

BACKGROUND

In the past 30 years, the demographic of individuals diagnosed with HIV has shifted¹. In the early 1980's, HIV mostly affected young, middle class, white men who have sex with other men (MSM)¹. Now, HIV is diagnosed in a wide range of individuals and affects all ages, sexes, and races¹. In 2018, the South accounted for 51% of new HIV diagnoses in the United States³. Additionally, Houston was found to be amongst the cities with some of the highest rates of new HIV diagnoses, ranking 10th out of 110 cities in 2018^{2,3}. In the United States, Houston continues to be an HIV hotspot, therefore leading to call for more HIV control efforts through diagnosis and treatment.

OBJECTIVES

Our goal is to help screen and educate 25% of a starting panel at Vecino Denver Harbor Clinic who have not been screened for HIV before.

METHODOLOGY

- An 88-person list was created by QI manager.
- All individuals are Vecino Denver Harbor patients between the ages of 15-65, and do not have HIV Screenings on file.
- Patients were called by medical student during a period of three weeks. Individuals who did not answer were called a second time.
- Individuals that accepted screening were transferred to Call Center to set up a lab appointment. Appointment dates ranged from 6/13 to 7/11/2022.
- During the visit, Medical Assistant handed HIV educational flyer.

RESULTS

- Inactive phone numbers were omitted from total population.
- Of 84 individuals that were attempted to be contacted, 10.7% of individuals completed their HIV screening.

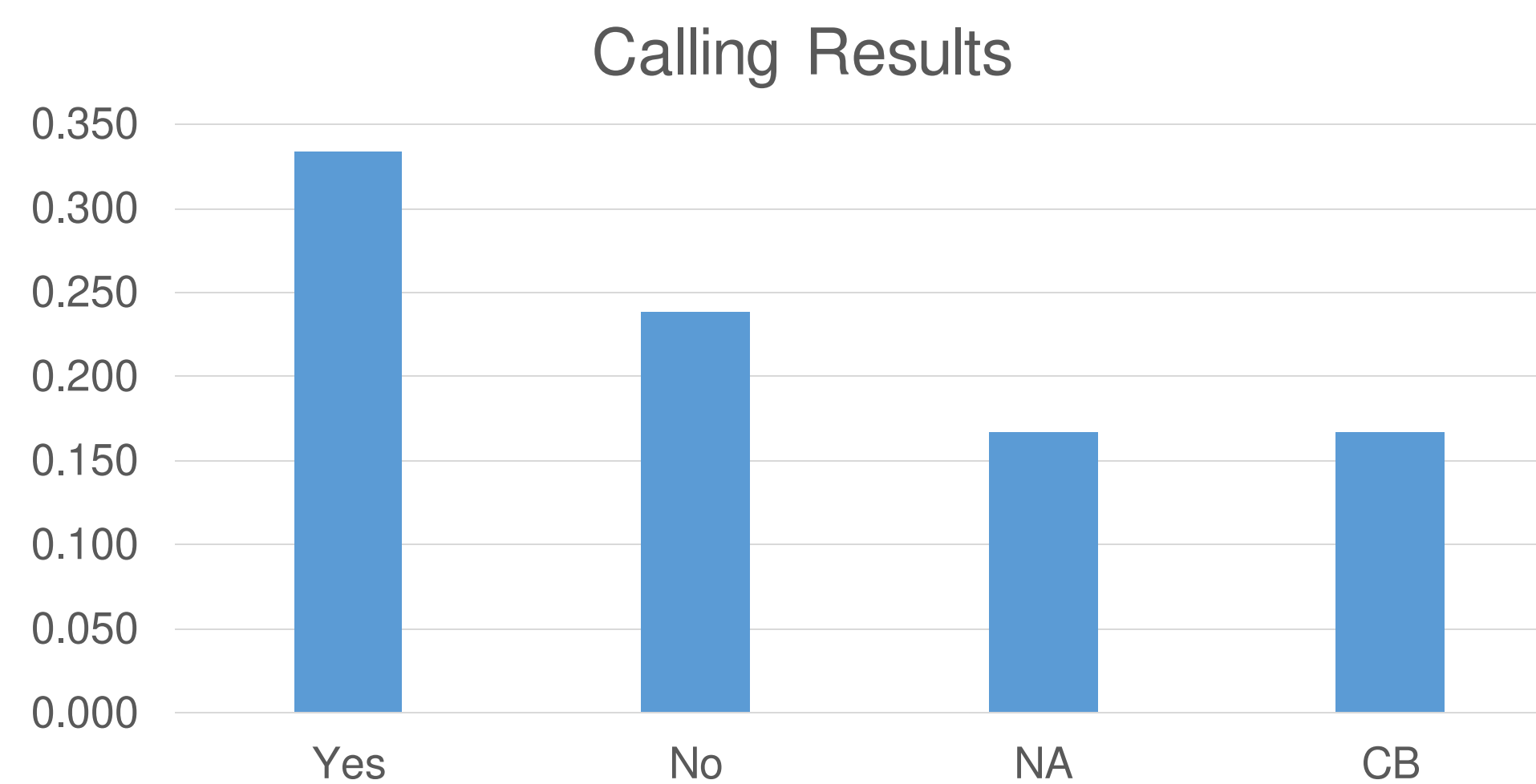


Figure 1
 Figure above shows the percentage of individuals who agreed (Yes), declined (No), did not answer (NA), or said they would call back (CB) for an HIV screening appointment. Overall, 33.3% of individuals agreed to screening, 57.2% of individuals said no, NA, or CB.

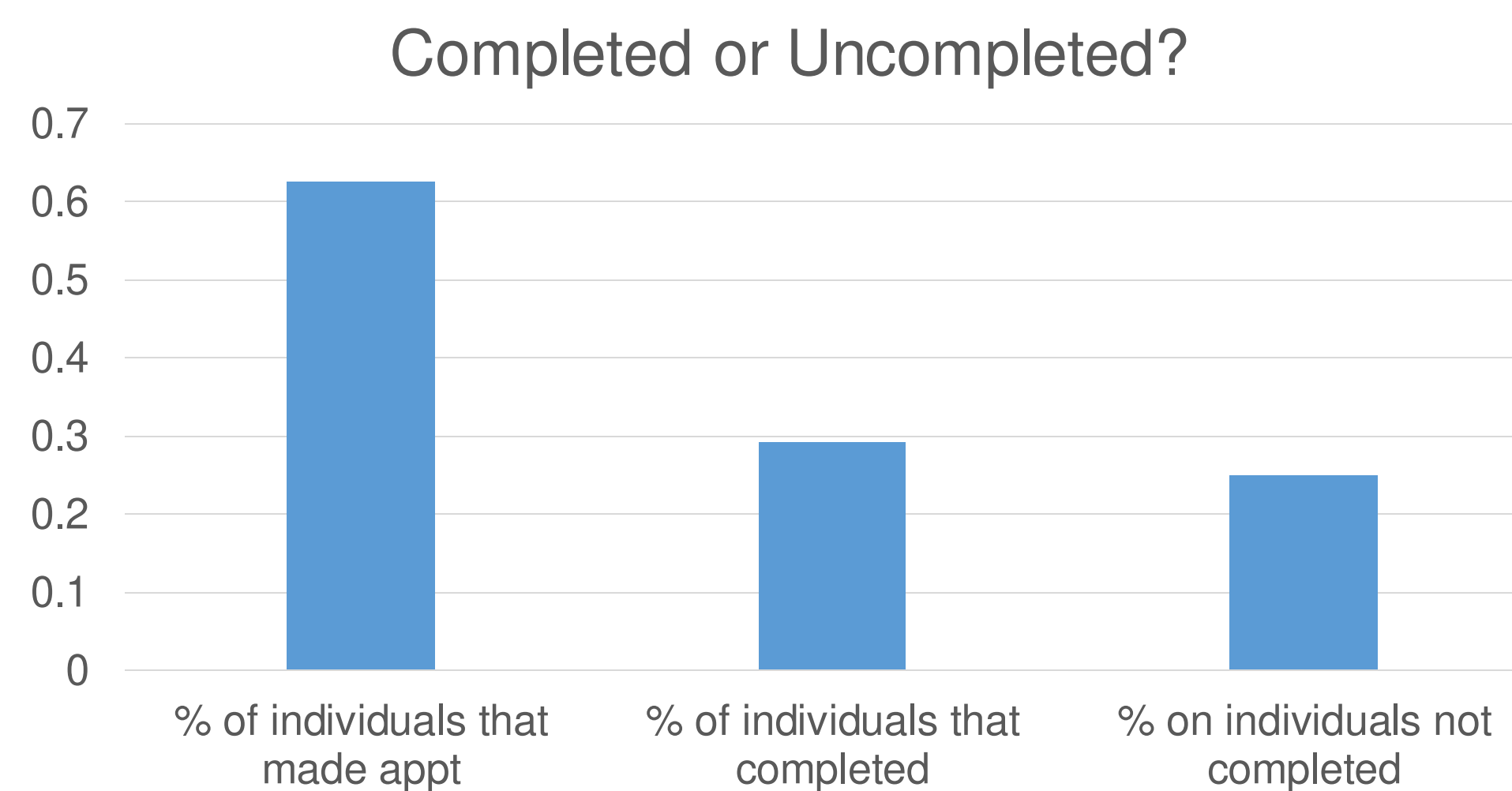


Figure 2
 Figure shows of individuals that said 'yes' initially, proportion of how many made appointments, how many completed their HIV screen, and how many did not complete.

Limitations

- Time: the appointment window to obtain screen was short. Although interested, many individuals were not available for an appointment at this moment in time.
- Travel: some individuals needed transportation. Preferred to do screening in conjunction with a different appointment, to get two things done at once.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Remind patients' physician about HIV screening by leaving note on EPIC the day before.
- Pair HIV screening with other recommended screenings such as FOBT, diabetes follow ups, mammograms.

CONCLUSION

- Initially, 33.3% of individuals contacted, verbally agreed to HIV screening.
- 62.5% of those individuals made appointments, and more than half completed HIV screening.
- Overall, goal of screening 25% of patients who previously did not have HIV screening was not reached.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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References
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