

Differentiated HIV Testing: Lessons from Ghana's dHTS Service Quality Assessment

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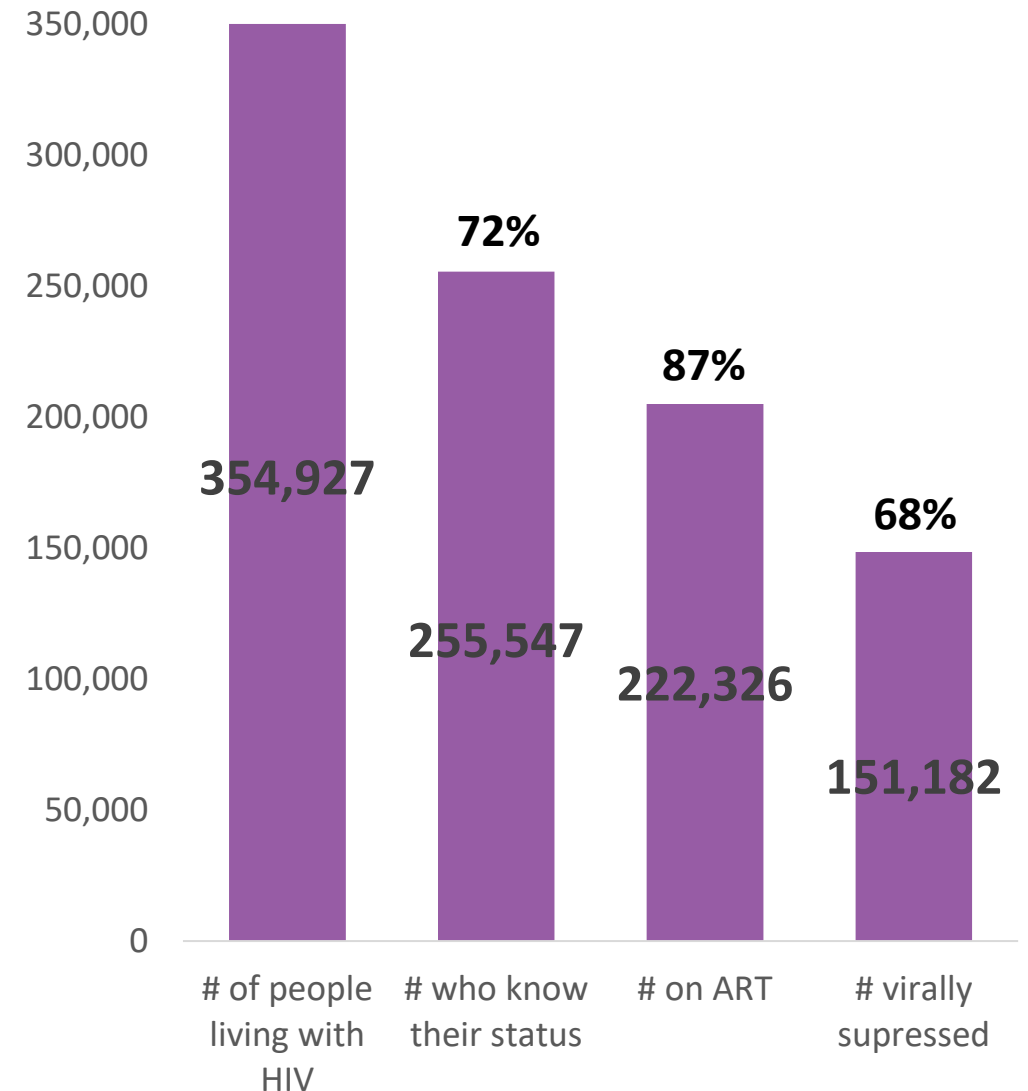
Outline

- **Background**
- **dHTS Service Quality Assessment tool**
- **Development process**
- **Assessment**
- **Findings**
- **Key lessons**
- **Use of Findings/Next steps**

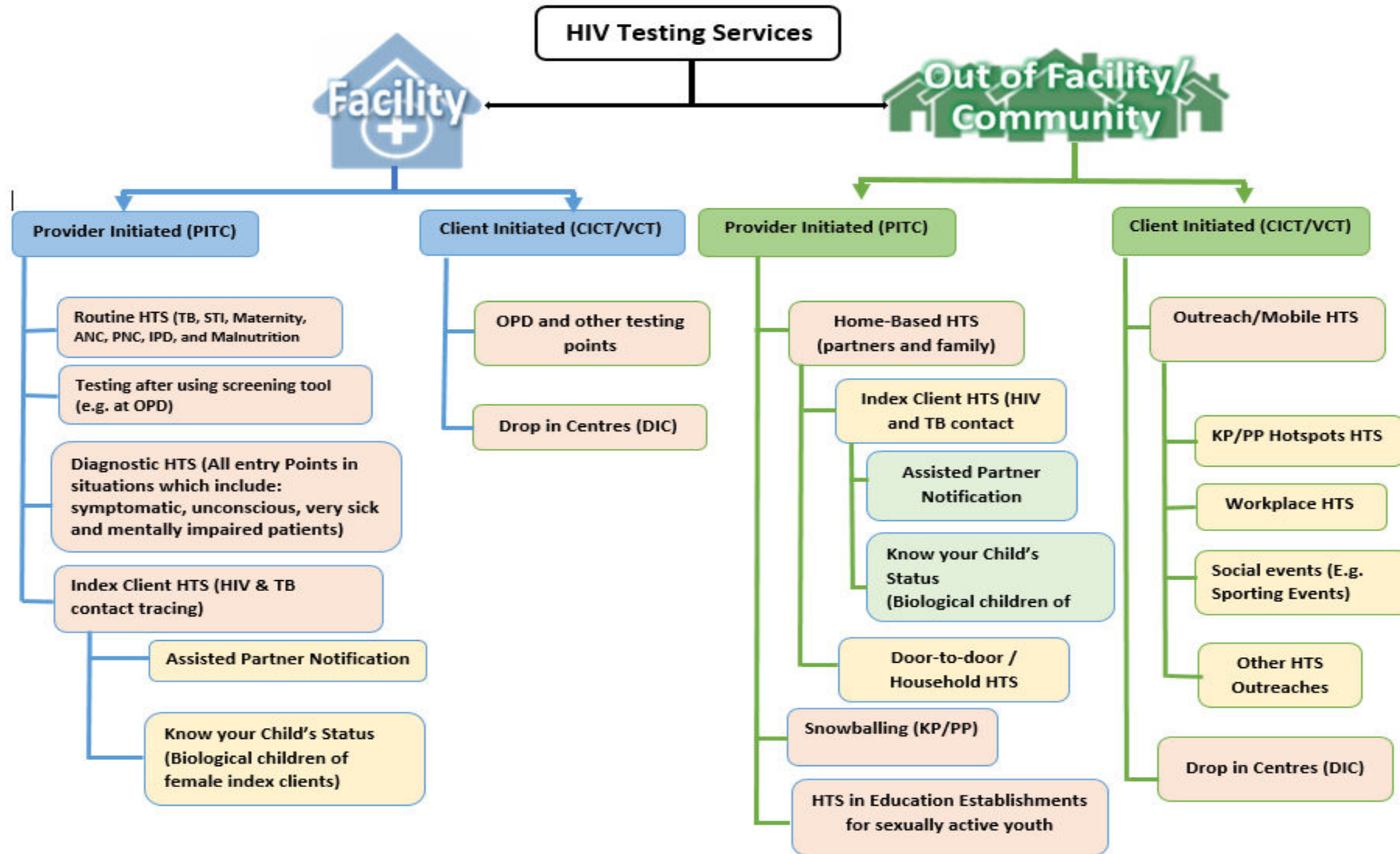
Background

Ghana 95-95-95 Status (Dec 2022)

- Ghana adopted the WHO recommendations to “TREAT ALL” in 2016 towards achieving 90-90-90 (UNAIDS targets)
- Innovative & pragmatic approach like DSD is needed to help achieve these targets, and DSD implementation commenced in 2018 across the cascade of care
- Despite significant scale up, achievement to the first 95 remains suboptimal to attain epidemic control
- The Ghana MoH prioritized focusing attention on improving the quality of dHTS implementation



Recommended Differentiated HTS Models and Approaches



Quality Standards and Assessment Tool for dHTS Development Process

Development of dHTS
quality standards and
indicators

Pre-testing in one
Region(electronic)

A

B

C

D

E

Engagement of TWG
on the need for dHTS
quality standards

Review by other
stakeholders

Finalization of tool

1 day

3 weeks

2 weeks

5 days

5 days

Ghana's dHTS Quality Assessment Tool

[Link to Tool](#)

Domain	Quality standards
Cross-cutting	1. Availability of SOPs
	2. Training on dHTS
	3. Access to dHTS
	4. Commodity availability(RDTs, ARVs(onsite/referral), prevention packages(onsite/referral)
	5. Timely Data capture
Mobilization	1. Use of risk-population-specific approaches to identify clients for testing
Testing	1. Adherence to 5 Cs of HIV testing
	2. Adherence to three-test algorithm
	3. HIV risk assessment
Linkage	1. Timely linkage to treatment(within 7 days)
	2. Timely linkage to prevention(immediate)
Summary	Challenges, innovations, recommendations



Assessment Process



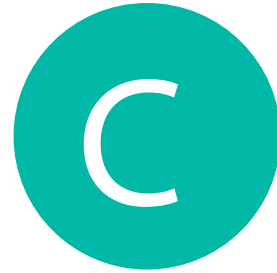
Facility selection

- Regional burden
- Facility caseload



Capacity building

- Regional
- National



Data collection

- Records reviews
- Interviews with HCW
- Interviews with ROC



Data analysis

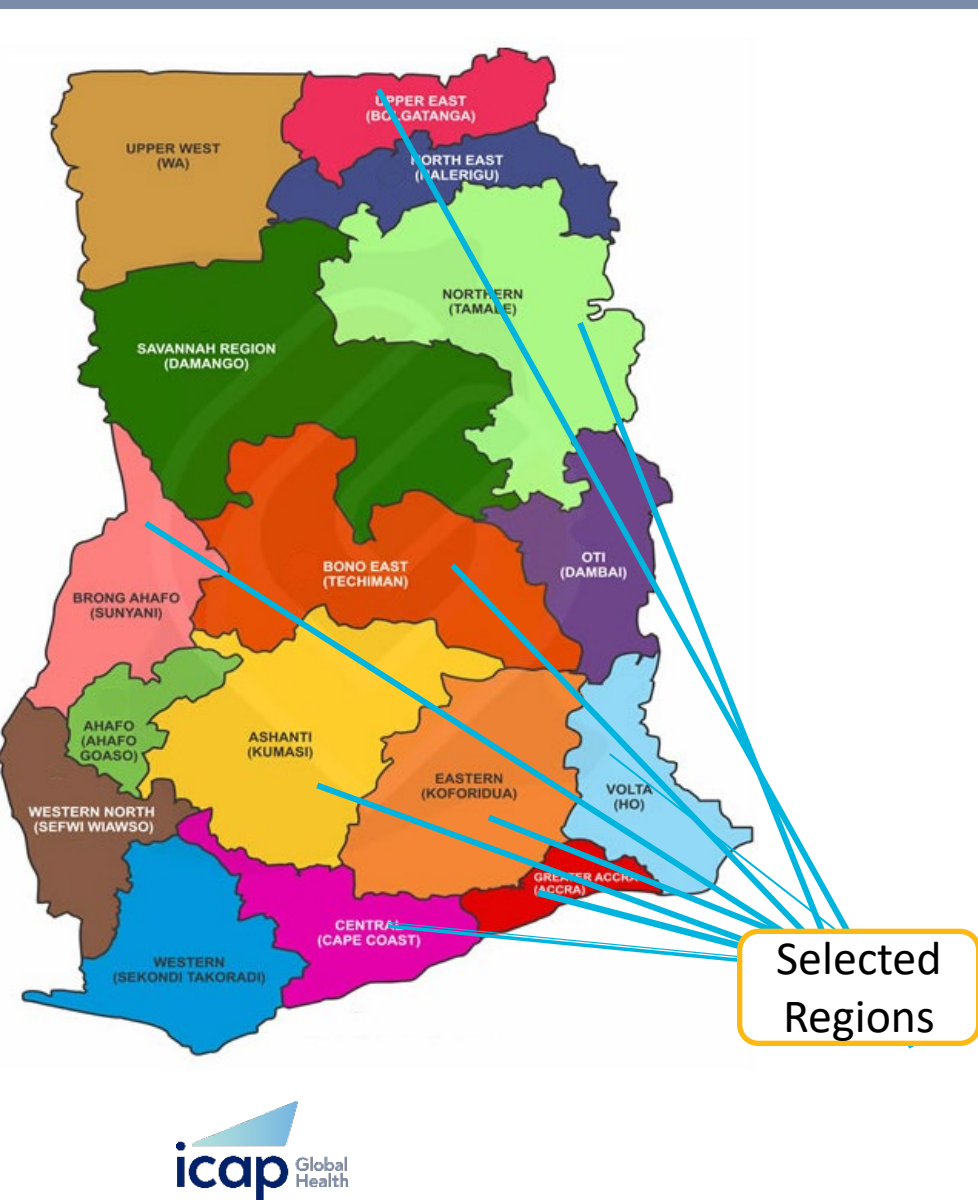
- Quantitative
- Qualitative



Feedback

- Facility
- Region
- National

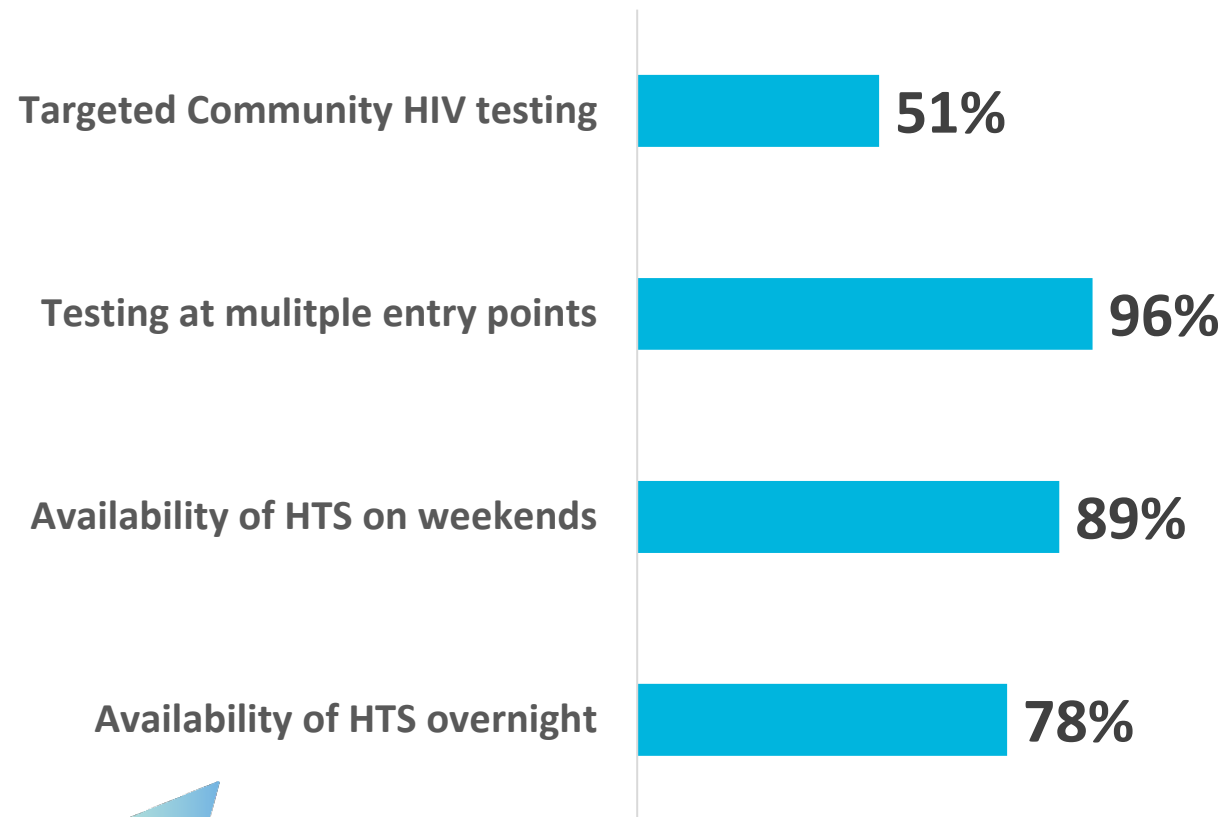
dHTS Quality Management Assessment Sites



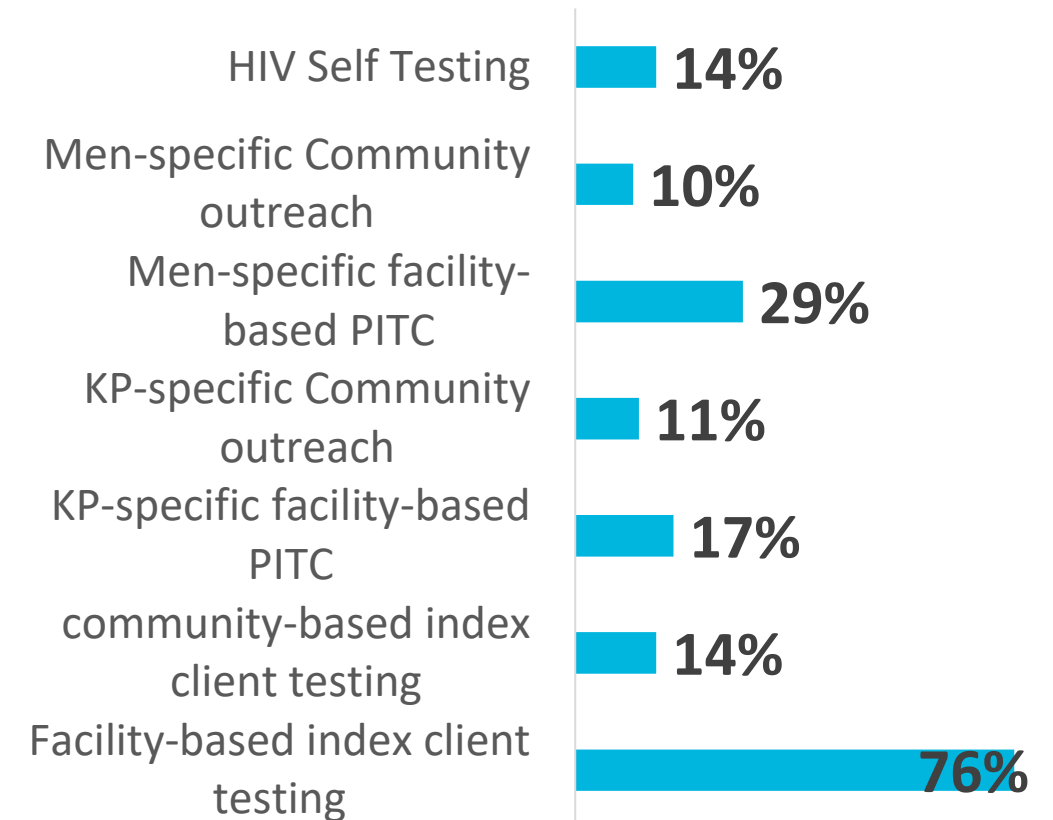
Number of Regions	9 (out of 16)
Number of Facilities	198
Client Load	126,180
DSD models	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facility-based individual • Facility-based group • Community based models
Approaches(selected)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HIV Self Testing • Index testing • Risk network testing • Testing at multiple entry points • Community Outreach • Male- specific testing options • KP specific testing modalities

Assessment Results: Proportion of facilities offering various modes of testing and mobilized services (198 sites)

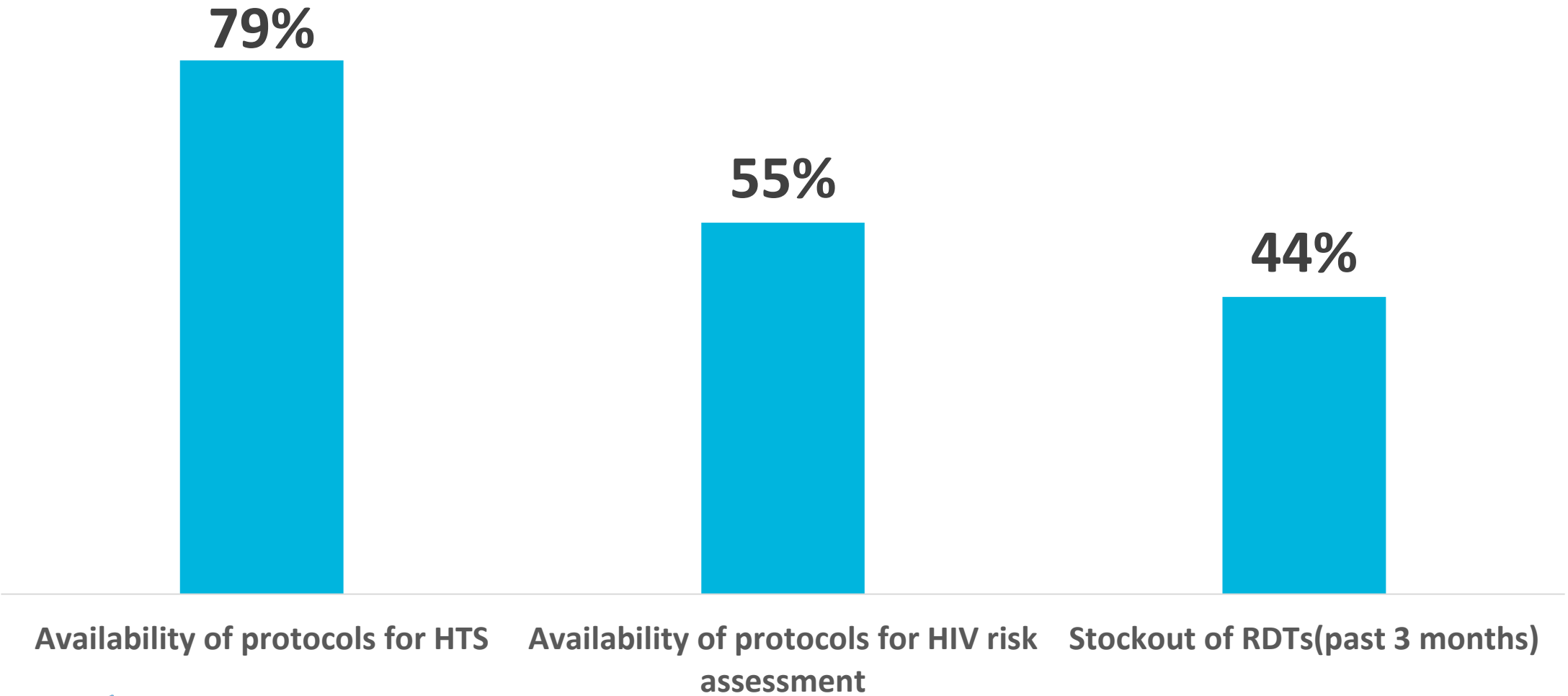
Proportion of facilities offering various modes of HIV testing services



Proportion of facilities offering mobilized testing approaches



Assessment Results: Proportion of sites with protocols and stockout of RDTs (198 Sites)



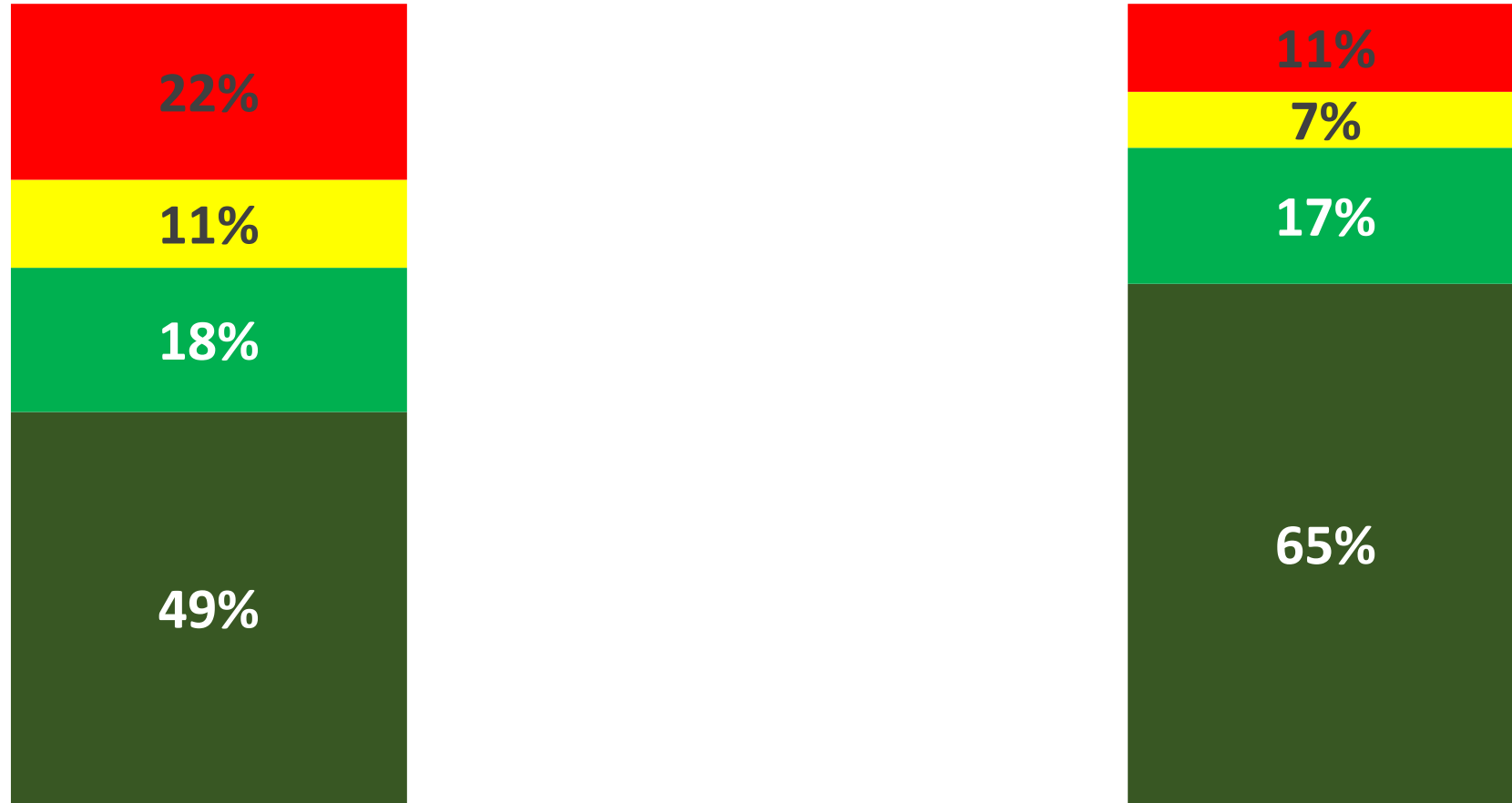
Availability of protocols for HTS

Availability of protocols for HIV risk assessment

Stockout of RDTs (past 3 months)

Assessment Results:

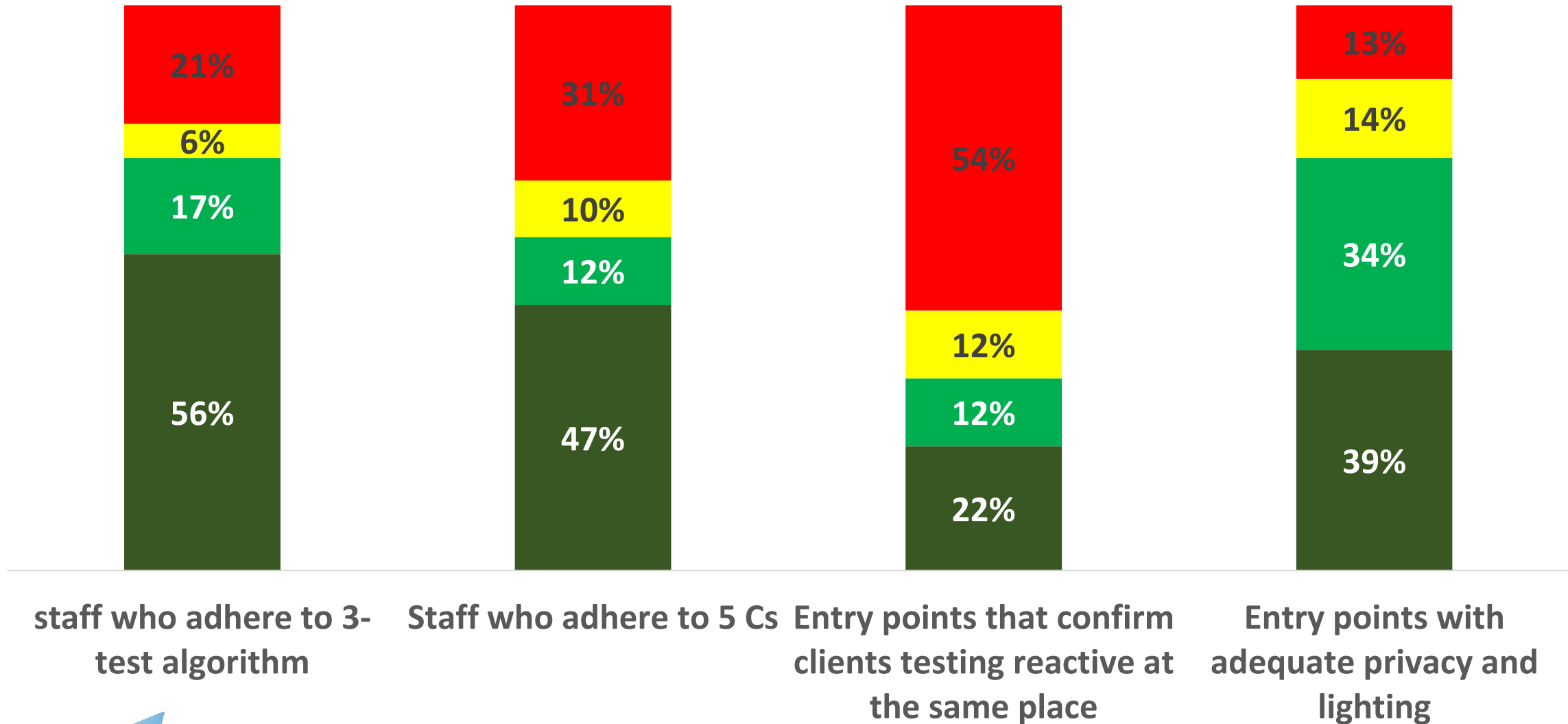
Proportion of facilities achieving documentation standards (198 Sites)



Proportion of entry points with appropriate data collection tools

proportion of tests in Registers collated into DHIMS

Assessment Findings: Proportion of facilities achieving testing standards



Assessment Results: Proportion of facilities achieving Linkage to treatment and prevention services standards

Availability of SOPs to assess HIV risk among those testing negative

55%

Availability of escort system for linking clients testing positive in the community

90%

Availability of escort system for linking clients testing positive at facility entry points

93%

Assessment Results: Proportion of facilities meeting linkage standards

High-risk HIV negative clients linked to prevention



Newly diagnosed clients linked to care



Newly diagnosed clients offered index testing



■ >90% ■ >80-90% ■ 60-80% ■ <60%

dHTS quality challenges identified during the assessment

- 1. Human resource capacity and other challenges with short staffing**
- 2. Gaps in prevention packages**
- 3. Commodity stockouts**
- 4. Unavailability of SOPs and protocols**
- 5. Suboptimal documentation**

Use of findings

Level	Relevance of outputs
National	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Evidence to guide intervention prioritization(GF grant)2. Knowledge gaps will influence training content3. To provide protocols to service delivery sites
Regional	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Human Resource gaps identified to be filled2. Evidence provided on areas to focus on during routine monitoring
Facility level	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Baseline data provided to guide facility-level CQI interventions2. Resource gaps identified to be addressed by facility management

Next Steps

Revise the tool further and deploy it on another electronic platform(ODK)

Institutionalize dHTS Quality Assessment

Track facility-level QI interventions during routine monitoring visits



Thank you!

