Sexual health knowledge and service access needs of people of Black Heritage resident in the City of London and Hackney

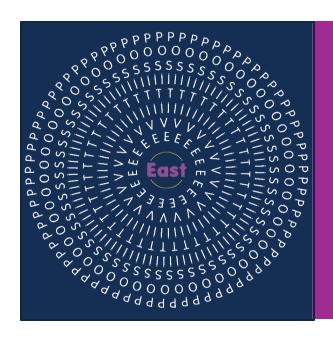
Euriza Gomes da Mata

Prevention and Testing Coordinator, Positive East



Introduction





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GOOD SEXUAL HEALTH FOR ALL!

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BACKGROUND

- High rates of STIs between 2012-2022
- High prevalence of STIs among people of Black heritage

AIM

❖ To determine sexual health knowledge and service access preferences for people of Black heritage in City of London and Hackney







Sexual Health Coverage in City and Hackney



NHS

- Primary Care: GPs and Community Pharmacies
- Specialist Sexual
 Health Clinics:
 Homerton Sexual
 Health Services
 (Leadenhall St; Clifden Centre; Ivy Centre;
 John Scott)
- Open Doors

Voluntary and Community Sector

- Positive East
- Community African Network (CAN)
- Body & Soul

Homerton Sexual Health Advice PrEP Bisexual Consent **Condom Scheme Young Hackney** Lesbian Testing Chlamydia Sexual Health Transgender Young People CAN Infections Condoms Knowledge **Consent Positive East STDs** Gonorrhoea Pregnancy Gay Leadenhall Ivy Centre HPV Safe sex Protection Implant John Scott **Sex Education Pleasure** Syphilis Clifden Centre

Online Services

 Sexual Health London (SHL)

Local Authority

Young Hackney











Methodology:

Survey Period: June 2023 – May 2024 Target Population: Black African (BA); Black British (BB); Black Caribbean (BC)

residents

Recruitment: Street outreach and

community events in City of London and

Hackney

Respondents: 331 total









Demographics

Demographics: City & Hackney

- **Hackney**: 260,000 population
- 43% under 30 years old
- 21% identify as Black
- **City of London**: 8,600 population
- Half a million commuting population
- ❖ 70% identify as White and 3% belong to Black heritage

Demographics: Respondents

❖147 BA; 110 BB; 74 BC

♦ Age Group: Largest age group was 16-25

years old

❖Gender: 52% female

*Religion: 69% Christian

♦ Sexual Orientation: 89% heterosexual

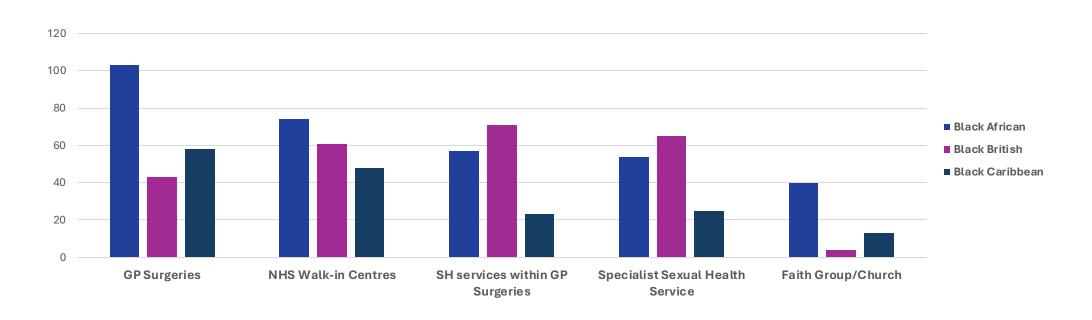








Results: Venues for Sexual Health Advice



62%

55%

46%

43%

GP surgeries

NHS Walk-in Centres

SH clinics within GP services

Specialist sexual health service









Results: Facilitators & Barriers to Accessing SH Services

FACILITATORS

- **Walk-in Services:** 58% respondents
- Being seeing in person: 43% respondents
- Health Services Offering More than SH Services: 42% respondents

BARRIERS

- Lack of Familiarity with Health Professionals: 47% respondents
- Concerns About Confidentiality: 41% respondents
- Fear of Family/Friends Finding Out: 31% respondents



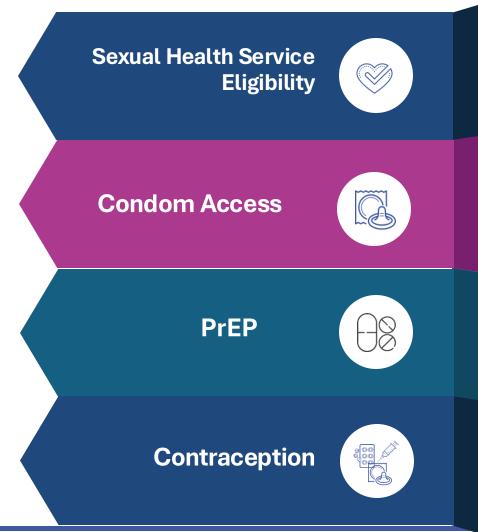






Results: Sexual Health Knowledge









Conclusion and Recommendations

CONCLUSION

- ❖ 331 respondents from Black heritage
- ***** Key Factors Influencing Access:
- **❖** Walk-in service availability
- Concerns about confidentiality
- Knowledge Gaps: BB more knowledgeable than BA and BC about SH services
- Study Limitations: Social acceptability bias

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Access Preferences: Increase walk-in services; assure confidentiality
- Community Engagement: Tailored outreach & education initiatives
- Training: Enhance health professional training to build trust
- Future Research: Address social acceptability bias









Acknowledgements





