

Factors to reduce disengagement from, and increase re-engagement into, care

– an updated London-based literature review

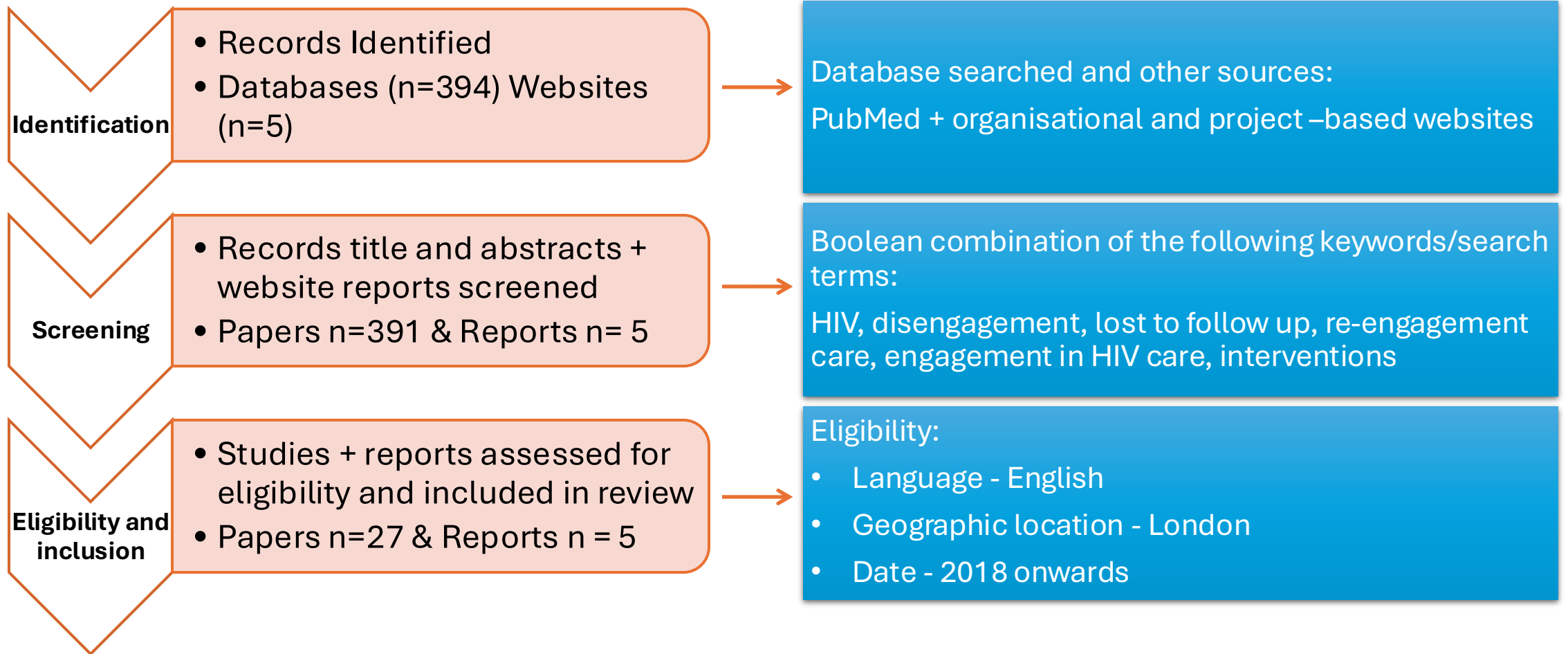
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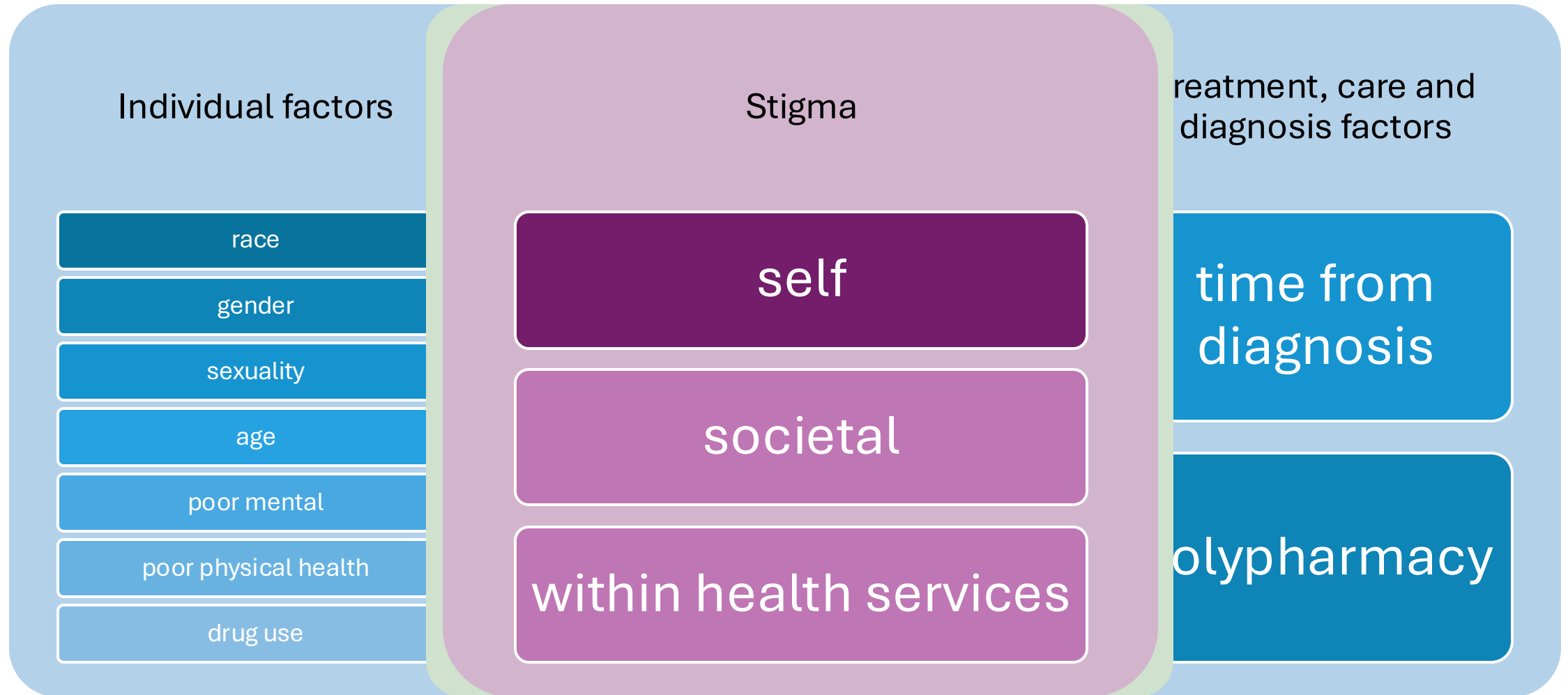
Introduction

- About GMI Partnership
- Importance of engagement in HIV care
- Disengagement from care (DFC)
- Re-engagement into HIV care (RIC)

Methods



Factors Affecting Engagement



Focus of intervention	Example interventions	Target group
Reduction of HIV stigma and increasing HIV knowledge	Training of healthcare professionals and training in care home staff	Healthcare professionals Care Home Workers
Psychological interventions to deal with mental health	Mental health and wellbeing groups, counselling and psychotherapy to increase agency among PLWHIV	PLWHIV experiencing poor mental health
Measures to combat the impact of living in poverty	Transport support, and wider poverty reduction work – policy and practice influence	PLHIV living in poverty
Interventions around alcohol and drug use	Chemsex interventions possibly building on learnings from PrEP adherence interventions with chemsex users.	PLWHIV engaging in chemsex
Interventions focusing on with people of colour	Community designed and led interventions focusing on language, cultural barriers, stigma, homophobia and heteronormativity	Racially minoritised communities
Targeted interventions based on age	Interventions focused on adolescents and interventions focused on older women LWHIV	Young people Older people
Interventions focused on the social determinants related to disengagement from care.	Interventions targeting pregnant women that recognize the socioeconomic factors. Interventions focused on factors such as poverty, housing, intimate partner violence, education.	Pregnant women Those living in poverty Those experiencing domestic violence
Healthcare co-ordination, collaboration and connectedness	Treatment plan formulation, care co-ordination, holding client cases, communicating with healthcare providers	PLWHIV

Interventions - Improving re-engagement

Focus of intervention	Example interventions	Target group
HIV testing	Extending emergency department opt-out testing to areas outside London and extending online postal testing.	PLWHIV – those diagnosed and ‘hard to reach’ and those disengaged from care
Stigma reduction	Self-stigma and social stigma reduction interventions e.g. working with HIV support workers, training healthcare and mainstream support workers, as well as addressing community and self-stigma. Peer support and alternative clinic locations.	PLWHIV Wider community Healthcare staff Mainstream support workers
Peer Support Interventions	Healthcare navigators, psychosocial support e.g. motivational interview-based interventions, collaborative CBT and those addressing beliefs related to ART. Appointment support, smart phone communication.	PLWHIV
A collaborative multi-disciplinary working approach	Patient referral and support meetings, as well as setting up HIV care support teams.	Stakeholders involved in HIV patient care
Tools and measures	Use of PROMs, and chemsex use tool could be incorporated into HIV assessments and interventions.	Service providers

Research Gaps and Future Directions

- Need for longitudinal studies
- Focus on underrepresented populations
- Integration of multidisciplinary approaches

Conclusion

- Insight into who is likely to disengage from HIV care:
 - racially minoritised communities
 - heterosexuals
 - adolescents
 - older people
 - those on multiple medications
 - women
 - drug users
 - higher viral load and low levels of treatment adherence
 - living in poverty
 - in poor housing
 - facing immigration challenges
 - experiencing family violence
- The research suggests a shift from a binary understanding of patients as either engaged in, or disengaged from, care.
- This nuanced understanding of an HIV care engagement continuum is important when planning interventions.
- Address the barriers to engaging in HIV care and support and reasons for disengagement
- Interventions focused on retention in HIV care must be tailored to those intersectional populations and they must take a multi-disciplinary approach.

Contact us



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