

# I Want the Kit (IWTK): Acceptability of and Characteristics of Users of an Internet Based Program for At-Home Self-Testing for HIV

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Poster: Sunday-11

## Background and Objective

### Background:

- Approximately 15% of HIV-infected individuals in the United States are unaware of their positive status
- 44% of young people aged 13-24 fall into this category
- Young adults aged 20-29 account for 37% of all new diagnoses

### Objective

- We offered at-home oral fluid HIV testing kits through the Internet, hypothesizing that the increased privacy and reduced stigma via at-home testing would encourage individuals to test

## Study Population

This study is part of a larger program that aims to increase and improve rates of testing, diagnosis, and linkage to care for STIs via home collection.

### Participants:

- Users of the IWTK Internet based program between February 2016 and April 2018 who completed consent process for HIV study
- Adults ages 18 and older, of any gender, living in the Baltimore metropolitan area
- N = 219

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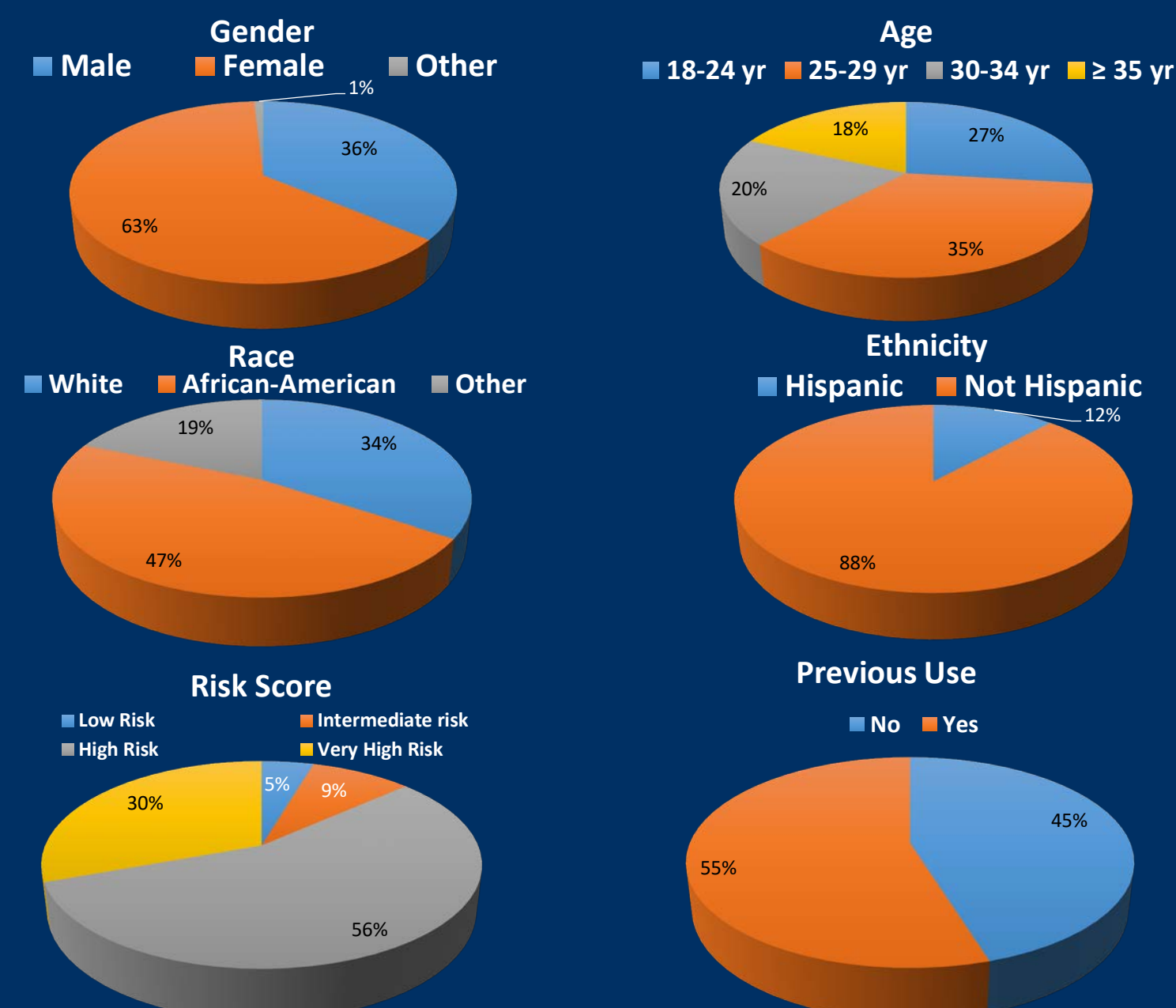
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## Methods

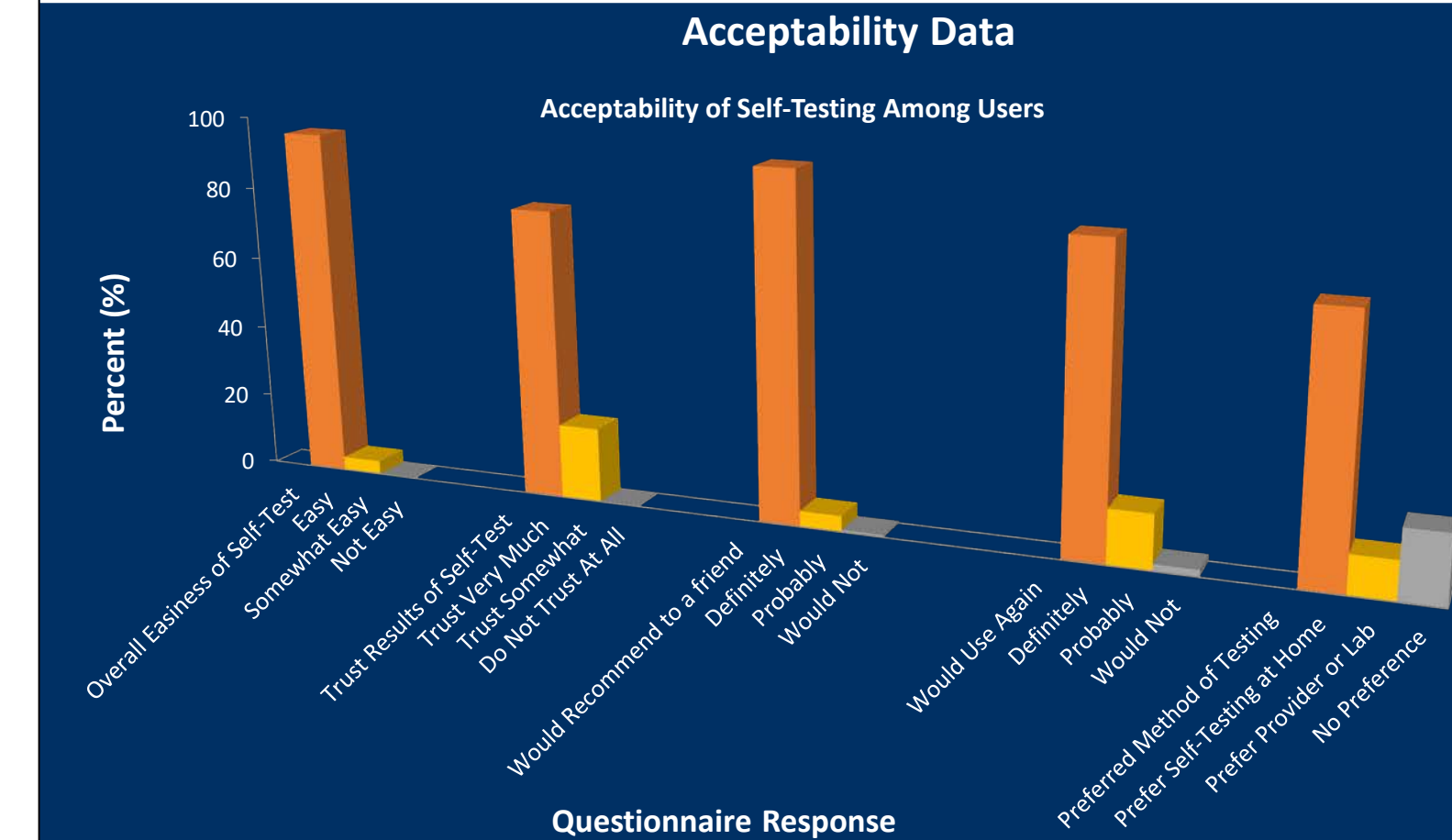
- Testers collected their own oral fluid samples, read their test results, and reported their results on the secure IWTK website
- Participants with reactive tests received follow-up for confirmatory testing, and if confirmed positive, would be linked to care
- After completing the test, participants completed a questionnaire about the process to determine the following:
  - Their perceptions regarding ease and usability of the kits
  - Overall confidence in the results they received
  - Likelihood of using the kits again and recommending to others

## Results

Characteristics of 219 participants who consented to utilize HIV self-testing kits via the I Want the Kit (IWTK) Internet-based screening program for sexually transmitted infections



## Results



## Test Kit Completion Status by Demographics

	Study Status		Pearson Chi <sup>2</sup> Test p value
	Completed %	Not Completed %	
Age			
18-24	18.7 (41/219)	8.2 (18/219)	
25-29	25.1 (55/219)	10 (22/219)	0.717
30-34	15.5 (34/219)	4.1 (9/219)	
≥ 35	13.7 (30/219)	4.6 (10/219)	
Gender			
Male	25.6 (56/219)	10.5 (23/219)	0.613
Female	46.6 (102/219)	16.4 (36/219)	
Other	1.0 (2/219)	0.0 (0)	
Race			
White	25.6 (56/219)	8.7 (19/219)	0.343
Black	32.4 (71/219)	14.6 (32/219)	
Other	15.1 (33/219)	3.7 (8/219)	
Ethnicity*			
Hispanic	10.5 (23/219)	1.4 (3/219)	0.047
Risk Score			
Low Risk (0-1 point)	3.2 (7/219)	1.4 (3/219)	0.913
Intermediate Risk (2-3 points)	6.4 (14/219)	2.3 (5/219)	
High Risk (4-6 points)	42.0 (92/219)	14.2 (31/219)	
Very High Risk	21.5 (47/219)	9.1 (20/219)	
Previous Use*			
Yes	45.2 (99/219)	9.6 (21/219)	0.001
No	27.9 (61/219)	17.4 (38/219)	

\* Statistically significant

## Results

Multivariate logistic regression analysis: unadjusted association of age, gender, race, ethnicity, IWTK risk score, and previous use with usage of HIV home self-testing kits in 219 participants who completed the consent process

Characteristic	Odds Ratio (95% CI, p value)
Age	
18-24	1
25-29	1.1 (0.52-2.3, 0.81)
30-34	1.7 (0.67-4.2, 0.28)
≥ 35	1.3 (0.53-3.3, 0.55)
Gender	
Male	1
Female	0.86 (0.46-1.6, 0.63)
Race	
White	1
Black	0.75 (0.39-1.5, 0.40)
Other	1.4 (0.55-3.6, 0.48)
Ethnicity	
Hispanic	1.75 (0.65-4.7, 0.27)
Risk Score	
Low Risk (0-1 point)	1
Intermediate Risk (2-3 points)	1.2 (0.22-6.5, 0.83)
High Risk (4-6 points)	1.3 (0.31-5.2, 0.74)
Very High Risk	2.94 (0.24-4.3, 0.99)
Previous Use*	
Yes	2.94 (1.6-5.5, 0.001)
No	1

\* Statistically significant

No participants confirmed HIV positive to date.

## Conclusions

- Data demonstrates high acceptability of home testing among study participants
- Multivariate logistic regressions indicate previous use of the IWTK platform and STI test kits is the only statistically significant predictor of use of HIV test kit
- Easy to perform and private self-testing kits for HIV may increase the number of individuals who are aware of their HIV status and screen regularly

Data collection is ongoing