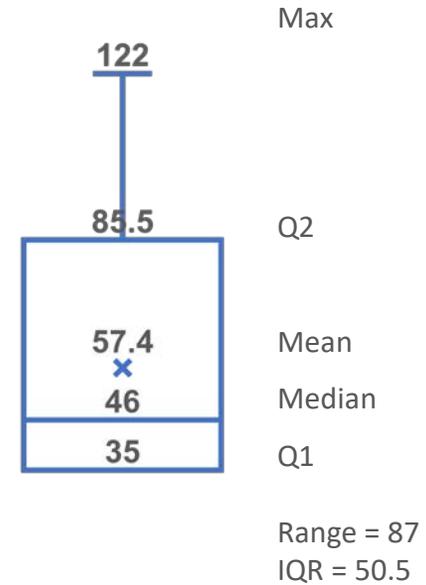
	n (%)
Age	
15-19	0 (0)
20-29	7 (53.8)
30-39	5 (38.5)
40+	1 (7.1)
Hispanic/Latino	6 (46.2)
Race	
Black/African American	2 (15.4)
White	6 (46.2)
Other	5 (38.5)
Sexual Orientation	
Heterosexual	1 (7.7)
Gay	10 (76.9)
Bisexual	2 (15.4)
Ryan White Eligible	1 (7.7)
Rapid Test Location	
TMH	7 (53.8)
Other	6 (46.2)

Clinical Outcomes

RIPHI-TMH EIS Service Provision (n=1207)
August 1, 2018 - August 31, 2018



Range in Number of Days to Viral Suppression



Social Marketing Campaign Focus Group Outcomes

Characteristic	Total (n = 18)
Age (average)	30.2
Hispanic/Latino	4 (22.2%)
Black/African American	4 (22.2%)
White	10 (55.6%)
Sexual orientation	
Heterosexual	1 (5.5%)
Gay	13 (72.2%)
Bisexual	1 (5.5%)
Other	3 (16.7%)
Met partners online	15 (83.3%)
Housing	
Stable/Permanent	15 (83.3%)
N/A	3 (16.7%)

Men in focus groups reported a desire for:

- A bold, hip, sex positive campaign
- Messaging with facts about HIV incidence & HIV screening
- Imagery of real men “living life,” not cute couples or erotic beauty
- Concepts promoting HIV prevention for others’ health as well as their own
- Tools to act and information on safe places they can go for EIS services

Hookup Apps

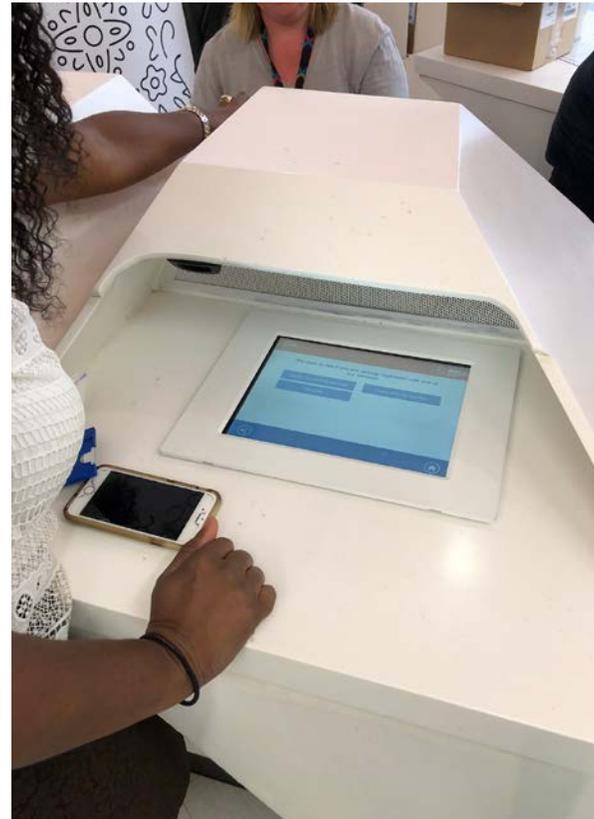
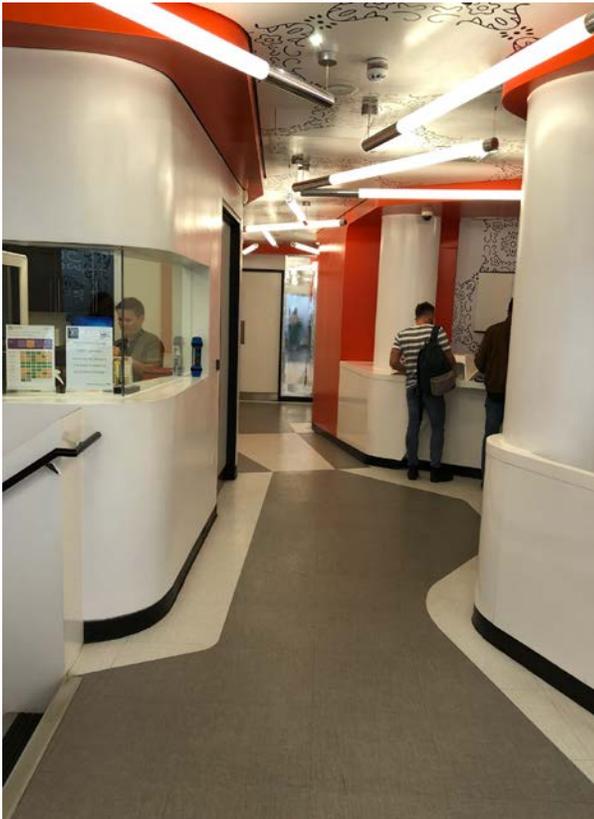


EIS Online



The collage consists of six distinct advertisements:

- Top Left:** A man's face in profile against a red background. Text: "GET SOME Clarity". Below: "iStock by Getty Images". At the bottom: "GET SOME".
- Top Right:** A close-up of a person's hairy chest. Text: "LIBERATE ME". Below: "iStock by Getty Images". At the bottom: "LIBERATE ME".
- Middle Left:** A person's torso with a hand on their chest. Text: "60% OF MEN IN RI HAVE NOT BEEN SCREENED FOR HIV.*". Below: "CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE AND FIND A CLINIC NEAR YOU.".
- Middle Center:** A young man's face. Text: "60% of men in RI have not been screened for HIV." Below: "CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE AND FIND A CLINIC NEAR YOU.".
- Middle Right:** A couple kissing. Text: "SOMETIMES IT'S POLITE TO KISS AND TELL." Below: "YOUR PARTNERS SHOULD KNOW IF YOU'VE BEEN INFECTED, AND SO SHOULD YOU.".
- Bottom Right:** A man's face in profile against a purple background. Text: "KNOWLEDGE IS POWER." Below: "1 in 5 people with HIV don't know that they're infected." Below: "CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE AND FIND A CLINIC NEAR YOU.".



Diagnose individuals who are unaware of their HIV infection and immediately link them to HIV care, with the ultimate goal of achieving HIV virological suppression

The logo features a large, stylized red graphic element on the left side, resembling a thick vertical bar with a horizontal bar extending to the right, forming a partial 'L' or '7' shape. The text is arranged to the right of this graphic. The year '2018' is written vertically in light blue. The word 'NATIONAL' is in light blue, positioned above the main title. The main title 'RYAN WHITE' is in large, bold, white capital letters. Below it, the subtitle 'CONFERENCE ON HIV CARE & TREATMENT' is in smaller, light blue capital letters. The background is a solid dark blue, with a thick red vertical bar on the far left and a thick red horizontal bar at the bottom.

2018 NATIONAL
RYAN WHITE
CONFERENCE ON HIV CARE & TREATMENT

Development and Pilot Testing of a Mobile Application to Support Vulnerable HIV+ Patients

Paul Loberti, Administrator for Medical Services, RI Executive Office of HHS

Jeana Frost, Director of Research, 360Medlink

Talk: Evolution of a Platform

1. Background and motivation for the work
2. Approach and platform
3. Experience and lessons learned

Team



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For Medical
Services
RI Executive Office
of HHS



Andre Parker
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Management
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Analysis RI
EOHHS



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**Jeana Frost,
PhD**
Head of
Research



**Claire Kamoun,
MPH**
Sr. Dir. Patient
& Med-Affairs

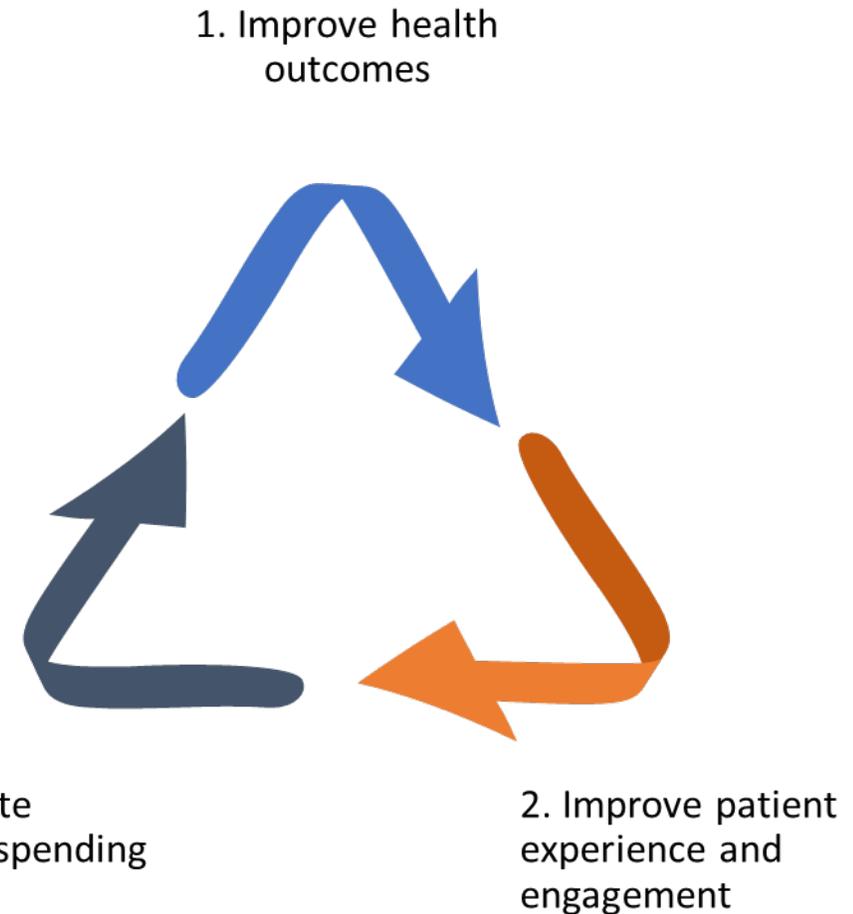
Our Goal: Programs to achieve Triple Aim

Improve:

1. Health outcomes.
2. Patient experience and engagement.
3. Efficient spending.

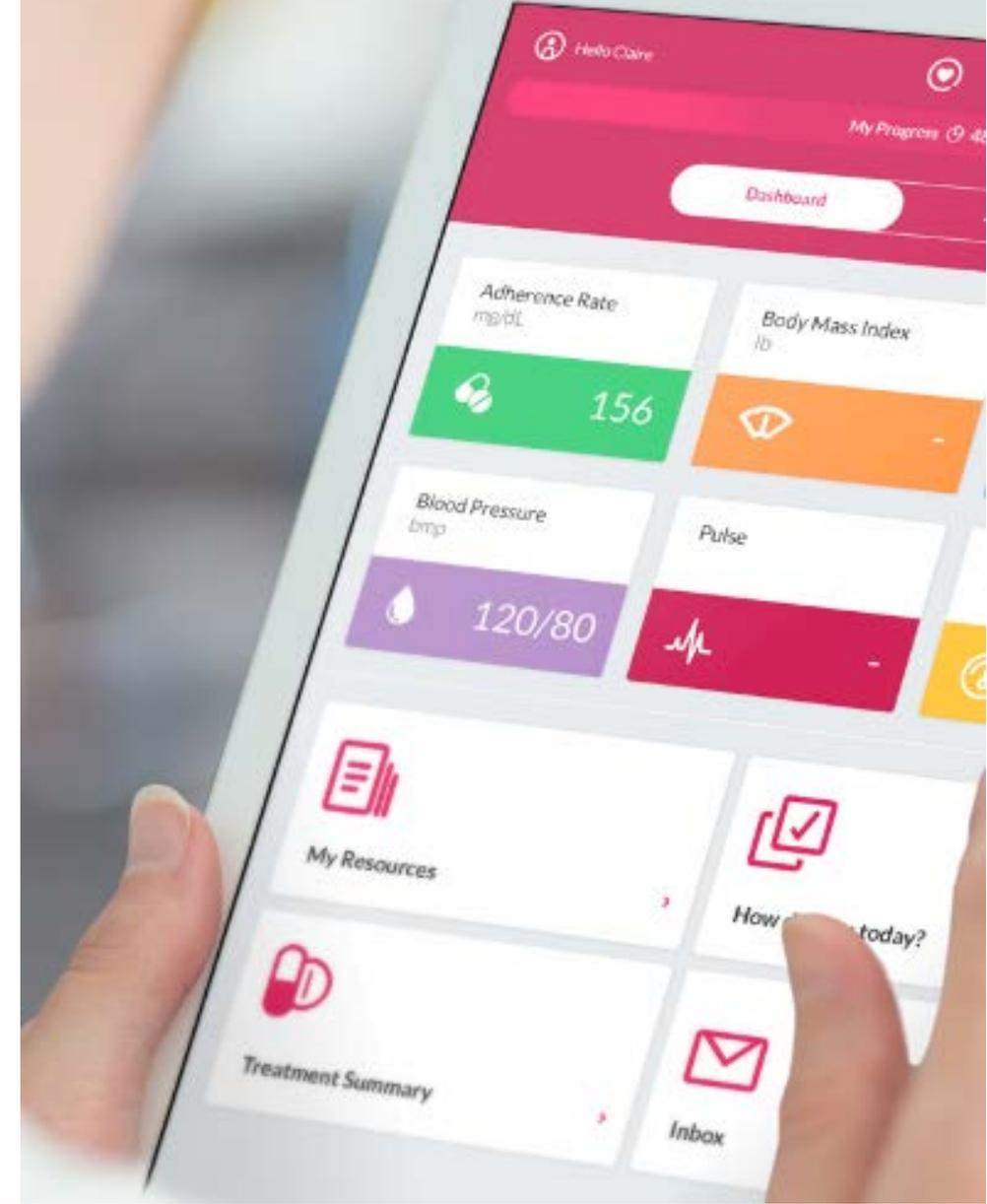
RI **Medicaid** and the **Ryan White** program adopted these measures proactively, pre PPACA, and they continue to be in place today.

Medicaid benefits from Ryan White Part B performance measures, and Ryan White Part B benefits from the Medicaid efficiency measures.



A Bi-Product of Reform:

The opportunity to harness Digital Health Innovation



Project History



+



=



RI state government search around PPACA implementation to effectively:

Communicate monitor/enhance health outcomes

Engage in telehealth opportunities

Evaluate performance measures.

Conducted a 12 month review of existing products and smart phone applications.

We were looking for more than an application – specifically we wanted a hybrid model of an innovative application coupled with a programmatic bent that directly interfaced with our consumers.

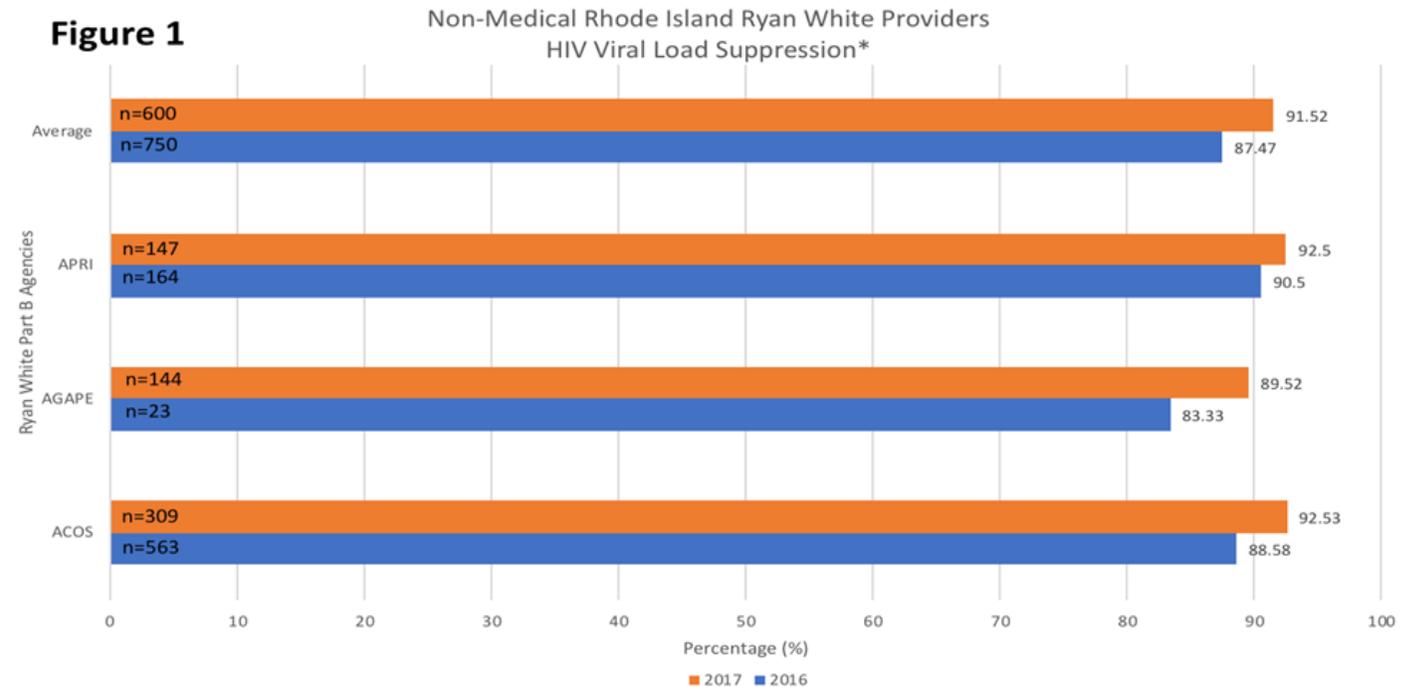
After research stage, RI procurement allowed for a Sole Source with TAVIE^{RX}.

Some good news about This population: Most clients are viral load suppressed and going to HCP

91.5% have a viral load below 200 copies/mL

Based on clinical assessment used for Quality Management Performance Measures.

Figure 1



* The number of clients with a HIV viral load less than 200 copies/mL at the last HIV viral load test within the last 12 months.

Numerator is defined as, the number of clients in the denominator with a HIV viral load less than 200 copies/mL at last HIV viral load test within the last 12 months.

Denominator is defined as, all Ryan White Part B non-medical case management clients, regardless of age, with a diagnosis of HIV.

Need:

Psychological, QOL, Technological, and for Connection

Clients report being socially isolated, struggling with mental health, and burdened with symptoms of pain, sleep issues, and fatigue.

They report low self efficacy in getting help from the community and managing symptoms

Source: Baseline assessment

- 50% report symptoms. Most people report low self-efficacy managing symptoms
- 33% Clinically depressed
- .5% have a smartphone. Tech literacy is low



Background and Context

- Desire to provide the best possible solution for our clients.
- Clients typically left behind with technology.

We asked: What can happen if this population has this technology?

Approach

Approach: Provide clients with a constant “companion”

- An application on a smart phone that links into other OHHS programs
- Application is always available to the client. Link is always available to the case manager.
- Intervention is clinically validated for an HIV+ population
- Evidence-based behavioral health interventions

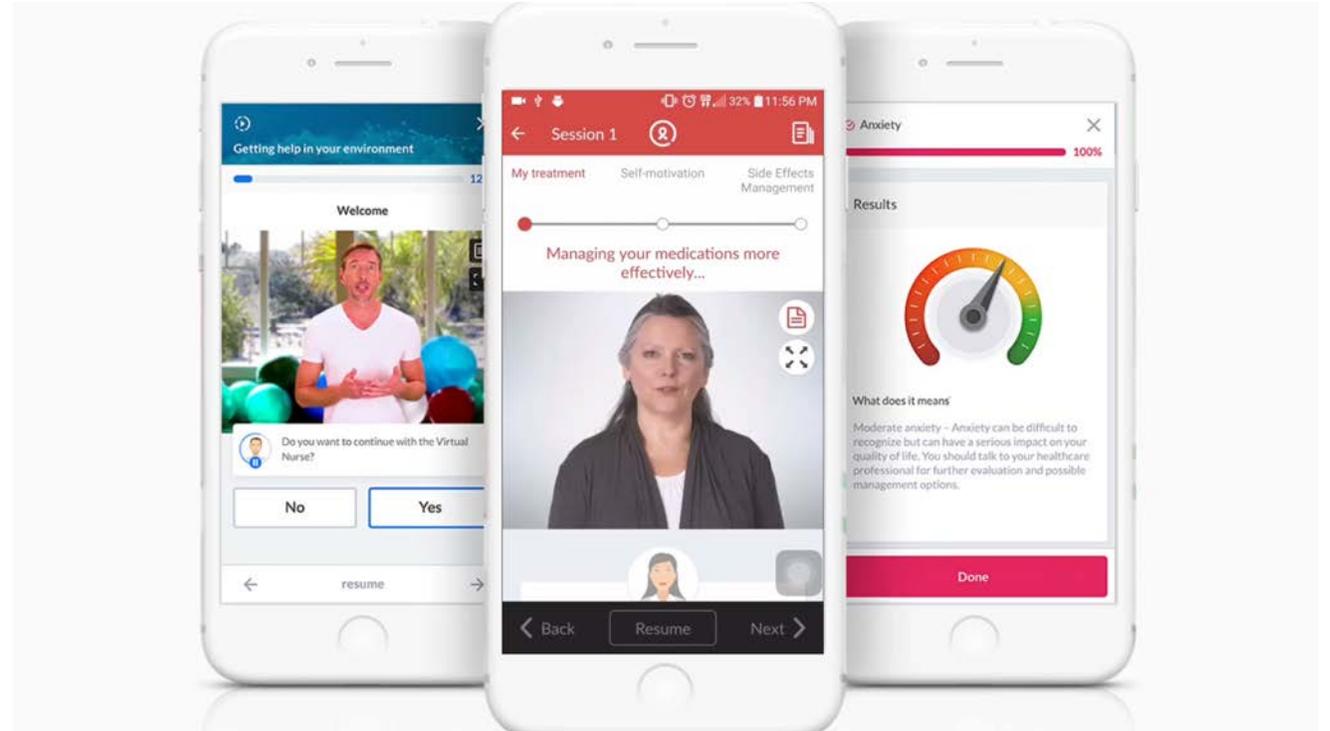


User-centered iterative design methods

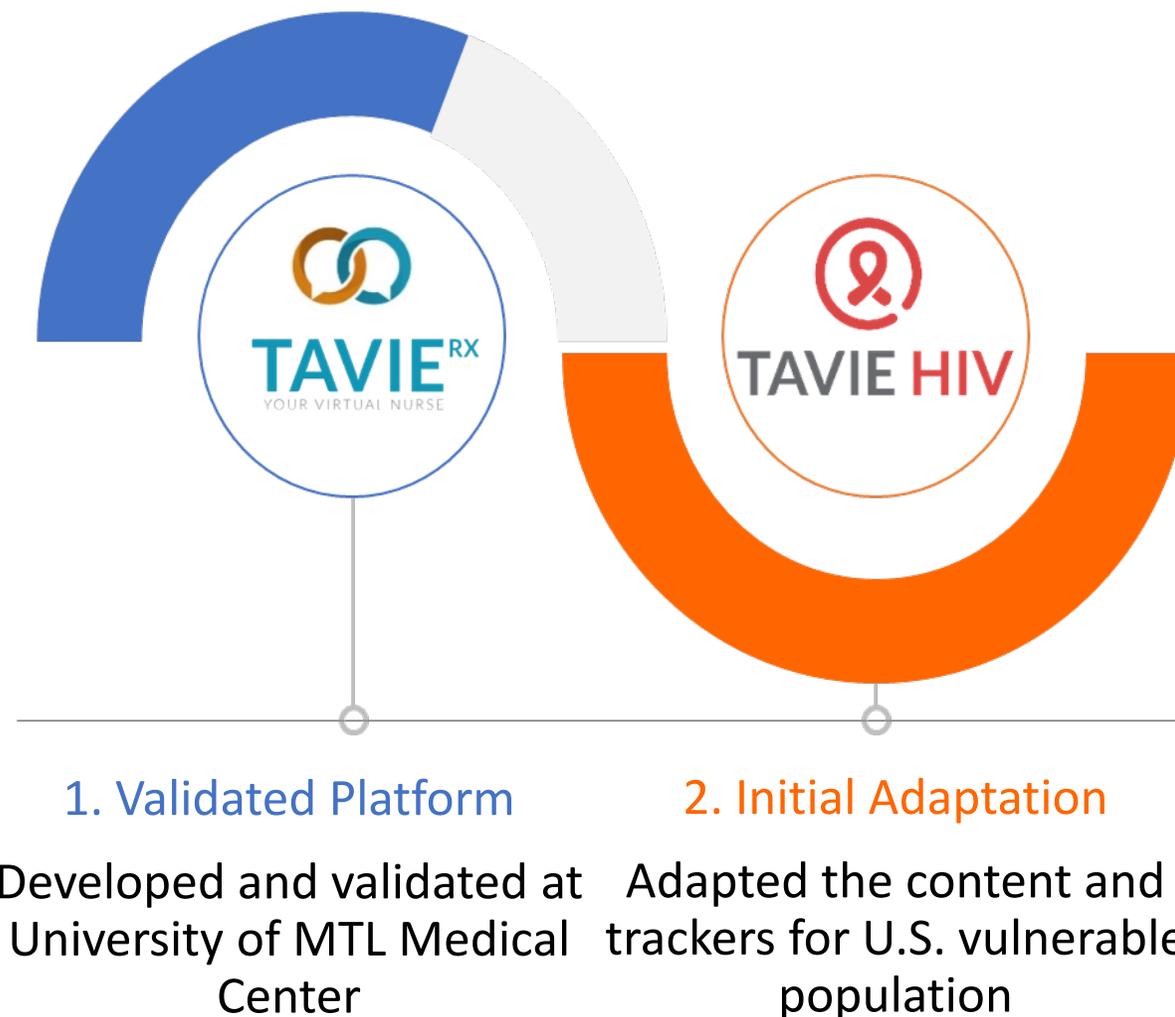
Approach:

The First Clinically Validated Virtual Nurse Interactive Coach, TAVIE.

- Customized PRO collection
- Tailored virtual coach for each user
- Treatment reminders
- Symptom tracking



Approach: Adapt the Tool to User Need



Approach: Platform connects clients and case managers. Progress reviewed through analytics.



Clinically Validated Virtual Nurse App for Patients. Users receive personalized coaching sessions, treatment reminders and tracking tools



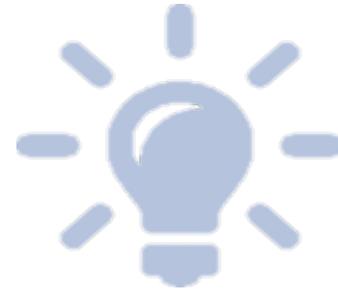
Provider Console to Monitor and Intervene. An interface for case managers and providers to stay in touch and assist patients.



Stakeholder Analytics. Customizable dashboard to track performance measures, view clinical outcomes and track engagement to inform decision-making.

First deployment: TAVIE HIV

- All clients in the ADAP program eligible for the program
- 150 provided with phones pre-loaded with the TAVIE application
- Case managers trained to use TAVIE Pro
- General satisfaction with the platform
- Increased understanding of patient need

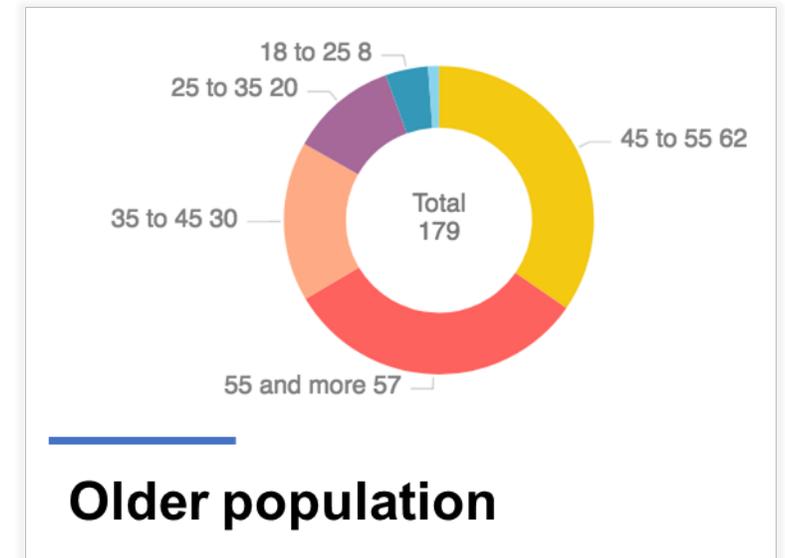
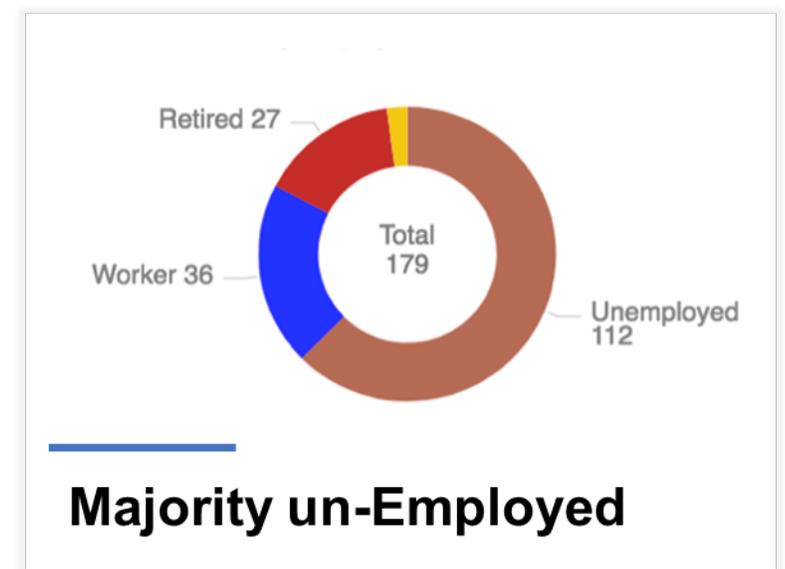


However, not a comprehensive solution

Greater Understanding: In-App reporting

Reporting through the application provides additional insight on the needs of this population

- Most unemployed
- 21% in unstable housing
- 57% over 55 years old
- 80% of users single divorced or widowed
- 33% Clinically depressed
- Only 22% college educated



User-Centered Design

- Consumer Advisory Board committee meets monthly to provide input (27 people)
- Focus-groups with case managers provided input
- Needs assessment surveys provided a more complete picture of user-base
- Ongoing, in app assessments inform [design](#)



Platform Evolution



1. Validated Platform

Developed and validated at University of MTL Medical Center

2. Initial Adaptation

Adapted the content and trackers for U.S. vulnerable population

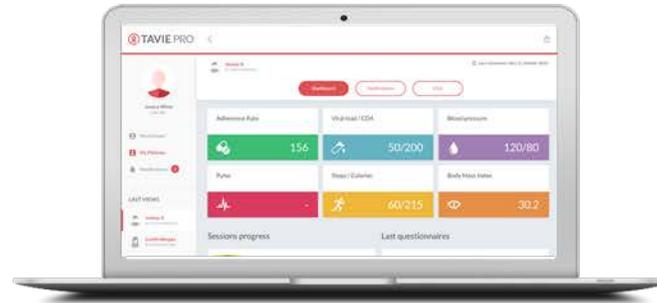
3. Second Release (9/2018)

Based on input and need to address SODH, increase engagement and delight

Approach: Same Hybrid platform but Tailored to the Identified Needs



Clinically Validated Virtual Nurse App for Patients. Users receive personalized coaching sessions, treatment reminders and tracking tools



Provider Console to Monitor and Intervene. An interface for case managers and providers to stay in touch and assist patients.



Stakeholder Analytics. Customizable dashboard to track performance measures, view clinical outcomes and track engagement to inform decision-making.

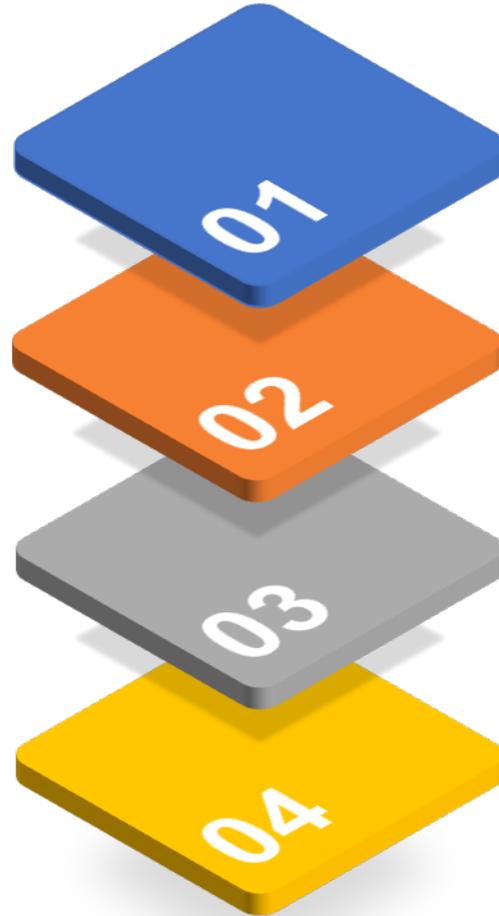
Modular Design

1. Virtual Coaching

- Treatment adherence
- Patient education
- Side-effect management

2. Trackers and Feedback

- Symptom assistance
- Treatment reminders
- Physical activity
- Viral load, weight, BP, +



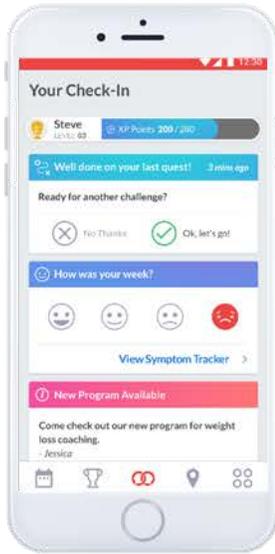
3. Whole Health

- Psycho-social support
- Symptom management
- Service acquisition (food insecurity, housing, engagement with healthcare)

4. Gamification

- Interactive Quests
- Dynamic Feed
- Upgrading reminders and notifications
- Alerts for care managers

TAVIE Red: A Client Companion



Engage

A “feed” page shows interactive content and announcements from case managers



Assist

Virtual nurse coach, a resource map, announcements, and calendar with reminders help users manage care day-to-day

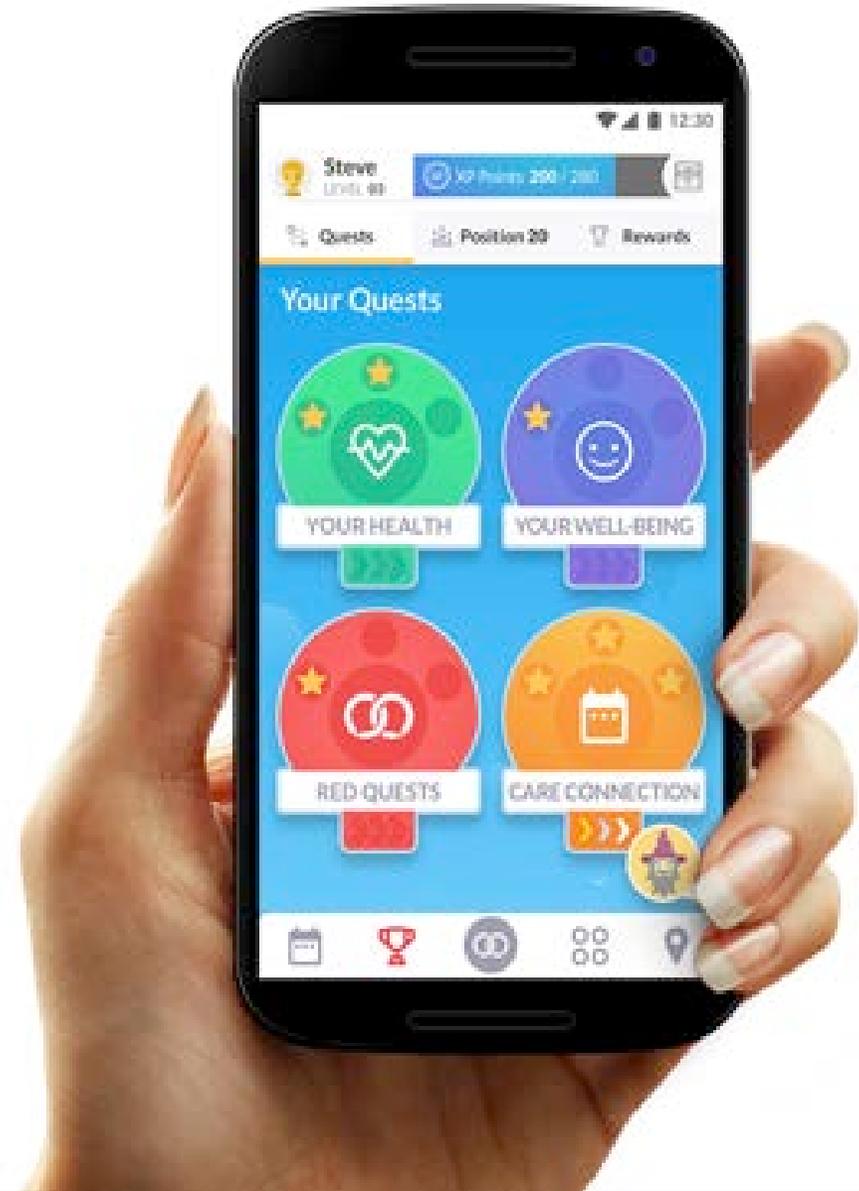


Delight

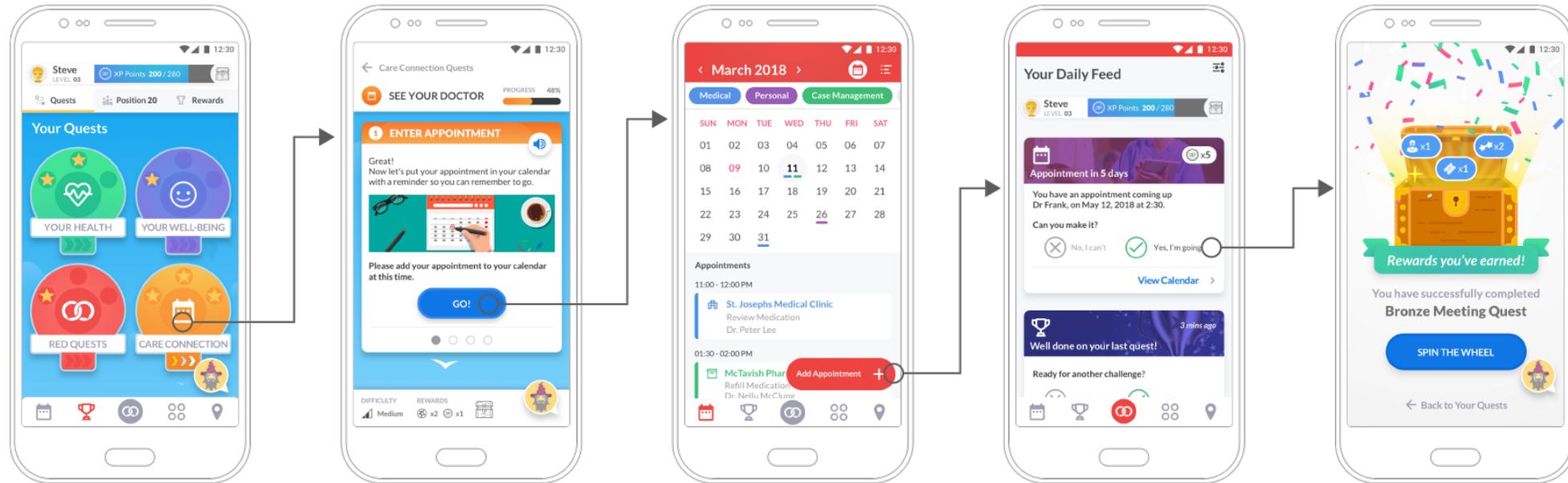
Users practice and solidify skills through health-related “quests” and gain rewards as they progress

Gamification

- User actions are incentivized through points and rewarded through raffles.
- User rehearse healthy behaviors as they complete quests.



Example Quest



Client chooses the prepare for a doctor visit quest

Quest is launched to help the client create and prepare for the appointment

Appointment is saved in the in-app calendar

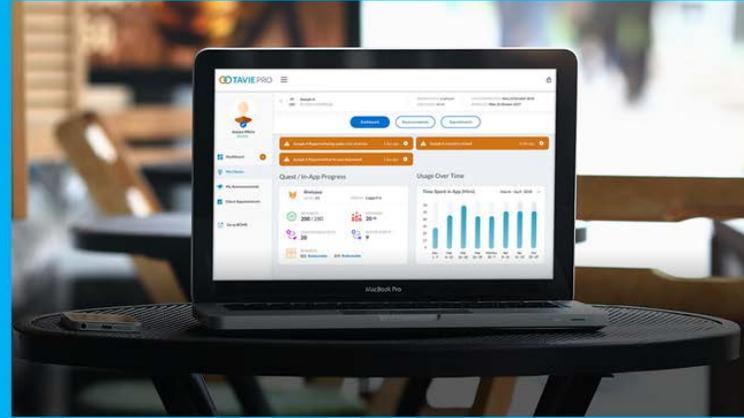
Client receives reminders for the appointment in the feed

Quest Completed!

TAVIE Pro

Case managers can:

- Send announcements
- Schedule appointments
- Review progress to encourage and support
- See assessment progress

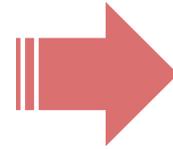


Experiences to Date



Protocol:

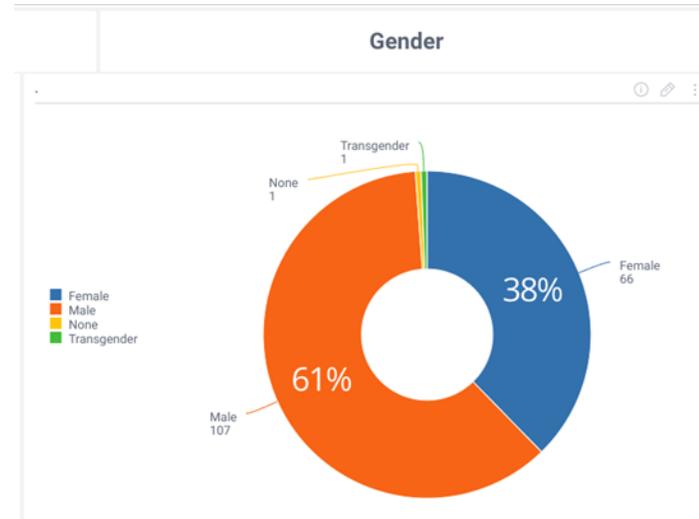
- Targeting 600 ADAP clients
- Clients receive phones preloaded with the application.
- Case managers track progress and follow-up with clients



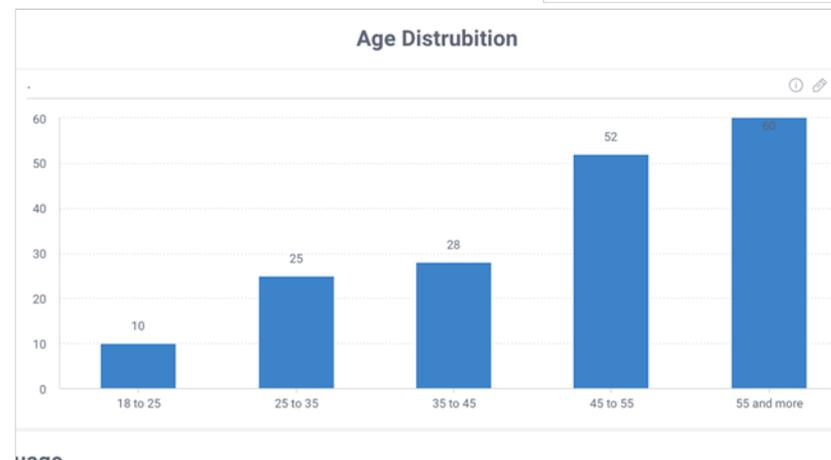
Project Status:

- 50% to our target:
 - 150 users of a first version of the app (TAVIE HIV)
 - 167+ users of TAVIE RED
- Feedback gathered through:
 - In-app assessments
 - Analytics

Demographics (from metrics)



- 61% male
- 73% unemployed and 12% retired
- 33% over 50 years old

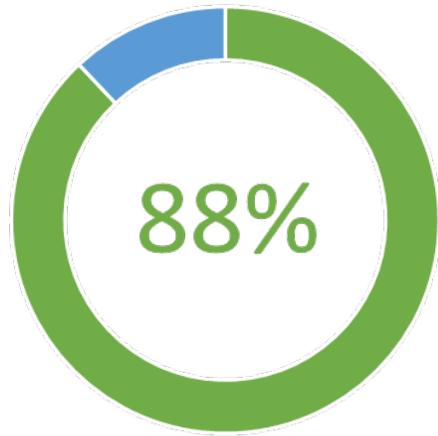


Findings: Engagement

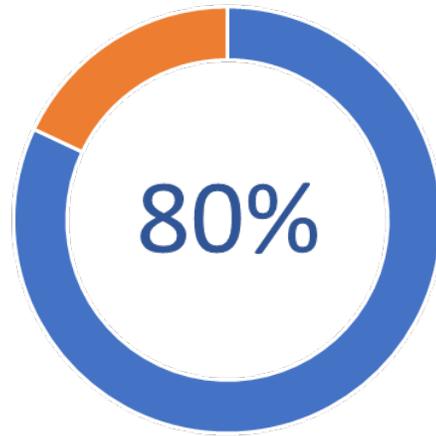
146 users at time of analysis

- 84% have logged on
- 77% have XP points (indicating they have participated)
- 45% more the 200 XP points
- 41% have “Red Tickets” to play for out-app rewards

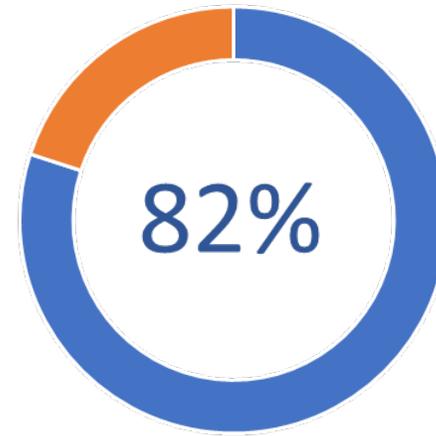
Findings: User Response Through In-App Assessment



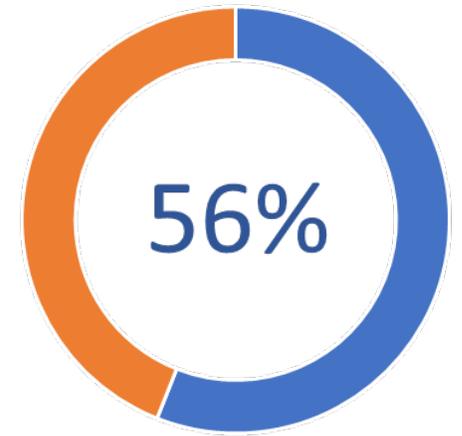
Would Recommend



Agree Helps Manage Medication



Agree Helps Manage Condition



Agree Helps with Managing Appointments

41 users completed, 68% male, 29% female, 2% trans, Distributed across age, 61% unemployed

97% of RI clients Virally Suppressed (up from 92%), need more work to establish causality

Positive Reactions in [interviews](#)

Highlights

Ability to design to needs & performance measures

- New mechanisms to improve CM-client communication
- Vehicle to achieve performance measures
- Social determinants are inextricably linked to the performance measures – moving from isolation of a SDoH to a solution

Greater understanding of the population

- In-app assessments
- Patient-reported outcomes
- Contextual data
- Performance measures
- Greater understanding of clients' needs, challenges and abilities

Lessons Learned

1. Implementation reveals barriers & challenges
2. Iterative user-centered design improves satisfaction with the platform
3. Unexpected cost saving: Evaluation and Performance measures
4. Procurement in state government is critical

Vulnerable populations deserve and thrive with advanced technology

Thank you!



Paul Loberti
Jeana Frost

