



HIV PREVENTION TRIALS NETWORK

# Financial Incentives, Linkage to Care and Viral Suppression HPTN 065 (TLC-Plus) Study

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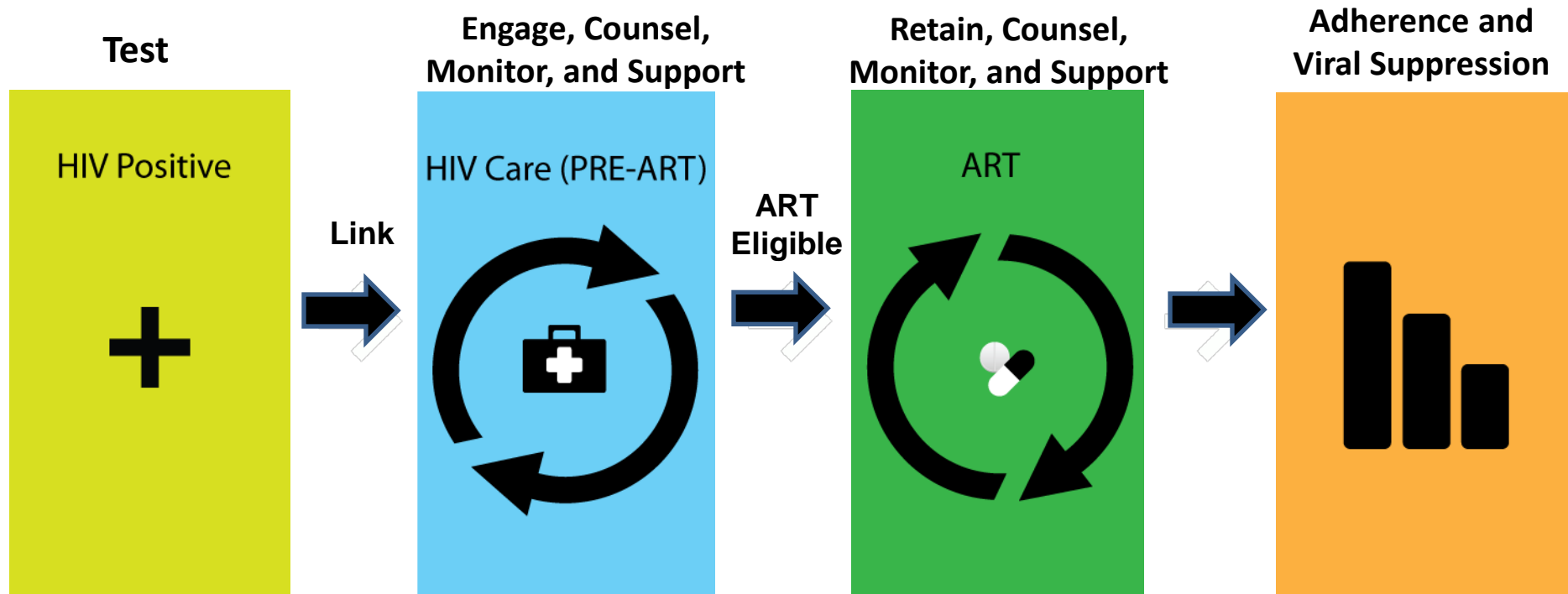
# Outline of Presentation

- Background and study rationale
- Methods
- Results
- Implications for future research
- Conclusions

# Background

- Use of antiretroviral therapy (ART) has been shown to be efficacious for:
  - prevention of morbidity and mortality for PLWH
  - prevention of HIV transmission to others
- Achieving the potential of ART for treatment or for prevention is dependent on the *coverage and quality* of the HIV care continuum

# HIV Care Continuum

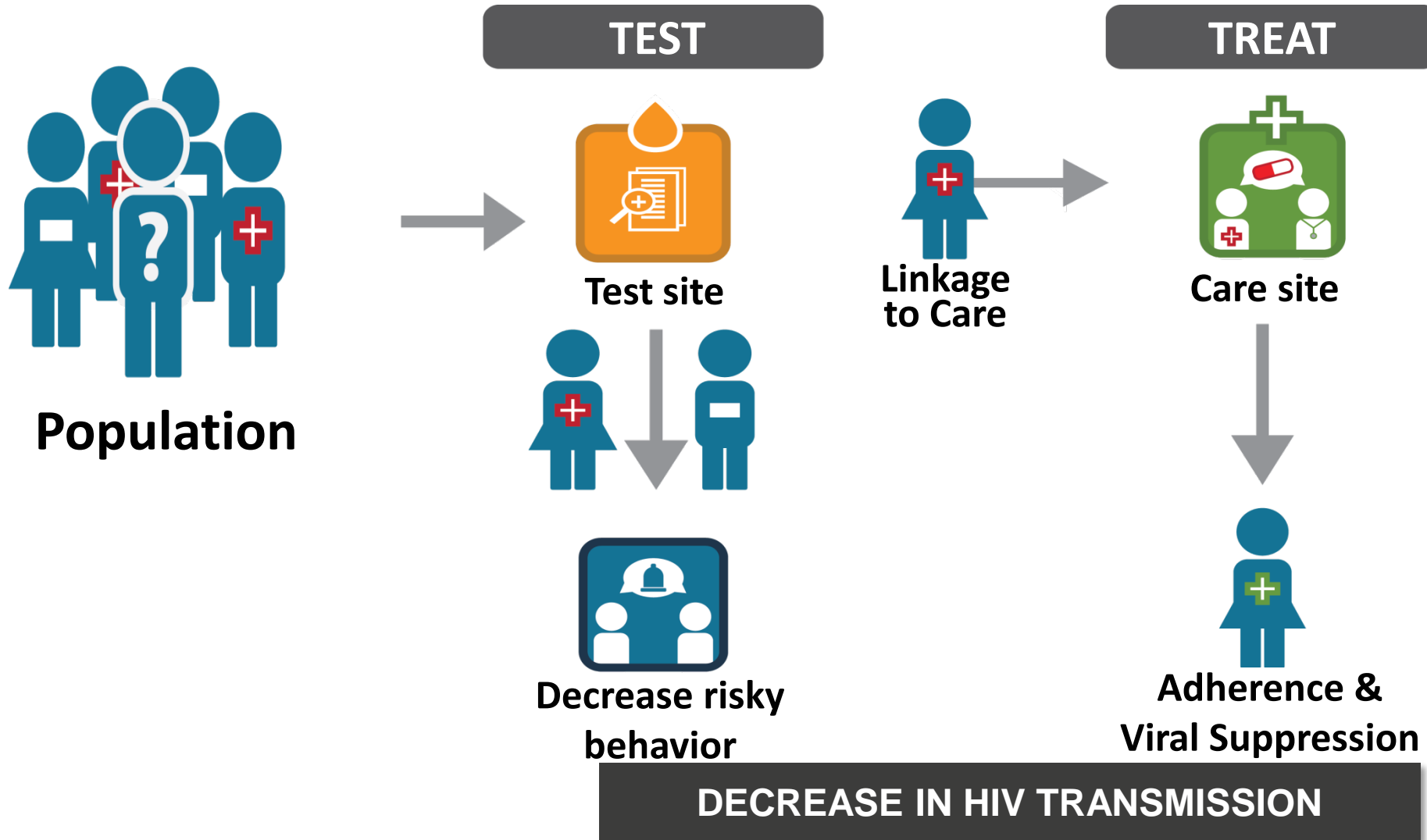


# HPTN 065 (TLC-Plus)

## Purpose

To determine the *feasibility* of the test, link and treat strategy for prevention of HIV transmission in the US

# Test and Treat Conceptual Framework



# HPTN 065

## Study Components

### Expanded HIV Testing



Social  
Mobilization



Universal HIV  
testing in hospitals  
(ED & IP)

### Linkage to Care

\$25

Financial  
Incentives

\$100

### Viral Suppression

\$70

Financial  
Incentives

### Prevention for Positives



Computer-  
based  
prevention  
intervention

### Provider and Patient Surveys



Pre and post  
survey  
- Providers  
- Patients

# Financial Incentive–Based Approaches

## for Weight Loss

A Randomized Trial

Kevin G. Volpp, MD, PhD

Leslie K. John, MS

Context  
lic health

## Financial Incentives for Extended Weight Loss: A Randomized, Controlled Trial

Leslie K. John, MS<sup>1</sup>, George Loewenstein, PhD<sup>1,2</sup>, Andrea B. Troxel, ScD<sup>2,3</sup>, Laurie Norton, MA<sup>2,4,5</sup>, Jennifer E. Fassbender, MS<sup>3</sup>, and Kevin G. Volpp, MD, PhD<sup>2,4,5,6</sup>

## A Mixed-Methods Randomized Controlled Trial of Financial Incentives and Peer Networks to Promote Walking Among Older Adults

## A Randomized, Controlled Trial of Financial Incentives for Smoking Cessation

Kevin G. Volpp, M.D., Ph.D., Andrea B. Troxel, Sc.D., Mark V. Pauly, Ph.D., Henry A. Glick, Ph.D., Andrea Puig, B.A., David A. Asch, M.D., M.B.A., Robert Galvin, M.D., M.B.A., Jingsan Zhu, M.B.A., Fei Wan, M.S., Jill DeGuzman, B.S., Elizabeth Corbett, M.L.S., Janet Weiner, M.P.H., and Janet Audrain-McGovern, Ph.D.

## Effect of a structural intervention for the prevention of intimate-partner violence and HIV in rural South Africa:

a cluster randomised trial

Paul M Pronyk, James R Hargreaves, Julia C Kim, Linda A Morison, C

## Effect of a cash transfer programme for schooling on

prevalence of HIV and herpes simplex type 2 in Malawi:

a cluster randomised trial

## Should we pay the patient? Review of financial incentives to enhance patient compliance

Antonio Giuffrida, David J Torgerson

## Randomized trial of lottery-based incentives to improve warfarin adherence

Stephen E. Kimmel, MD, MSCE, <sup>a,b,c</sup> Andrea B. Troxel, ScD, <sup>a,c</sup> George Loewenstein, PhD, <sup>c,d</sup> Colleen M. Brensinger, MS, <sup>a</sup> Jane Jaskowiak, BSN, RN, <sup>a</sup> Jalpa A. Doshi, PhD, <sup>b,c</sup> Mitchell Laskin, RPh, <sup>c</sup> and Kevin Volpp, MD, PhD <sup>b,c,f,g</sup> Philadelphia, and Pittsburgh, PA



# Objectives

- Determine the feasibility and effectiveness of financial incentives (FI)
  - On **linkage to care (L2C)** of HIV-positive individuals from HIV test to HIV care sites within three months
  - and
  - On **viral suppression (VS)** (<400 copies/ml) in patients in HIV care






# Washington, DC Test / Care Sites

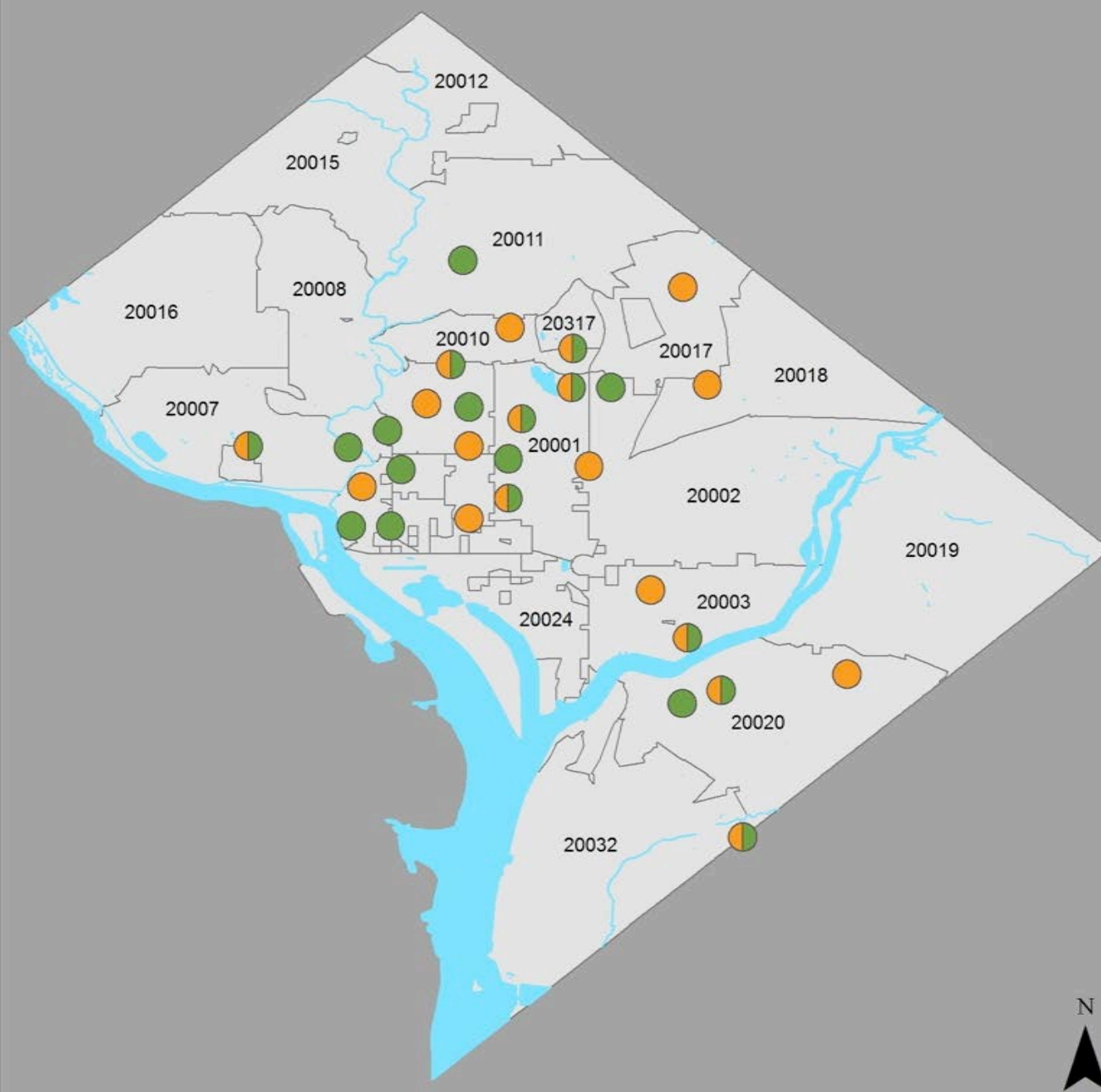


19



19

-  Test site
-  Care site
-  Test and Care site



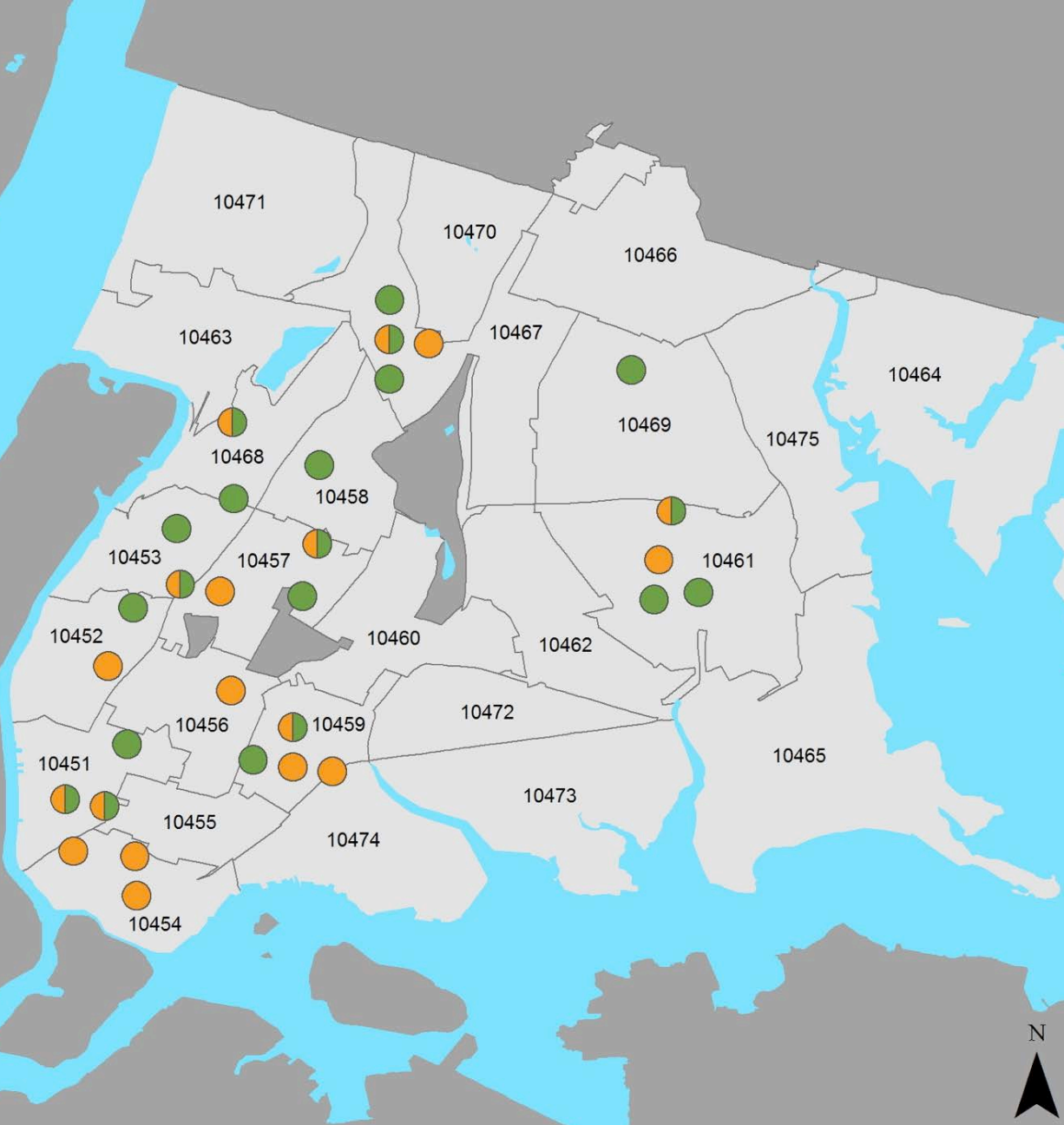
# Bronx, NY Test / Care Sites






18



20



-  Test site
-  Care site
-  Test and Care site

# HIV Test Site Randomization (L2C)

## FINANCIAL INCENTIVES



10

9

HIV test site randomization to FI or SOC balanced by baseline

- Number of HIV-positive individuals identified
- Rate of L2C within three months of HIV diagnosis

DC

Bronx



9

9

## STANDARD OF CARE

# HIV Care Site Randomization for VS

## FINANCIAL INCENTIVES

9

**19**  
Care Sites



10

**DC**

HIV care site randomization to FI or SOC balanced by baseline:

- Size of HIV care site's HIV-positive patient case load
- Proportion of HIV-positive patients with VL suppression

**onx**

10

**20**  
Care Sites



10

## STANDARD OF CARE

# Financial Incentives

- Approach
  - Conditional on linkage to care or viral suppression
  - For VS component:
    - all HIV patients in care on ART with VS qualify for FI, rather than only those initiating ART or those with unsuppressed VL
  - All individuals who qualified rather than use of lottery system
  - Minimize disruption/distortion of health services:
    - Site randomization
    - Only individuals testing HIV positive receive coupon at FI sites
    - Requirement for engagement in care at care site for eligibility for gift card for VS
- Amount of FI
  - Consultation with study community advisory group, providers and other stakeholders

# Financial Incentives

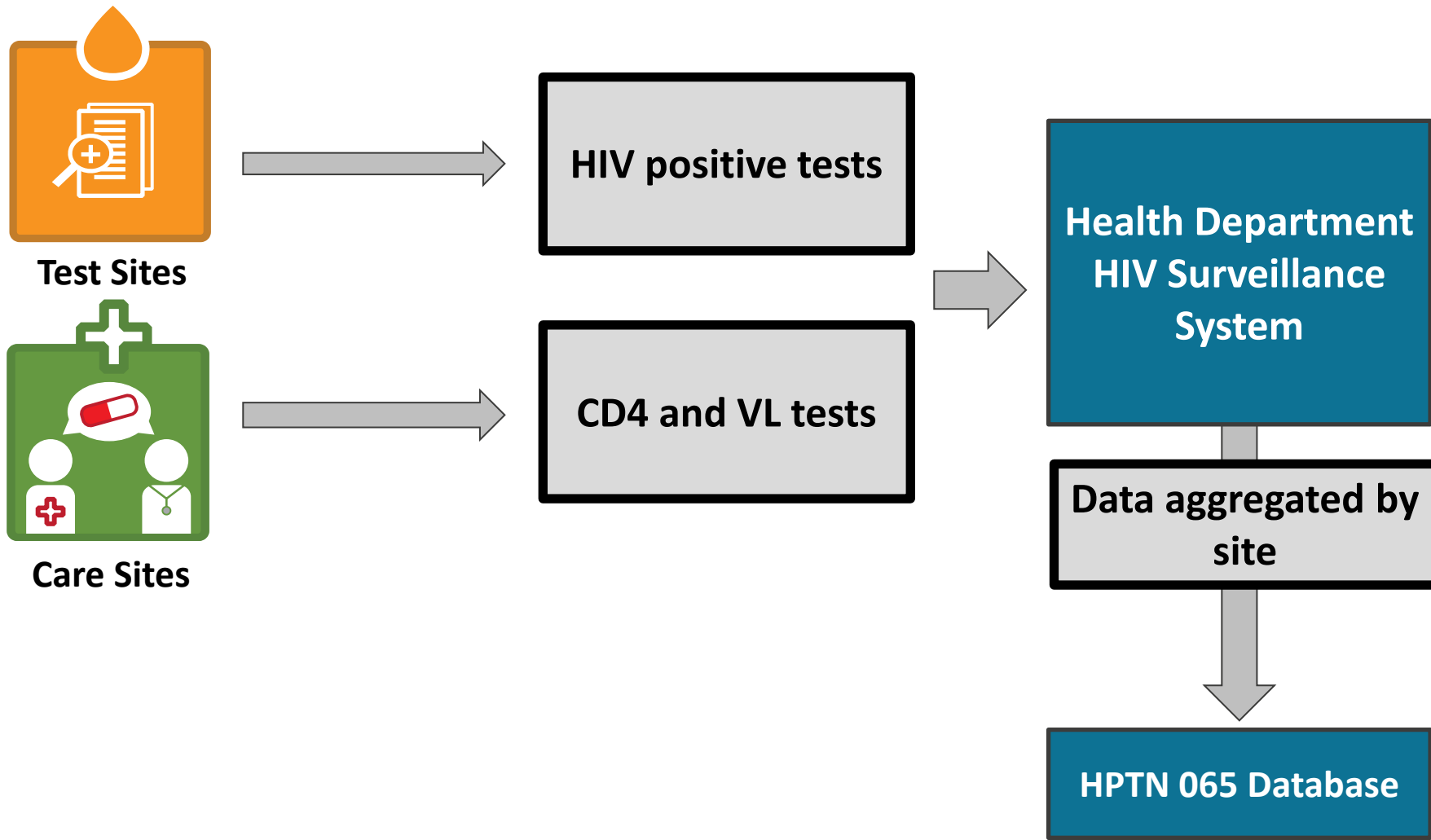
- HIV test sites assigned FI:
  - Individuals found to be HIV positive received a L2C coupon
  - Coupons could be redeemed at HIV care sites within 3 months for:
    - \$25 gift card for getting follow-up lab tests done and
    - \$100 gift card at completion of provider encounter with development of care plan
- HIV care sites assigned FI:
  - Patients engaged in care and with VS (<400 copies/ml) received \$70 gift card
  - A maximum of one gift card could be given every 3 months



# Key Study Outcomes

- **L2C:** CD4/VL within 3 months of HIV+ test
- **VS:**
  - **Overall:** VL <400 copies/ml in patients in HIV care (i.e. with at least 2 CD4/VL in the last 15 months)
  - **VS at peak of intervention:** VL <400 copies/ml in the last quarter 2012 (18 months from start of intervention)
  - **Four subgroups were pre-specified for VS analyses:** Community (Bronx, NY/DC), baseline VS (<median/>median), size of site (<median/>median), type of site (hospital/community)
- **Continuity of care (CC):** CD4/VL in at least 4 of last 5 quarters

# HIV Surveillance System



# Statistical Methods

- **L2C:** All cases Oct 2011 – Dec 2012; logistic regression weighted by number of HIV positive persons at site, adjusted for baseline L2C and accounting for correlation within a site
- **VS and CC:** All visits Jan 2012 – Mar 2013; linear regression for proportion VS, weighted by number of patients at site, adjusted for baseline VS and accounting for repeated site measures over time
- **VS at peak of intervention (18 months):** Oct – Dec 2012

# RESULTS

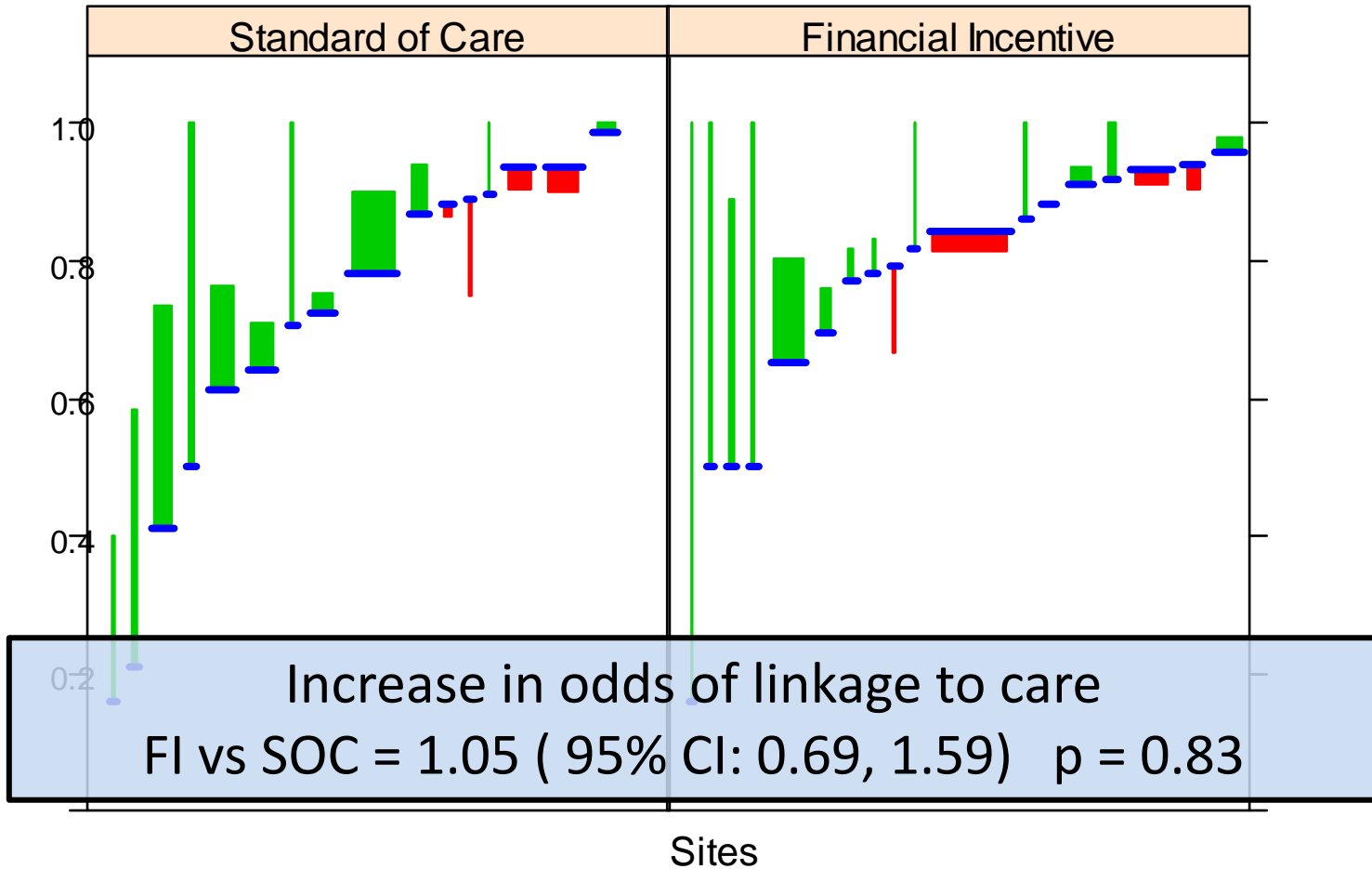
# L2C Intervention

Characteristics	Bronx, NY	Washington, DC	Total
<b>HIV+ Diagnoses (15 mo)</b>	<b>357</b>	<b>752</b>	<b>1,109</b>
Men	63%	77%	<b>72%</b>
MSM	30%	60%	<b>48%</b>
Black	47%	68%	<b>60%</b>
Hispanic	49%	13%	<b>27%</b>
<25 years	16%	24%	<b>21%</b>
<b>Coupons dispensed (24 mo)</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>823</b>	<b>1,061</b>
Coupons redeemed	194 (82%)	644 (78%)	838 (79%)

79% (838/1061) of the coupons were redeemed for both the \$25 and \$100 gift cards

# Change in Linkage to Care, by Test Site

Proportion of patients linked



Sites within each arm ordered by baseline L2C

Blue line is baseline L2C

Bar indicates mean change for each site: **green = increase**, **red = decrease**

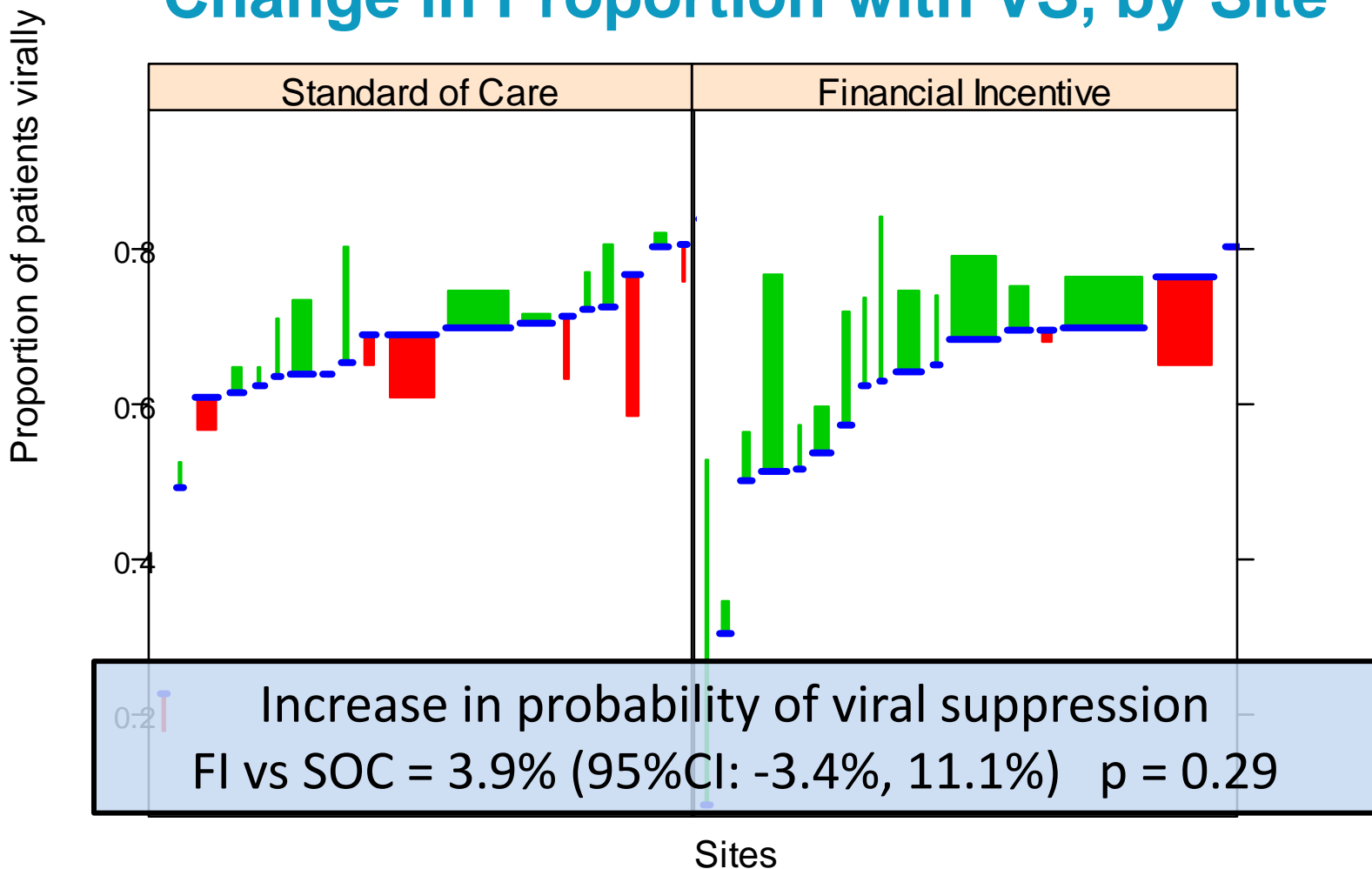
Width of bar is relative to number of patients testing HIV positive at site

**Mean HIV positives per HIV test site: 33, Geometric mean: 16 per site**

# VS Intervention

- Total of 19,185 patients in care (10,455 in Bronx, NY and 8,720 in DC)
  - At 17 hospitals and 20 community sites
- There were 9,641 patients eligible for gift cards
- There were 49,650 visits qualified for gift cards
  - **A total of 39,359 gift cards dispensed**

# Change in Proportion with VS, by Site



Sites within each arm ordered by baseline VS

Blue line is baseline VS

Bar indicates mean change for each site: **green = increase**, **red = decrease**

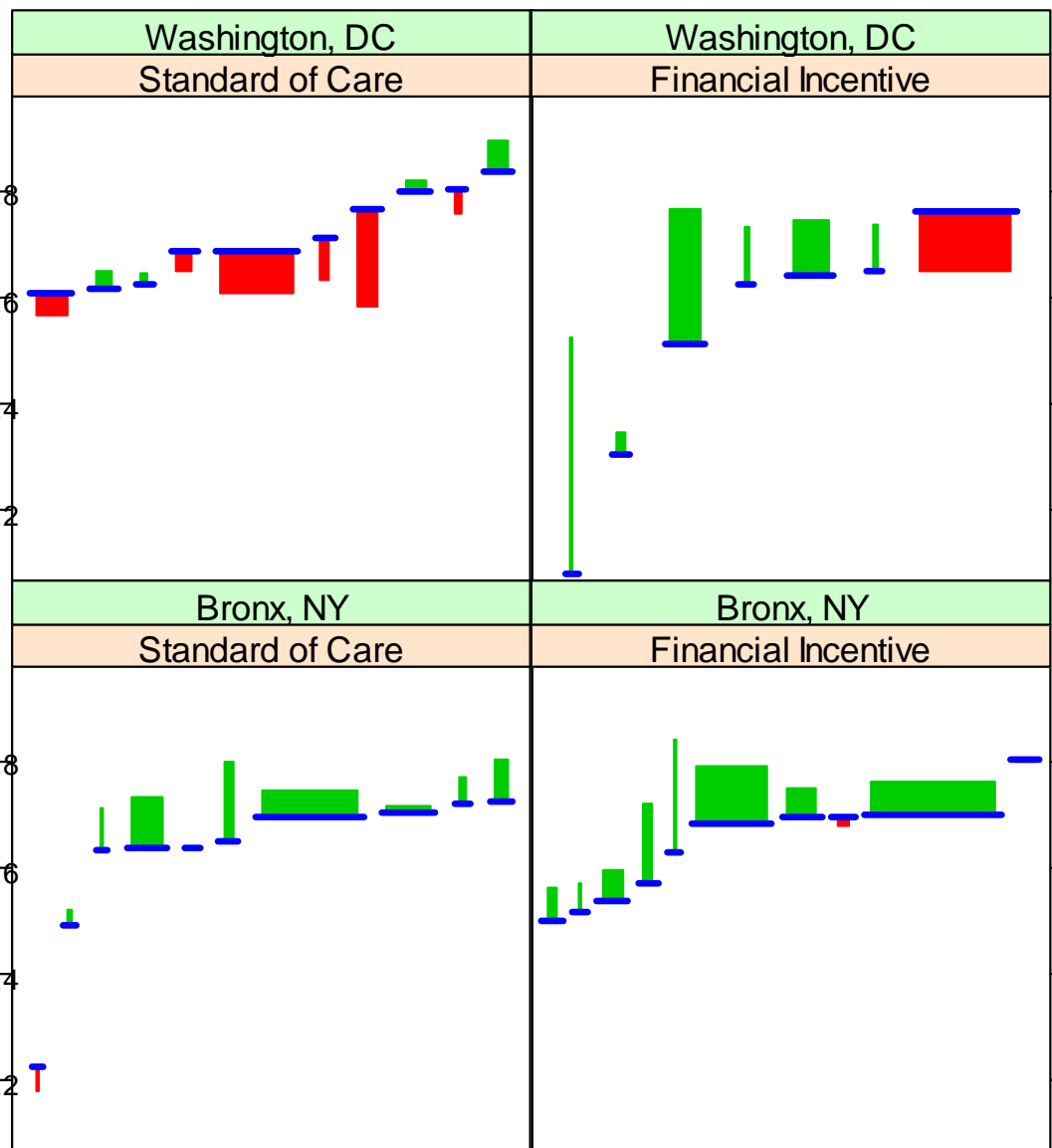
Width of bar is relative to number of patients in care at the site

**Mean number of HIV patients in care per site: 438, geometric mean: 243/site**



# Change in Proportion with VS, by Community

Proportion of patients virally suppressed



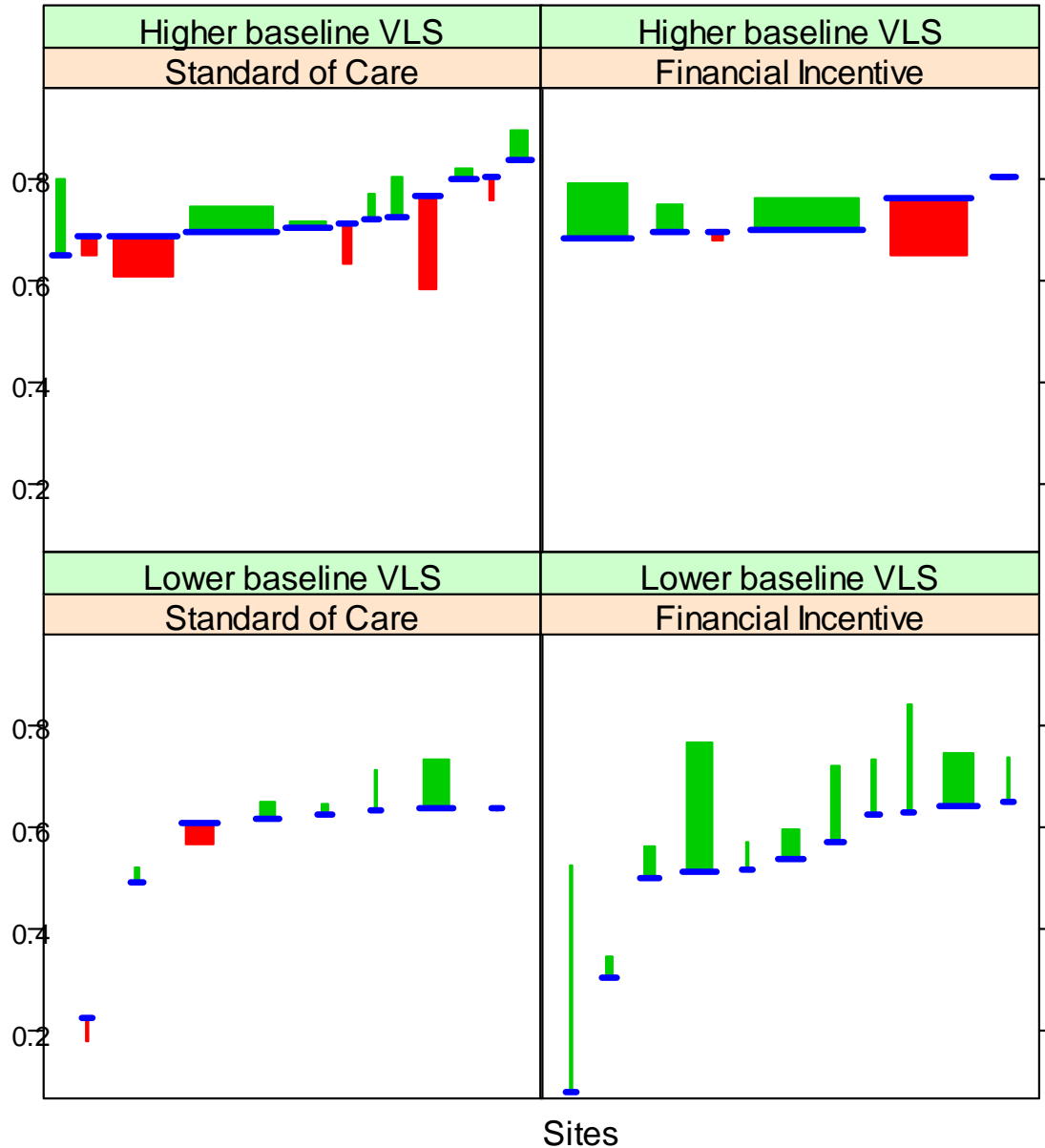
Sites

DC: Increase in VS  
 FI vs SOC = 3.8%  
 95% CI ( -6.7%, 14.3%)  
 p = 0.48

Bronx, NY: Increase in VS  
 FI vs SOC = 1.7%  
 95% CI ( -1.3%, 4.7%)  
 p = 0.27

# Change in Proportion with VS, by Baseline VS

Proportion of patients virally suppressed

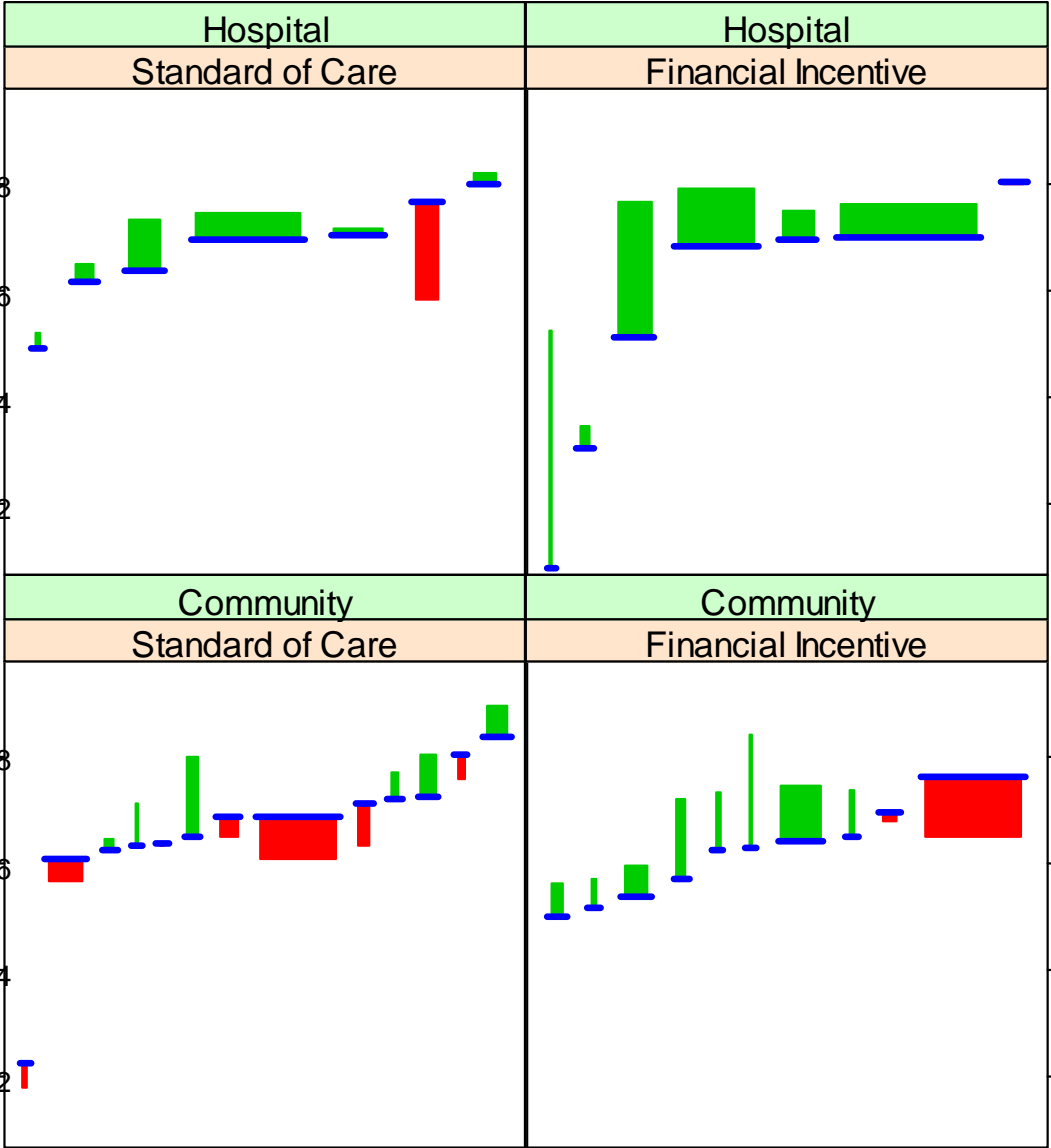


≥65% with VS at baseline:  
 Increase in VS  
 FI vs SOC = 2.4%  
 95% CI ( -5.7%, 10.6%)  
 P = 0.55

<65% with VS at baseline:  
 Increase in VS  
**FI vs SOC = 10.4%**  
 95% CI ( 2.3%, 18.5%)  
**P = 0.012**

# Change in Proportion with VS, by Site Type

Proportion of patients virally suppressed



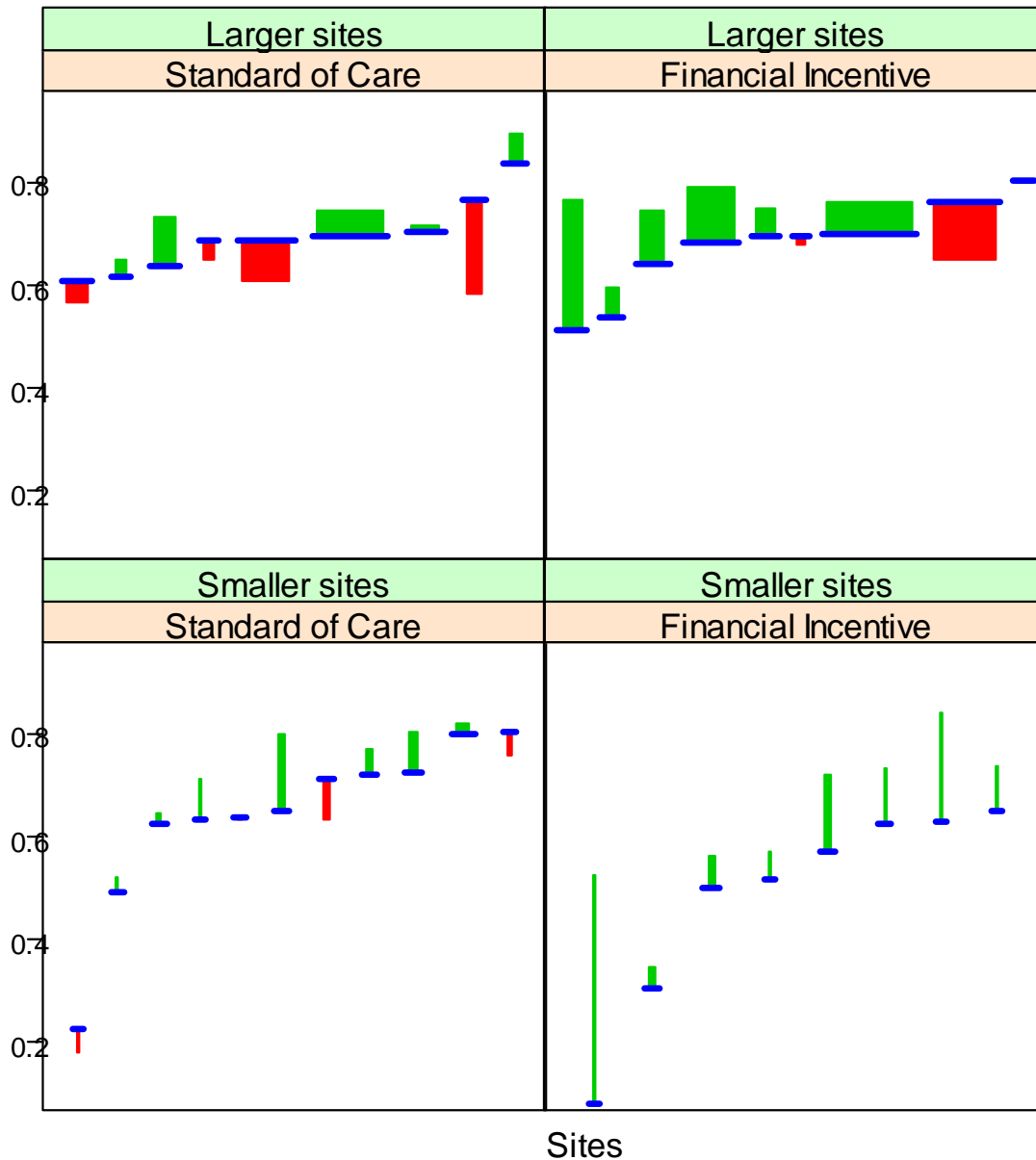
Hospital Sites:  
 Increase in VS  
**FI vs SOC = 5.2%**  
 95% CI ( 1.0%, 9.4%)  
**P = 0.015**

Community Sites:  
 Increase in VS  
 FI vs SOC = 1.1%  
 95% CI ( -8.3%, 10.4%)  
 P = 0.82

Sites

# Change in Proportion with VS, by size of Site

Proportion of patients virally suppressed

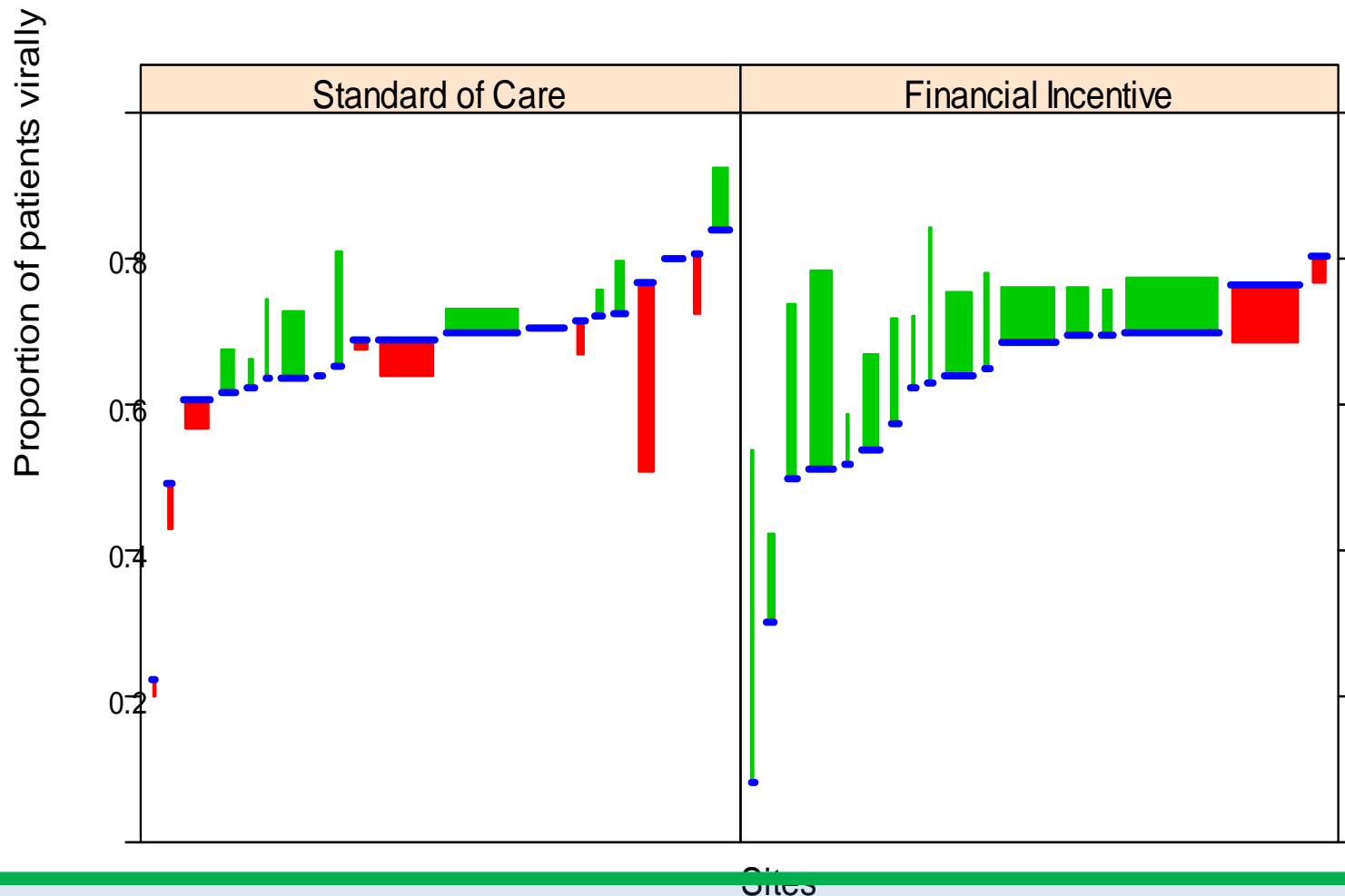


≥186 patients in care:  
 Increase in VS  
 FI vs SOC = 4.7%  
 95% CI ( -2.7%, 12.2%)  
 P = 0.21

<186 patients in care:  
 Increase in VS  
 FI vs SOC = 6.5%  
 95% CI ( -0.7%, 13.7%)  
**P = 0.078**

# Peak of Intervention: Q4 2012

## Change in Proportion with VS, by site

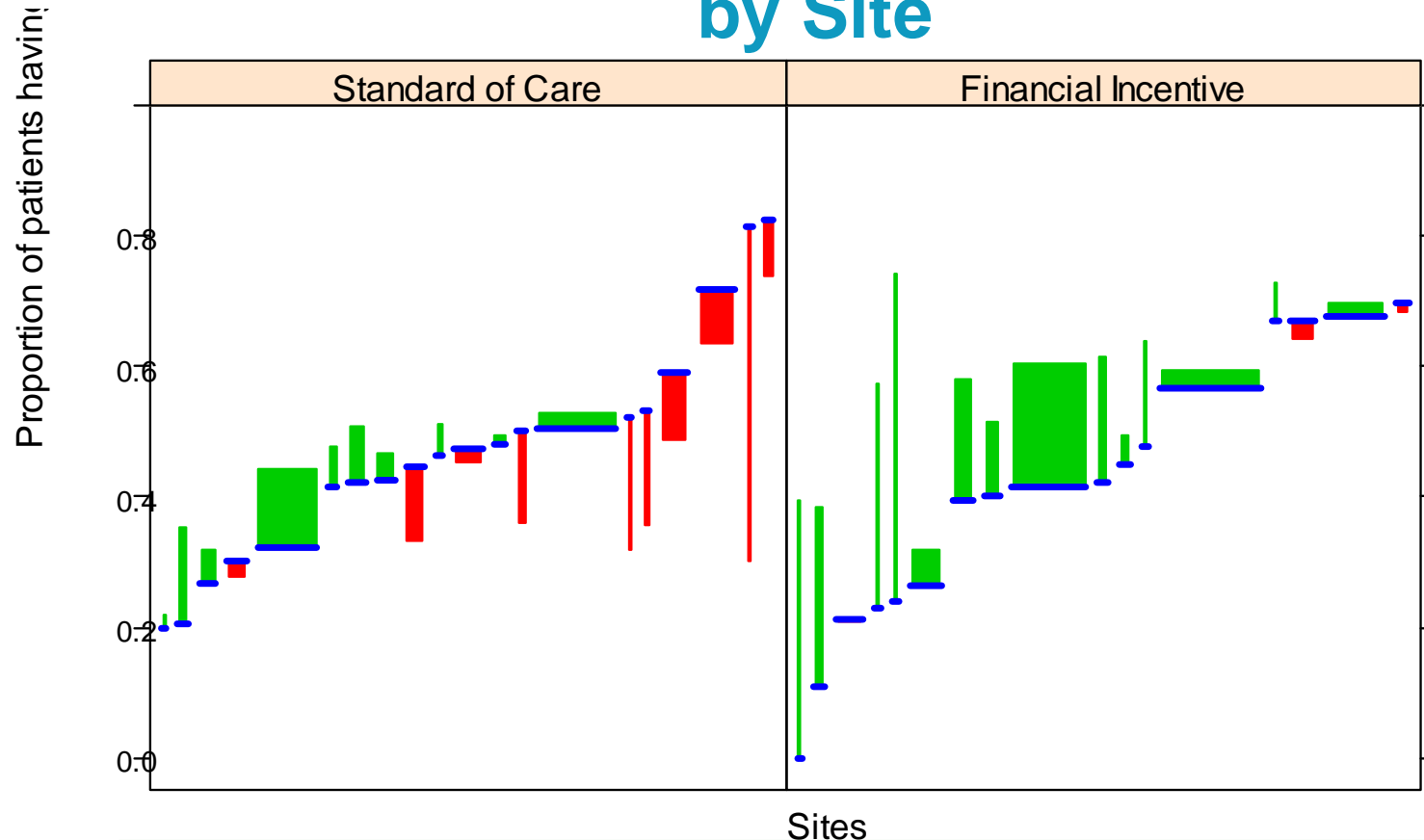


Increase in probability of viral suppression at peak of intervention  
**FI vs SOC = 5.4%** ( 0.4%, 10.4%) **P = 0.034**

# Peak of Intervention (Q4 2012) Change in Proportion with VS FI vs SOC sites

	Increase in VS	95% CI	P value
<b>Overall</b>	<b>5.4%</b>	<b>0.4%, 10.4%</b>	<b>P=0.034</b>
Bronx	5.4%	-5.0%, 15.8%	P=0.28
Washington DC	3.9%	-0.1%, 7.8%	<b>P=0.054</b>
Sites higher baseline VS	3.5%	-3.7%, 10%	P=0.31
Sites lower baseline VS	<b>13.2%</b>	5.5%, 20.9%	<b>P=0.002</b>
Larger sites	6.0%	-1.0%, 13%	P=0.08
Smaller sites	<b>11.4%</b>	0.9%, 21.9%	<b>P=0.035</b>
Hospital-based sites	6.6%	-1.6%, 14.8%	P=0.10
Community sites	3.2%	-3.9%, 10.3%	P= 0.36

# Change in Proportion in Continuity Care, by Site



Increase in proportion of patients with care continuity  
**FI vs SOC = 8.1%** ( 2.4%, 13.7%) **p = 0.005**

Sites within each arm ordered by baseline CC

Blue line is baseline CC

Bar indicates mean change for each site: **green = increase**, **red = decrease**

Width of bar is relative to number of patients in care at site

# Study Strengths and Limitations

## Strengths

- Large community-based study, large number (80) of sites and included most of HIV-infected persons in care in the two communities
- Diversity of sites i.e. hospitals/community clinics, private/ public, small/large sites
- Use of HIV surveillance system to measure study outcomes
- Successful system established for distribution and accounting of FI

## Limitations:

- Inability to distinguish patients by ART status in the surveillance system
- Reporting of lab data (CD4/VL) by place of residence rather than site of care (particularly in DC) and incomplete reporting for some sites
- Limited power for linkage to care component
- Change in ARV treatment guidelines during the course of the study



# Summary

- HPTN 065 demonstrated feasibility of use of FI for L2C and VS and for measuring outcomes via HIV surveillance system
- Use of FI did not increase L2C, possibly due to limited power to detect an effect
- FI did not increase VS overall, however, FI significantly increased VS in certain settings
  - sites with lower baseline VS
  - hospital-based care sites
- At peak of intervention, FI significantly increased VS
- FI significantly increased continuity in care as evidenced by regular clinic attendance

# Qualitative Assessments of FI HPTN 065

**HRP** **TLC-PLUS** **HPTN 065**

## Acceptability of Financial Incentives for HIV Viral Suppression: A Qualitative Sub-study of HPTN 065

A. Patel, J. Bhatnagar, R. Dworkin, A. Taylor, V. Bhakkar, R. Talley, K. Robinson, W. R. Roper and T. Dworkin for the HPTN 065 study team

**BACKGROUND**

The HPTN 065 RCT study assessed the feasibility and effectiveness of providing a financial incentive (FI) to HIV-positive patients to improve their adherence to antiretroviral therapy (ART) who were unable to achieve or maintain viral suppression. The study included 1000 patients in the HPTN 065 RCT study.

**RESULTS (CONTINUED)**

**INTERVIEWS WITH PATIENTS (n=25)**

25 patients were interviewed about their experiences with the program. Most patients reported that the program was helpful in improving their adherence to ART.

**INTERVIEWS WITH SITE INVESTIGATORS (n=17)**

17 site investigators were interviewed about their experiences with the program. Most site investigators reported that the program was helpful in improving their patients' adherence to ART.

**CONCLUSION**

Our findings suggest that providing a financial incentive to HIV-positive patients to improve their adherence to ART is a feasible and effective strategy. The program was well-received by both patients and site investigators.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

We would like to thank all patients and site investigators who participated in this study. We also thank the staff of the HPTN 065 study for their support and assistance.

**FUNDING INFORMATION**

HPTN 065 is sponsored by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) through the National Center for HIV/AIDS, Dermatology and STD Prevention (NCHADS).

**AUTHOR AFFILIATIONS**

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 3. Center for Communications Programs, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD

**TLC-PLUS** **HPTN 065**

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**RESULTS**

**TABLE 1. Baseline characteristics of the study population.**

Characteristic	n	%
Age (mean)	38	38
Gender (male)	75	75
Education (high school or less)	65	65
Insurance (Medicaid)	85	85
Stable housing	70	70
Employment	55	55
Substance use (alcohol)	45	45
Substance use (drugs)	35	35
Adherence to ART (at baseline)	60	60
Viral suppression (at baseline)	55	55

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**TLC-PLUS** **HPTN 065**

For more information, visit [www.HPTN065.org](http://www.HPTN065.org). Follow HPTN 065 on Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube.

**TLC-PLUS** **HPTN 065**

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# Conclusions

- FI offer promise for achieving VS with possible need to target to specific populations and in certain settings
- Other FI studies have targeted non-adherers, low SES, assessed effect later after implementation
- Lessons learned from HPTN 065 can inform other studies evaluating FI
- Further analyses are planned to examine longer term effect of FI on VS
- Modelling is planned to estimate the impact of FI on VS at a population level based on HPTN 065 findings

# Acknowledgements

- HPTN 065 study team
- Departments of health from New York City, Washington, DC, Chicago, Houston, Miami and Philadelphia
- Investigators at all participating HIV test and care sites
- Patients from participating communities
- HPTN 065 Community Advisory Group

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