

The HIV/AIDS epidemic among MSM in Japan: Background and gay NGO response

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Study Group on the Development of Community based HIV prevention interventions for MSM (Men who have sex with Men)

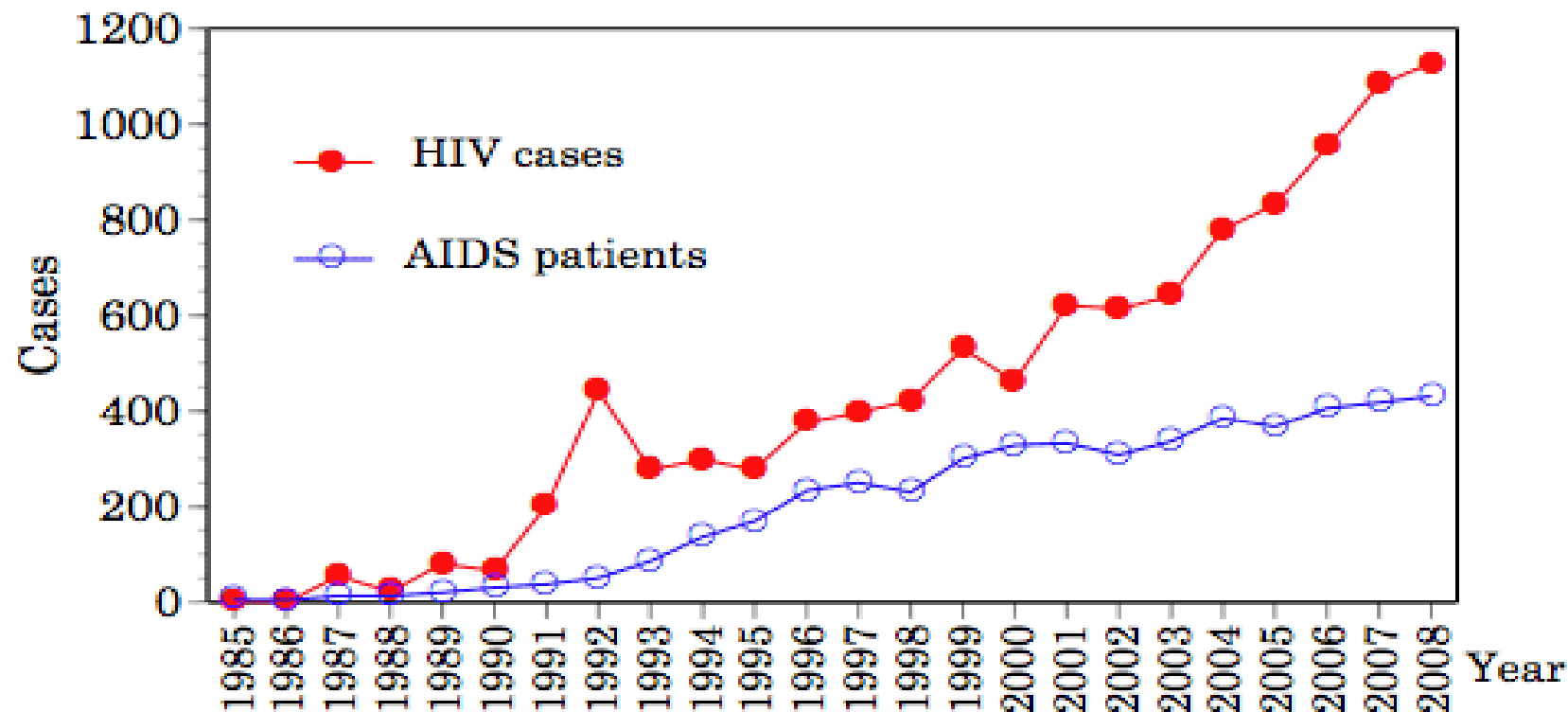
Nagoya City University Graduate School of Nursing, Department of Communicable Disease Epidemiology and Control



National Surveillance Data 2008

Annual HIV/AIDS reports

Figure 1. HIV cases and AIDS patients, 1985-2008, Japan



(The 2008 Annual Report on HIV/AIDS Surveillance in Japan, the National AIDS Surveillance Committee, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare)

In addition, 1,438 people with HIV/AIDS infected through HIV infected blood products (2008 National AIDS Surveillance Committee)

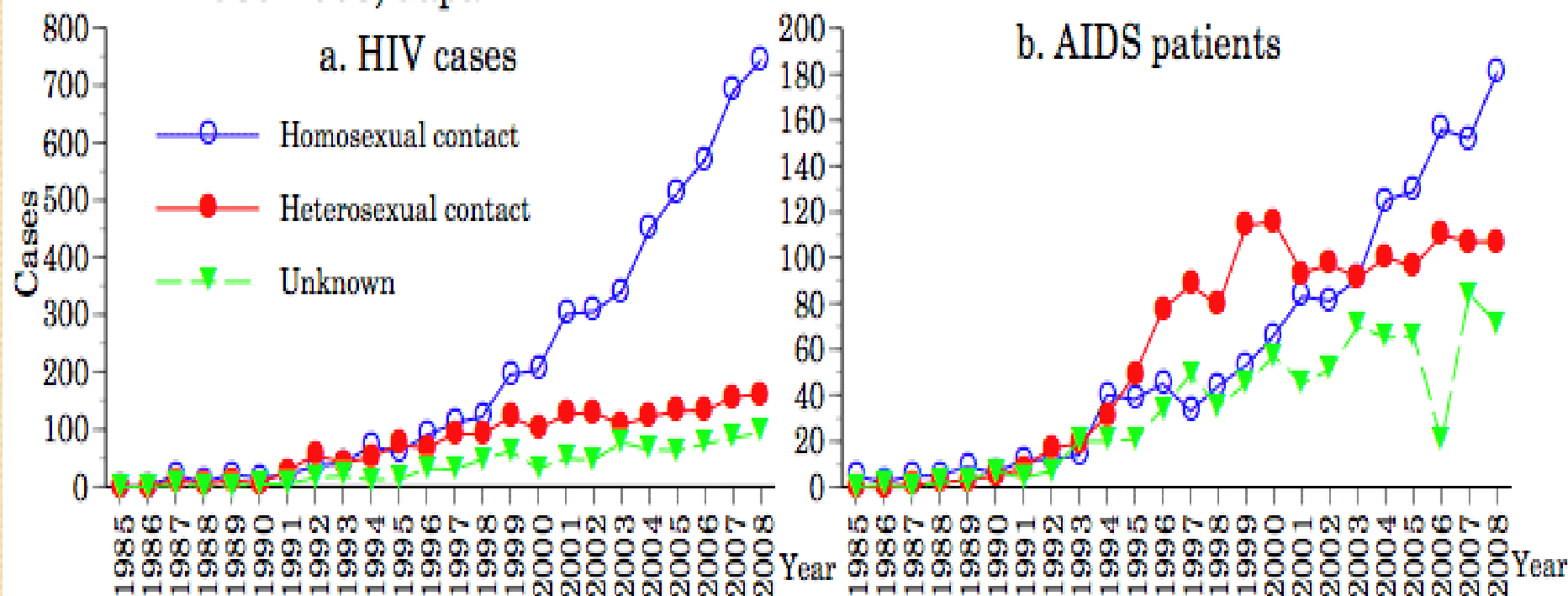
IASR

Infectious Agents Surveillance Report

National Surveillance Data 2008

Mode of transmission by yearly HIV/AIDS reports

Figure 3. Mode of infection of Japanese male HIV cases and AIDS patients, 1985-2008, Japan



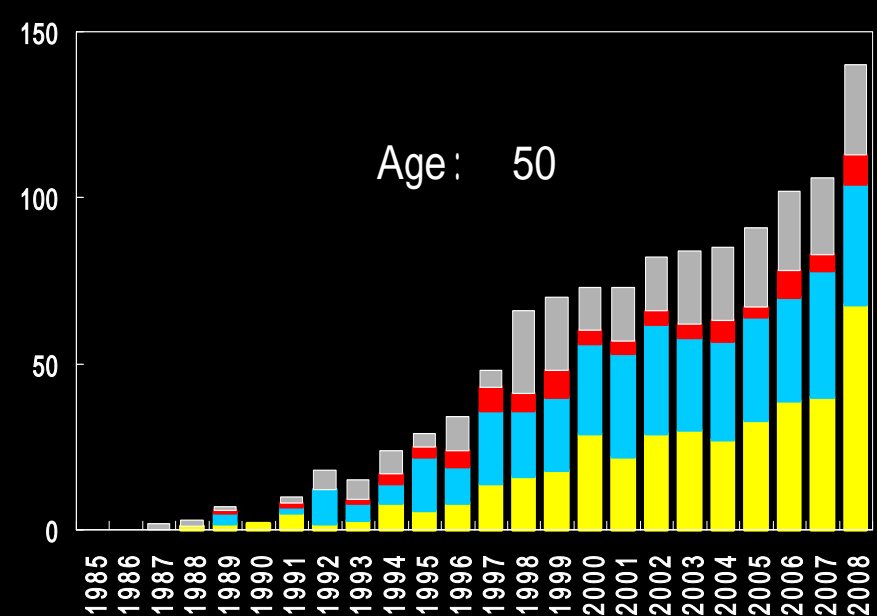
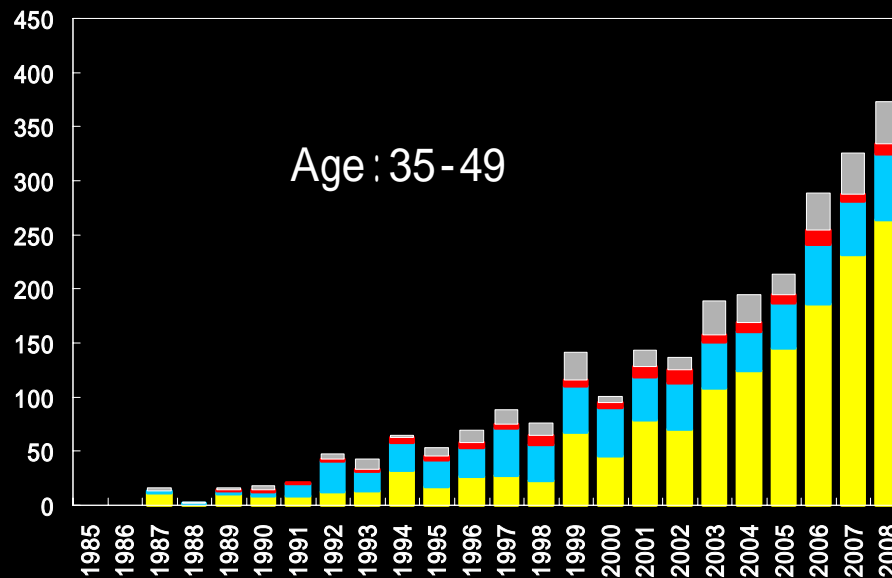
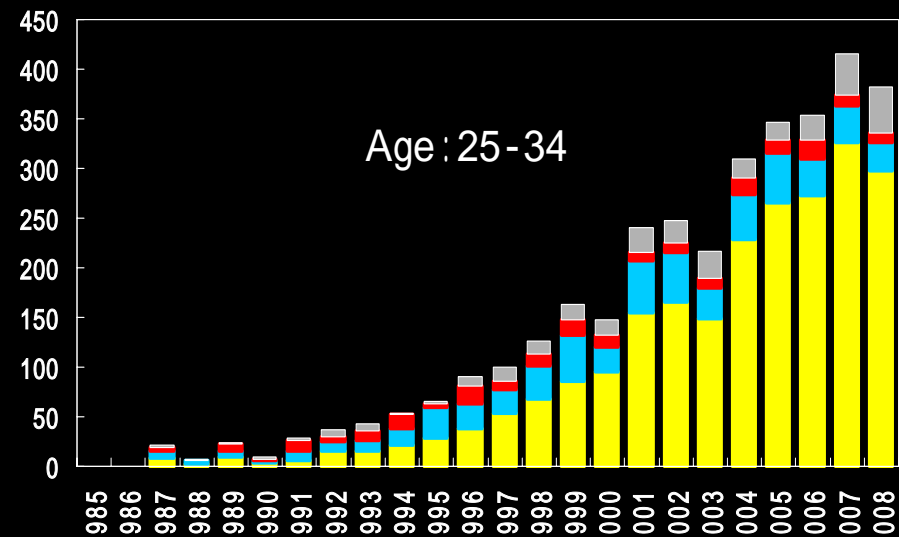
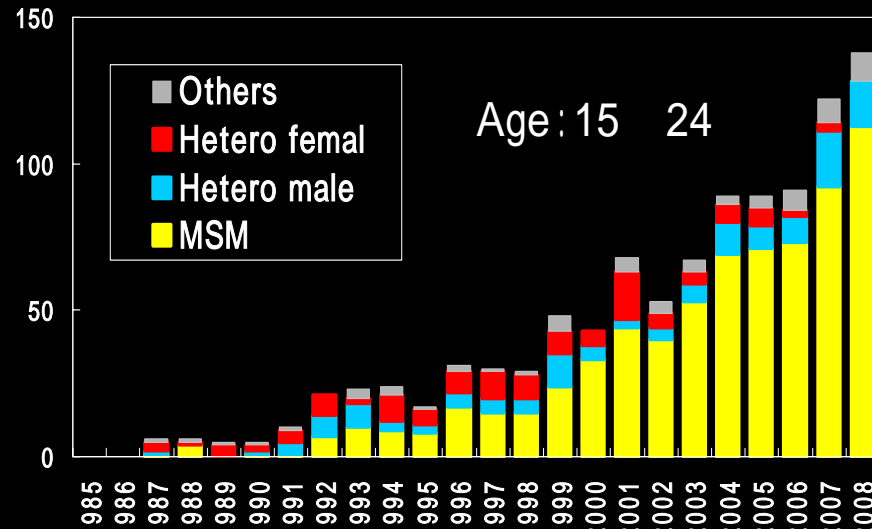
(The 2008 Annual Report on HIV/AIDS Surveillance in Japan, the National AIDS Surveillance Committee, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare)

IASR

Infectious Agents Surveillance Report

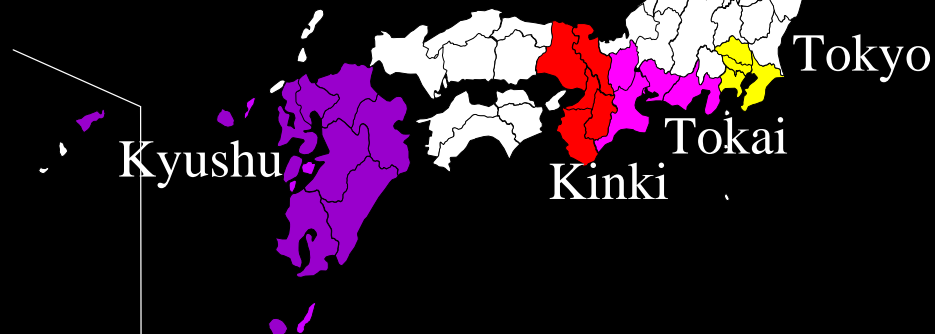
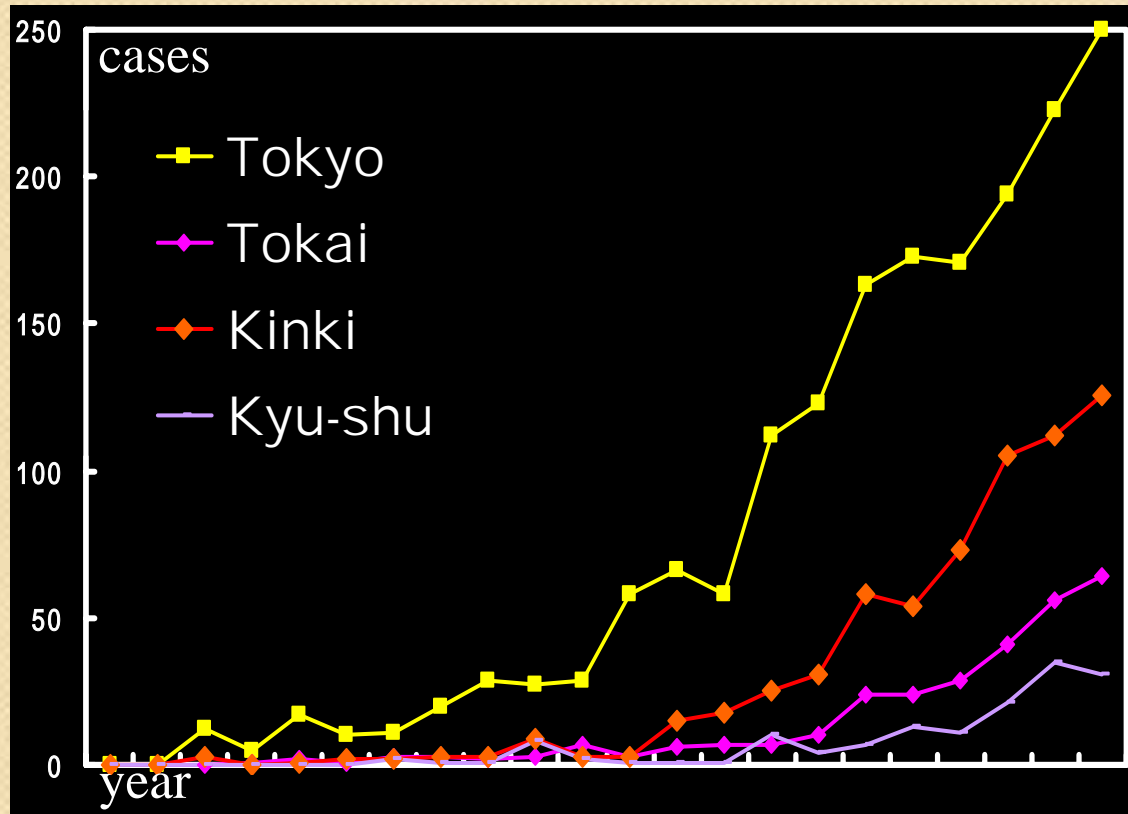
Japanese HIV infection by age, exposure categories and year

National HIV/AIDS Surveillance 2008



HIV infection cases through homosexual contact by reported area and year

National HIVAIDS Surveillance 2008



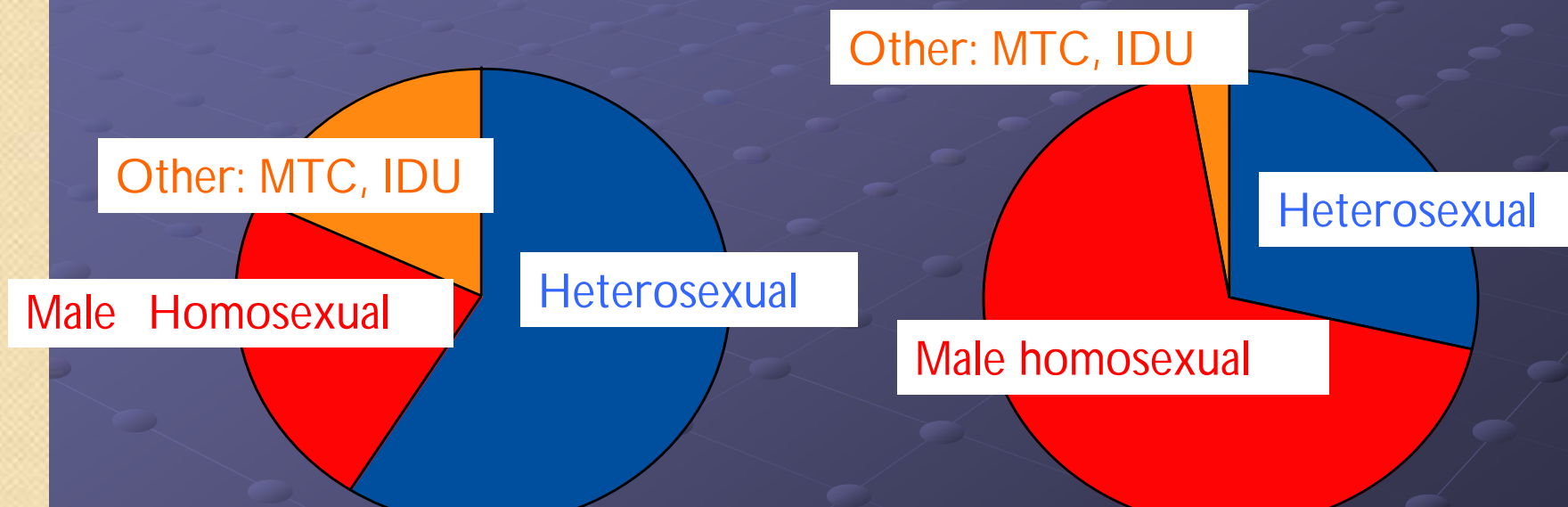
MSM reports in Annual Surveillance compared to Hospital Survey: Okinawa

(Tateyama 2007)

Infection route

National Surveillance:
Okinawa (N=95)

Ryukyu University:
Okinawa (N=85)



Ratio of MSM in National HIV/AIDS Surveillance Reports is much lower than ratio of MSM reports in a hospital based survey

Estimation of MSM population in Japan

3,700
Adult males aged
20 - 59
Tohoku, Kanto, Tokai
Kinki, Kyushu

Response rate
45%
N=1659

**Homosexual
Attraction 3.7%
Sex experience
2.0%**

In 2008 we conducted a general population survey employing 2 stratified sample of a Master sample of Census respondents in 5 regional blocks (79% of the Japanese population)

Male population (20-59 years old)

34,683,004

Non-MSM

33,989,344

MSM(2%)

693,660

HIV/AIDS reported cases

(20-59 years old up to 2008)

Non-MSM 2,925

MSM 6,021

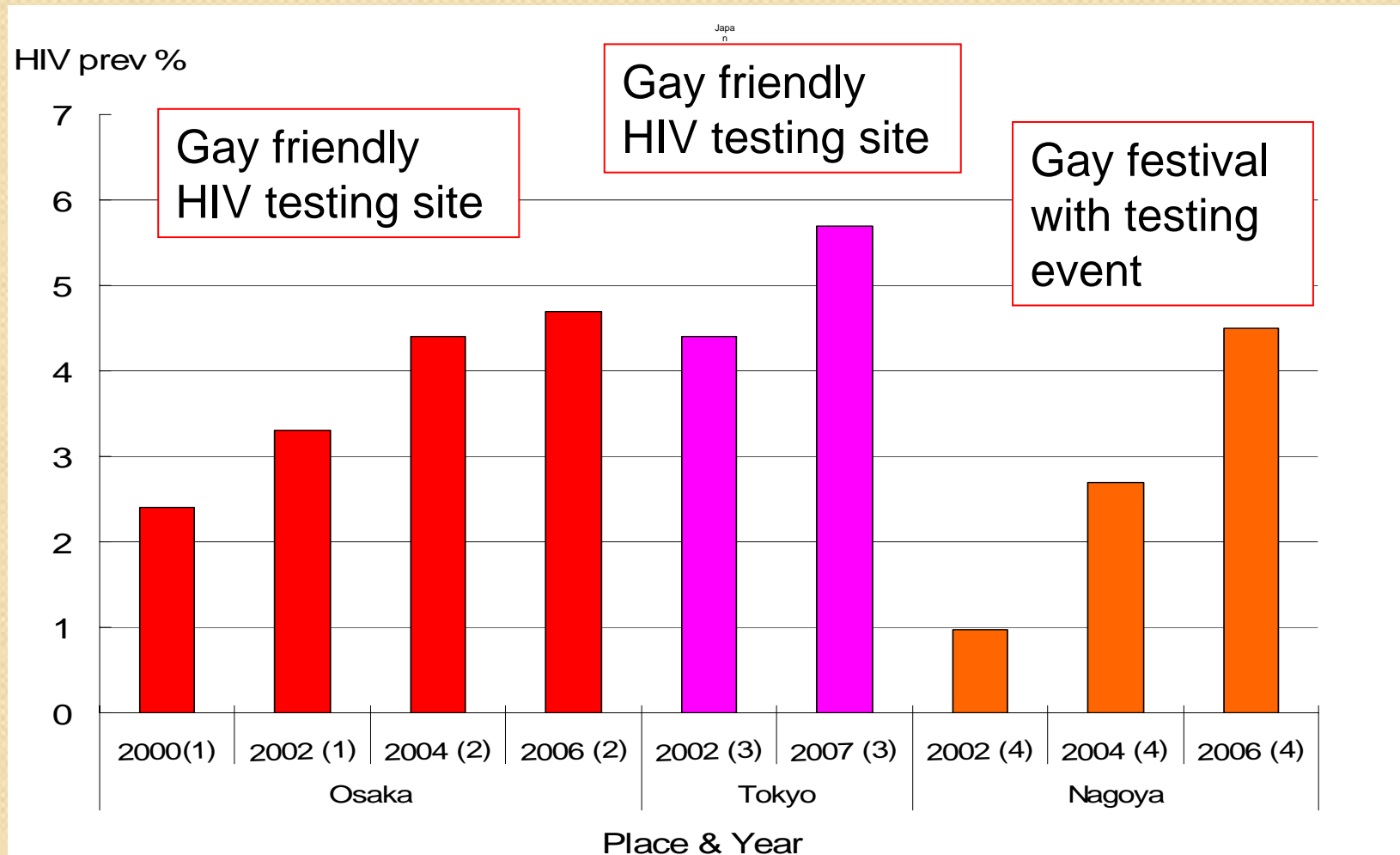
HIV/AIDS prevalence(20-59 years old)

Non-MSM 8.6 /100,000

MSM 868.0 /100,000 **100x**

Sero- prevalence among MSM samples

Osaka, Tokyo and Nagoya

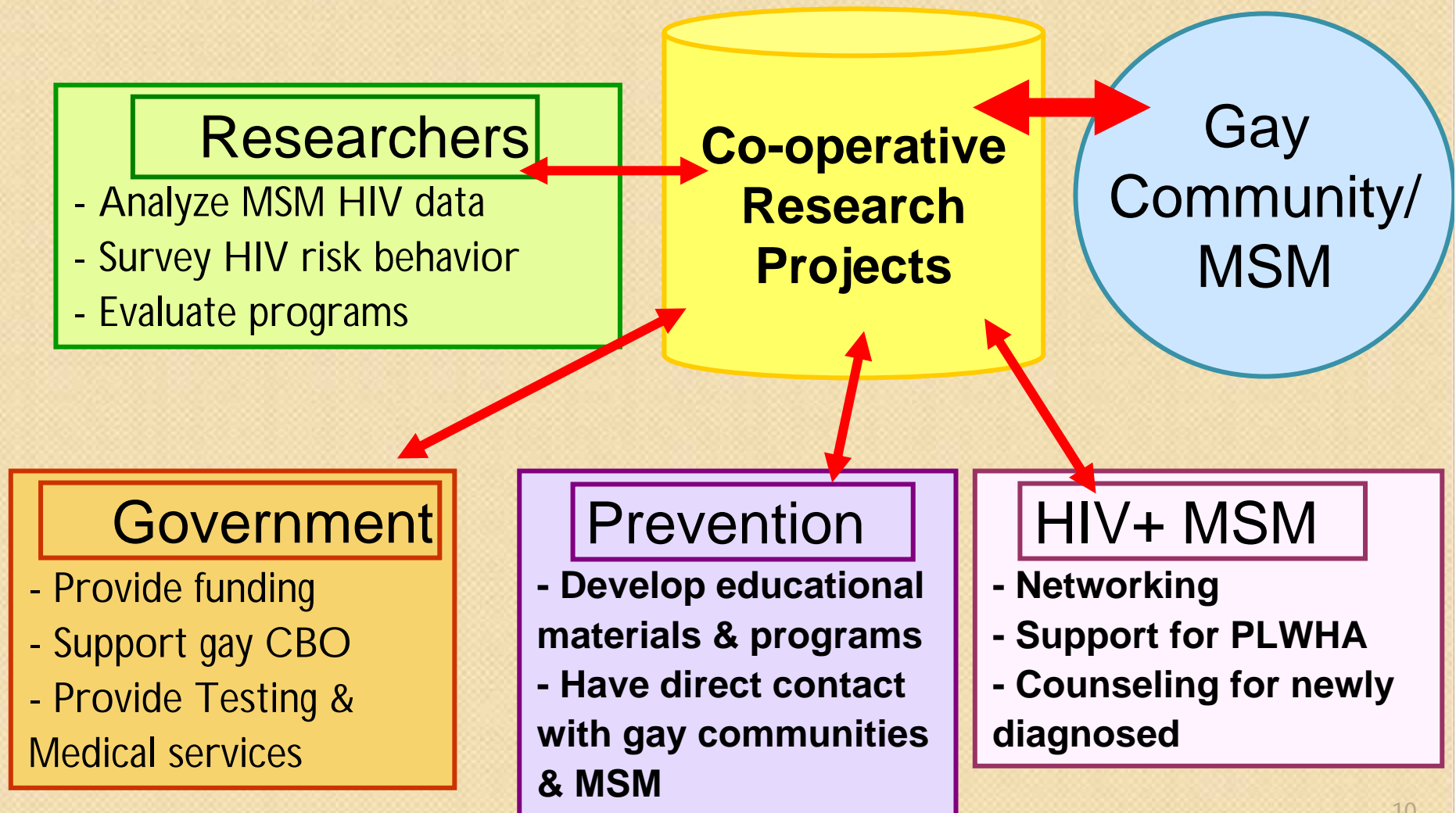


(1) Onitsuka & Ichikawa 2002, (2) Takenaka & Ichikawa 2006, (3) Kojima 2009, (4) Utsumi 2006

Why are HIV infections among MSM so high?

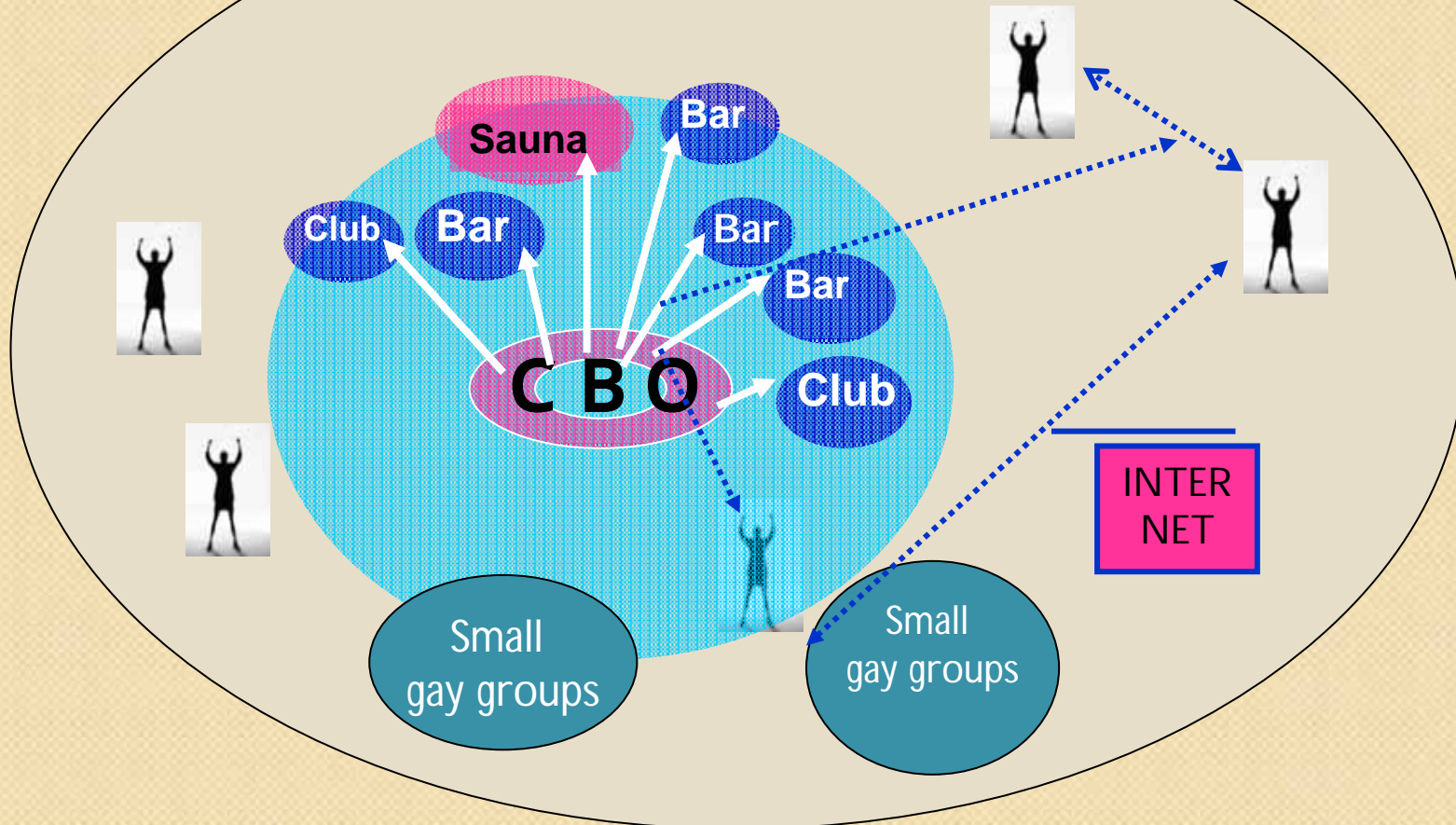
- Easier transmission of virus through anal sex
- Delay in starting HIV prevention among MSM
- Early HIV prevention materials failed to meet the prevention needs of MSM
- Inadequate Sex Education regarding homosexuality
78.5% of MSM had been given no information regarding homosexual transmission of HIV at school (Hidaka 2007 – Internet survey with MSM)
- Lack of funding base for education and support interventions among MSM

Research collaboration between NGOs and researchers



Gay community

We use 'gay community' to mean commercial venues (bars, nightclubs, saunas), small gay sports and hobby groups and Internet users although these groups tend to be disconnected from each other.



Gay NGO Activities

Make educational materials appropriate for MSM

Programs to encourage Behavioral change

Provision of condoms

Counseling for HIV+ MSM

Community level

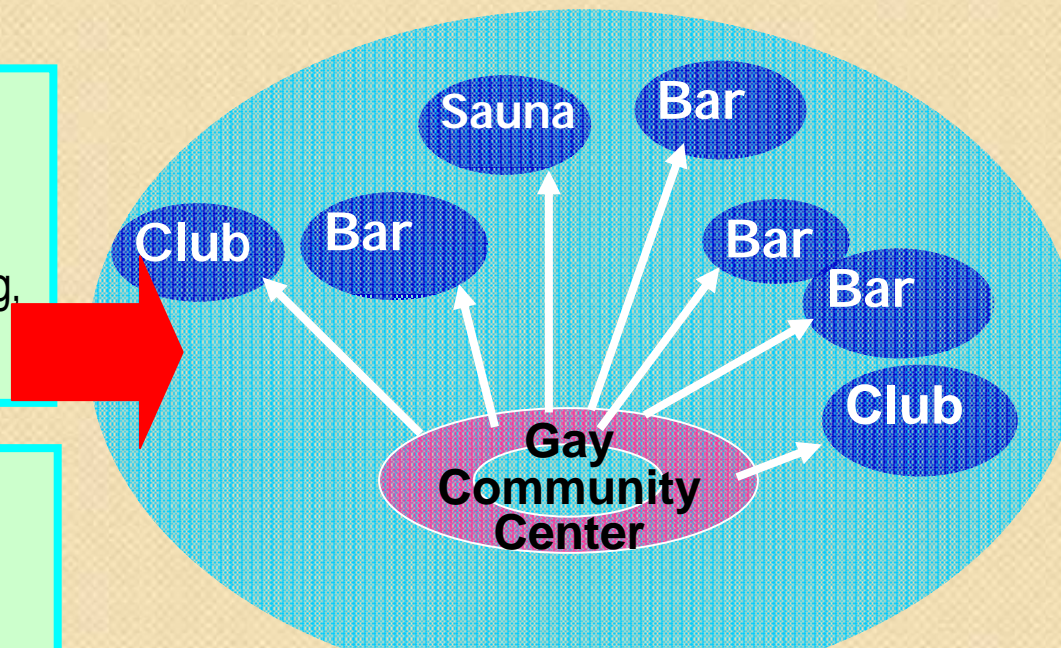
- Network with gay community
- Distribute information & condoms
- Provide Information re: HIV testing, counseling and treatment services
- Research and evaluation

Group level

- Workshops on STI/HIV, safer sex with clients & bar owners

Individual level

- Provide HIV testing and counseling
- Prevention counseling
- Support for HIV+ MSM



For MSM who do not go to gay bars and clubs

Outreach via Internet & other gay sports and cultural groups

An example of Gay NGO activities in Osaka: MASH Osaka



MASH Osaka was established in 1999 as a partnership between gay individuals, epidemiological researchers and Osaka city health officials.

Before the Baseline survey in 1999 there were many questions...

- How much is known about HIV/AIDS?
- What kind of activities and materials are needed to provide information about HIV/AIDS?
- What percentage of MSM are getting HIV testing?
- What is the condom usage rate among MSM?



After baseline survey... NEXT STEPS

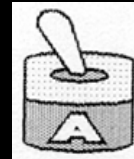
- Accessing HIV Testing services for MSM
- Increase visibility of Condoms in community
- Community paper to provide community and STI related information

MASH Osaka's HIV/STI testing event for MSM, 2000-2002

HIV/STI testing and counseling events by MASH Osaka



SWITCH, which combined testing with entertainment type activities, were established in response to the fact that there had not been sufficient opportunities for gay men for accessible testing facilities in the Osaka area.



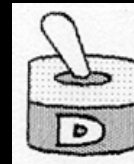
Art: Gay Art Holidays



Blood: HIV/STI testing
& counseling



Community:
Workshops on HIV · STI



Dance: AIDS Benefit
Dance Party

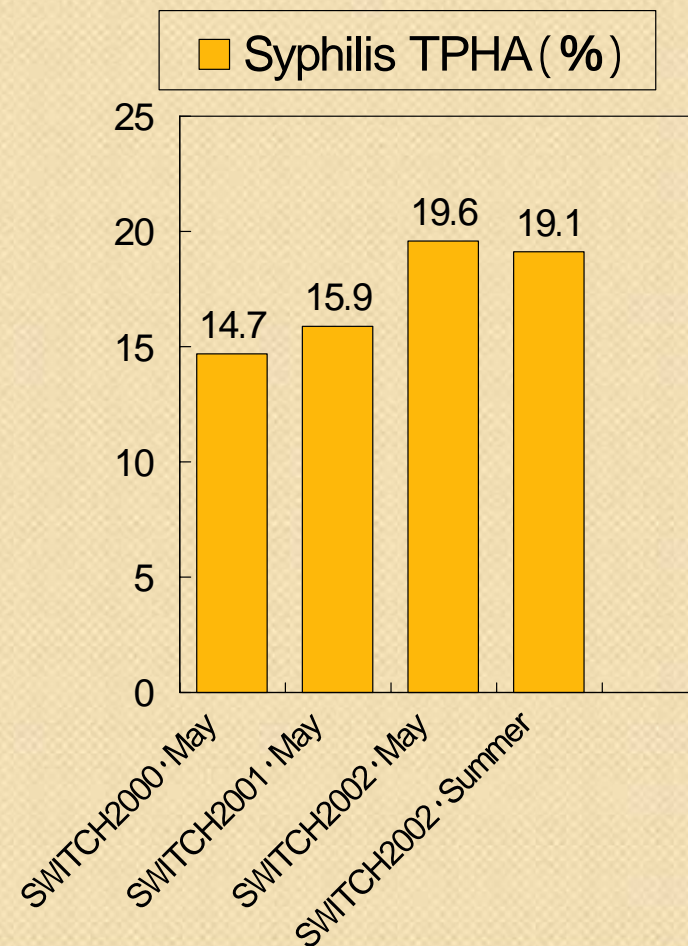
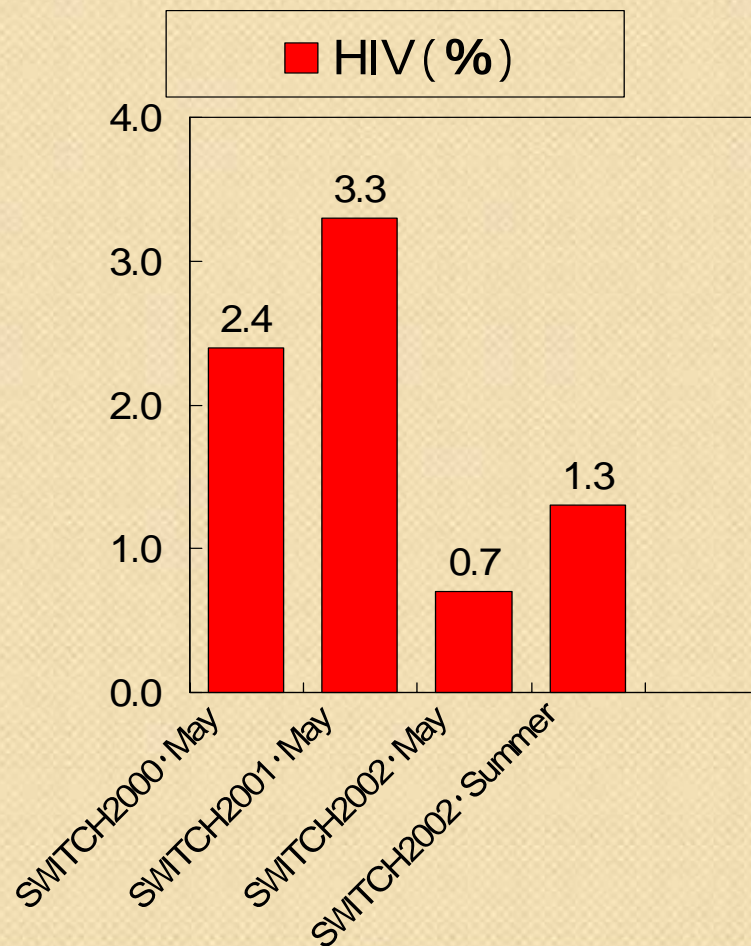
SWITCH: Switch your mind, Switch your action

SWITCH Results 2000-2002

HIV/STI test Participants

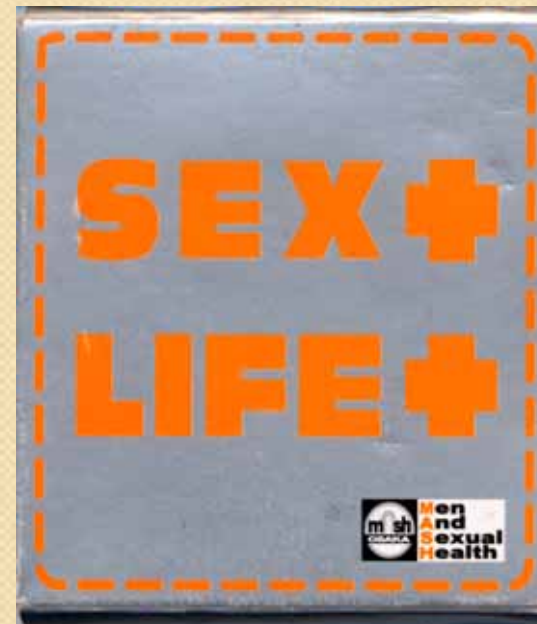
2000 N= 251, 2001 N= 402, 2002 Spring N= 150

2002 Summer N=152 Age of recipients: 20's 55% , 30's 43%



MASH Osaka Outreach 2002-2004 : Condom promotion

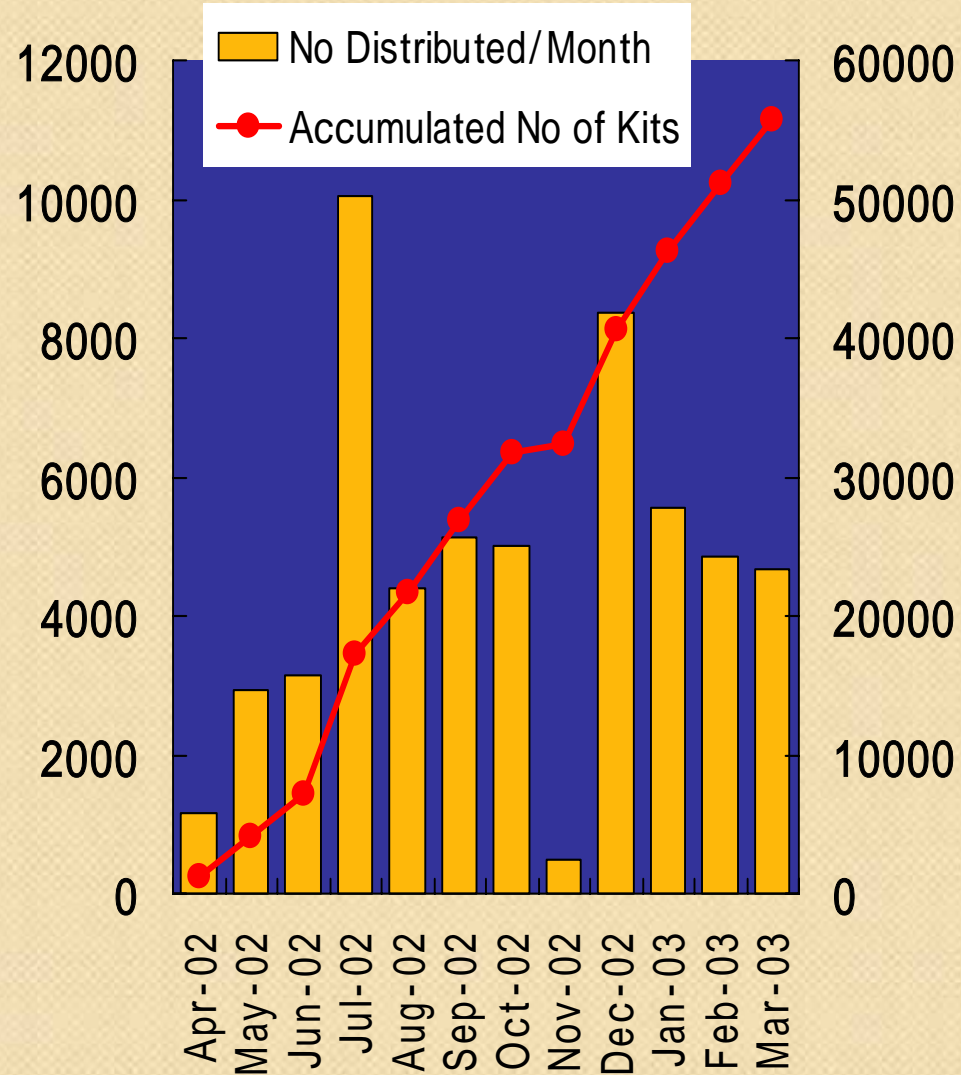
To increase condom visibility



Condom
Package
(2002)

50,000 distributed
per year
60% of Gay bars covered

MASH Osaka Condom Outreach 2002-2004 : Results



2002

Condoms distributed: Average
3,258 per month
No of bars: 83
(coverage rate 55%)
No. of volunteers: 75

2003

Condoms distributed: Average
4,720 per month
No of bars: 141
(coverage rate 61%)
No. of volunteers: 134

2004

Condoms distributed: Average
4,867 per month
No of bars: 135
(coverage rate 59%)
No of volunteers: 62

MASH Osaka Outreach 2003 start...

Community paper Sal+ (Sex & Life positive)

SEX and DRUG

"SEX DRUG"、ひと昔前の言葉で言うと"娼薬"でしょうか？その娼薬のなかで最も一般的なものが、いわゆる"ラッシュ"なのではないでしょうか？ほかに最近よく聞くようになったのが「ゴメオ」とか「ディプト」。「5-MeO-DIPT」っていう薬品の略称なのですが、これって一体何なんでしょう？成分的には？法律で規制されていない(注：現時点では)けれど、じゃあ安全性とかってどうなんでしょうか？だってラッシュが違法な国もあるし、日本では違法なものが合法的な国だってあるし。合法だからといって安全とは言いきれないし、合法って言っても「規制前」ってこともあるし。マジックマッシュルームがある日を境に違法になったのは記憶に新しいところでしょう。ラッシュ、ゴメオの他にも規制されていないものは色々あるけど、何をどういう基準で選ぶのか、選ばないのかは自分で決めるしかないんじゃないかな？今月1



ラッシュが皮膚に接触するとまた人によっては頭痛やめまいという研究報告もあります。なります。バイアグラとの同時服用が低下するので、服用を中止し、冷蔵庫で冷凍庫に保管し

次回は"5-MeO-DIPT"の情報を

文:busyboo 協力:mie takenaka

体験レポート!!

HIV検査って、どうよ?

「(財)大阪予防医学協会 夜間検査 編」
今回、僕が選んだのは仕事帰り(途中)にサクッと行ける木曜の夜間検査。予約が要らないので、ネットで場所を確認して、いざ出発。

まずは受付

正面の階段を上ると、右手にHIV検査受付が。(ちょっと分かりづらい)受付で検査を受けたいと告げると「感染の可能性のある行為から3ヶ月経っていますか?」と聞かれる。「はい」って答えると(ホントは3ヶ月以内にも可能性はあるんだけど)、用紙を渡される。

次に用紙記入

狭い通路の先に長机とパイプイスがあり、そこに座って記入。
1.名前 この欄はカタカナで名前(もちろん仮名でもOK)を書くか、4桁の数字を書けよ。
2.検査を受けに来る日付と性別
3.確認項目3ヶ月経っているか?という確認項目
4.検査を受ける理由(二者択一)
「感染の可能性のある行為があったため検査を受けて確かめたい」「特にそういう行為はないけど、感染していないといえないから検査を受けたい」日本習って微妙。
※感染の可能性のある行為が何かとや、ゲイか、というような質問は一切ない。

そして採血

用紙を渡して採血へ。記入した内容を尋ねられることは一切ない。採血後、控えの用紙を渡されて、来週の木曜日に結果を取りに来るように帰る。

再度確認

「来週の木曜日に結果が出ますので、控えを持って今日と同じ時間帯に来てください。もし来週来れないようなら、必ず電話をしてください。ここは本曜日のこの時間帯しか開設していませんから」と受付で再度確認があって、終了。

所要時間 約5分!

感想

検査に向かうまでの緊張感から考えると、びっくりするくらい、あっけなく終了。もっと何か説明せんでええの?ってカンジ。まあ、そのぶん、何も聞かれない匿名性が高いから気楽といえ、すごく気楽。ただ「感染の可能性のある行為から3ヶ月が経過しないと」確かな結果が出ない」ということを知っていないと戸惑うかも。あと、採血後に振り返ると、もう次の人が待っていたのが、ちょっと気になったかな。10時半の時点で既に何本か試験管が並んでいたから、検査を受けに来る人は多いみたい。ここ最近にはカフェやレストランも多いから、友達と一緒に検査に来て、ゆっくり帰るのもいいかも。

結果受け取り

受付で控えの用紙を見せて番号札をもらい、奥の待合スペースへ。中から「どうぞ」と声が掛かると一人ずつ入室。「○○さんですね。本人ですね」と本人確認のあと、自分の名前(仮名とか数字)が書かれた封筒が目の前に出される。中の用紙を結果が見えるまで引き出して、「確認してください。陰性です。心配でしたらまた受けに来てください」で終了。パンフレットと結果の入った封筒を持って退室。

所要時間1分以内!

感想

結果の受け取りから始まるけど、定期的に検査の人と出会う可

フレンドリー
気楽さ(匿名)
プライバシー
ロケーション

Includes gay community information such as bars, events and sexual health information

みんな、HIV抗体検査(エイズ検査)って定期的に行ってる? Sal+にも無料・匿名でHIV検査が受けられる場所が設けられてるけど、どんな雰囲気、どんな対応してくれるのか、までは分からない。でも、それが一番気がかりなことやん!ってわけで、実際に検査に行ってみて、見たまま、聞いたままをレポート!



Sal+ # 07
2003/Jul-Aug
HIV testing site
info

MASH Osaka Activities

dista Community Center



Autumn festival Plus+
6,000 participants Total, 60% MSM 3,600



dista STI workshop



Activities of Gay NGO in Tokyo: "Rainbow Ring"



Bar & Sauna Outreach: 'Deli-heru (Delivery health)'

Condoms and educational materials are distributed to bars, clubs, & saunas by volunteer staff (called Delivery Boys). These outreach activities aim to increase customers and employees awareness of HIV, STDs & safe sex, and condoms.



Condom dispenser

'Deli-heru (delivery health)' project

74 different types of condom package designs have been created

Many have been created with the help of gay and other artists & designers

The different designs are a talking point in bars and clubs, and through this, knowledge of Community Center akta's activities become better known.



Living Together Project: A co-operative project with PLACE Tokyo to raise the visibility of People with HIV/AIDS

DJ, live events, & radio programs which use diaries with stories from HIV positive and HIV negative peoples' thoughts on life, love, sex, family, getting tested for HIV, & living with HIV.

This project aims to increase the visibility of People with HIV and AIDS within the gay community



Evaluation of Gay NGO outreach programs

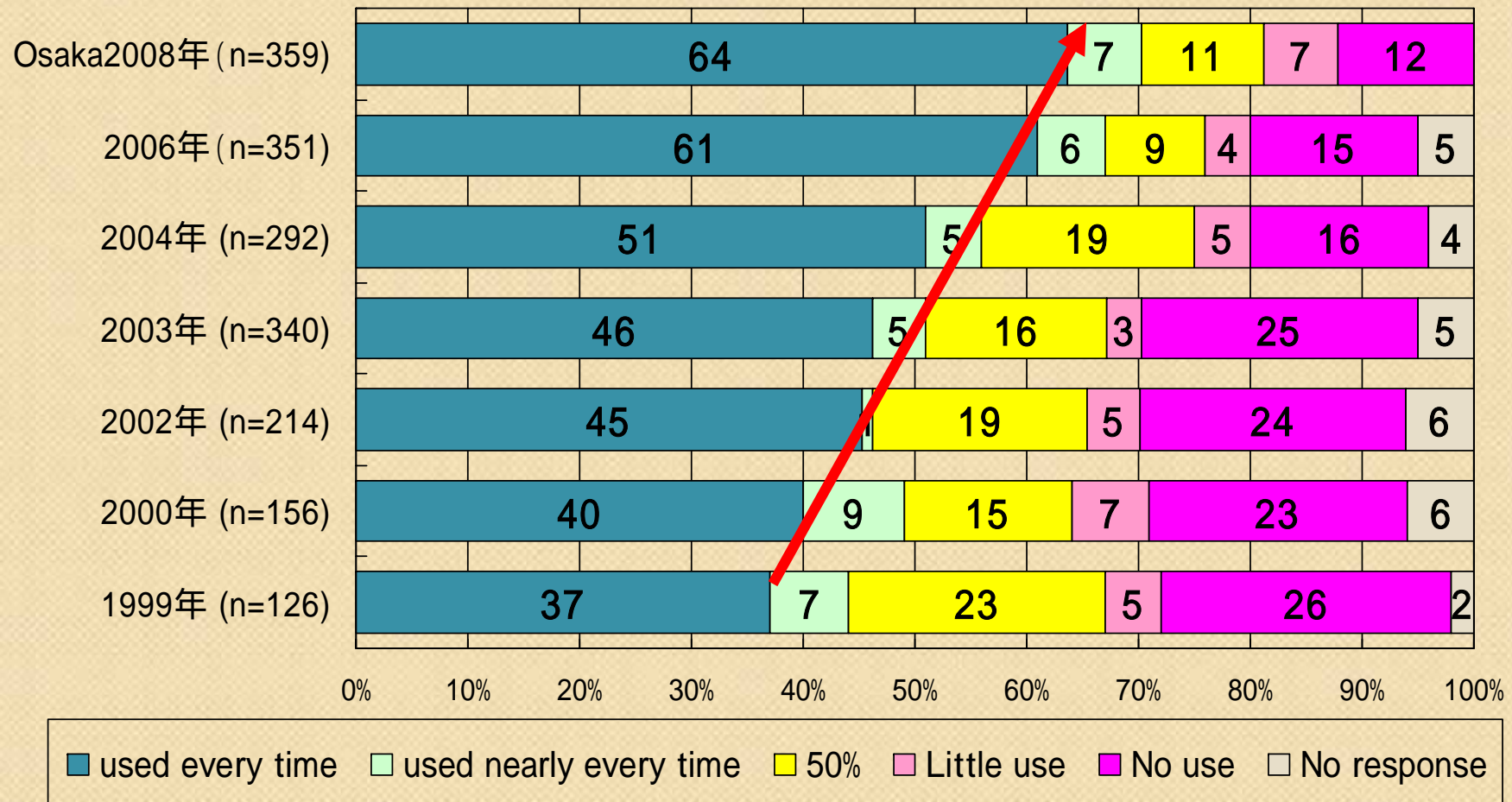
Annual Gay Dance party Questionnaire surveys

Conducted with the co-operation of gay NGO volunteer staff

Respondent Sample size: 600 to 1000 per year

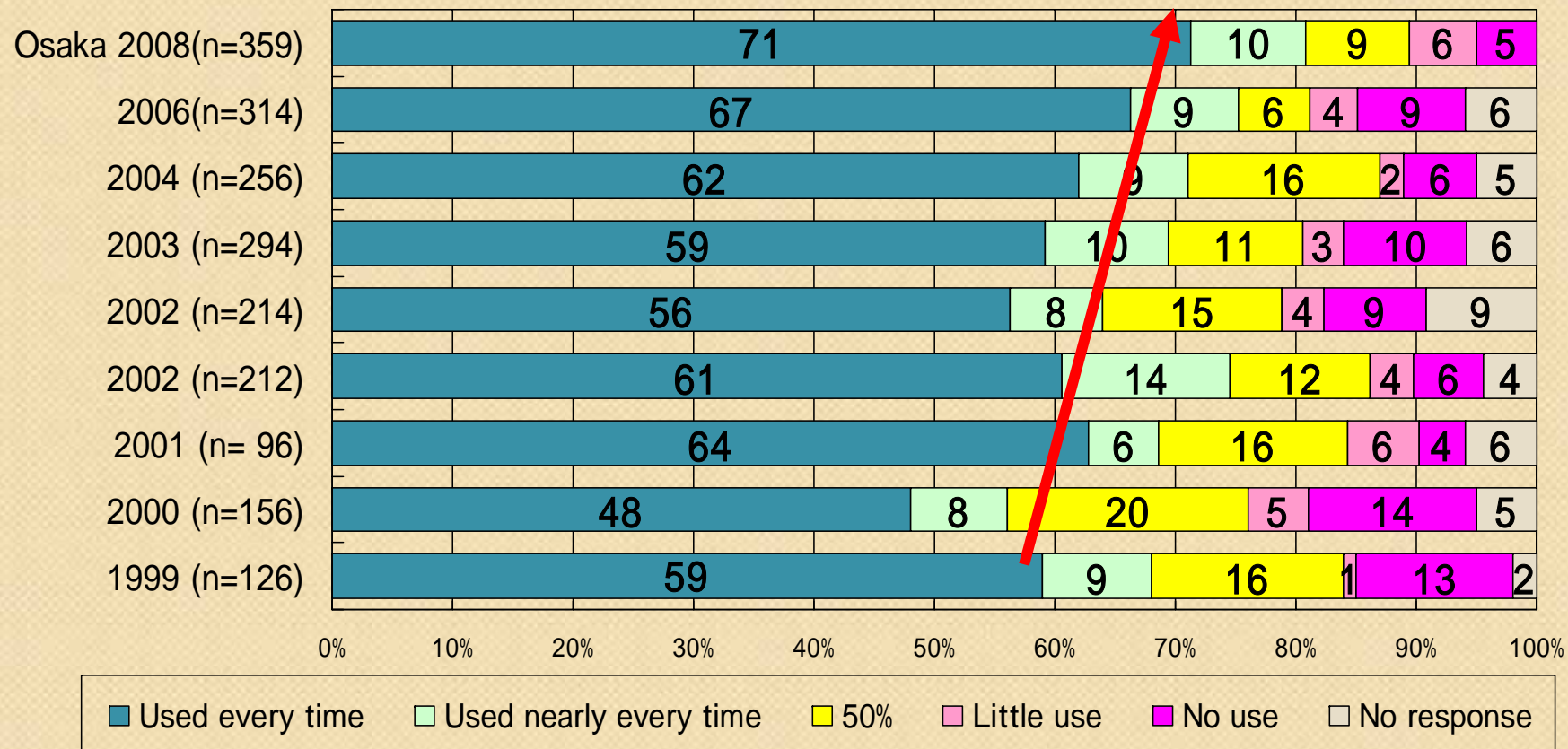
Condom use with regular partner (Insertive anal sex) Osaka Club survey

27% Increase in MSM who use condoms every time they have sex with regular partners

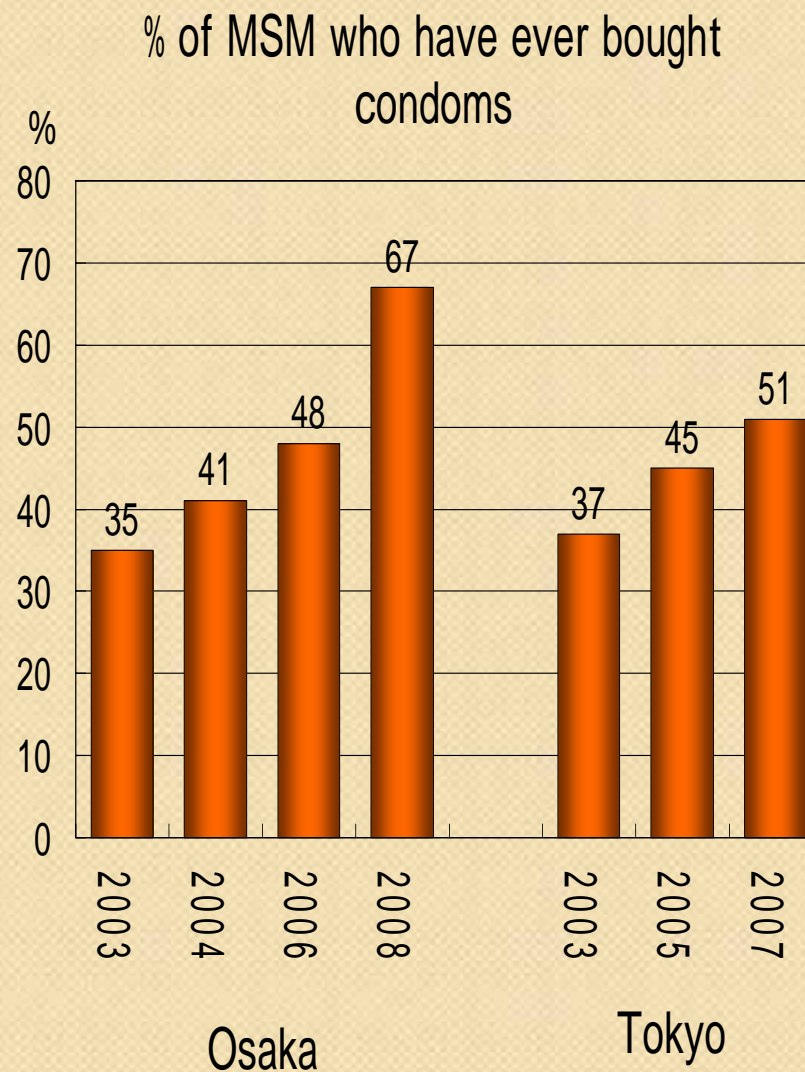
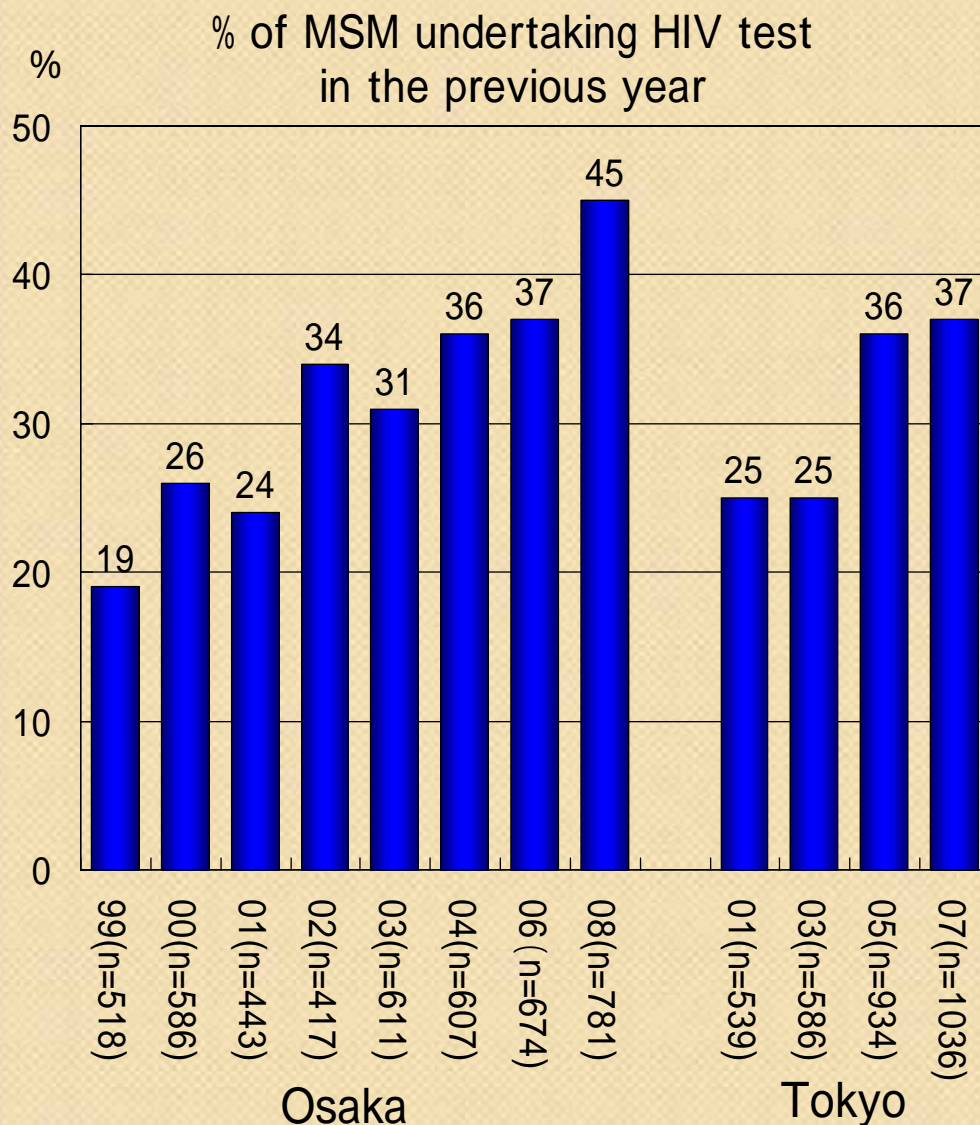


Condom use with Casual partner Club Survey (Osaka 1999-2008)

12% increase in MSM who use condoms every time they have sex with casual partners

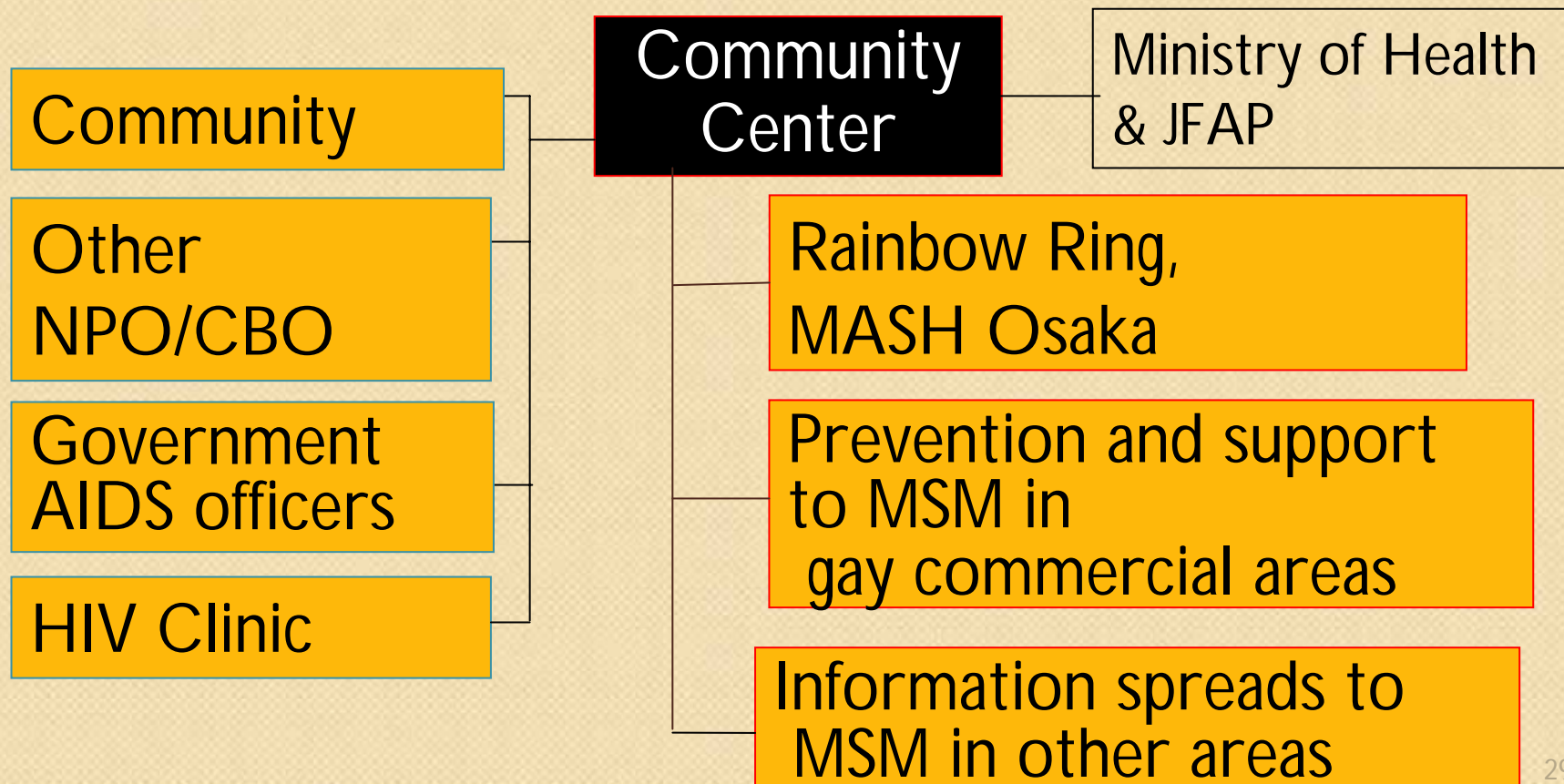


Increasing HIV testing and condom purchasing among MSM in Osaka & Tokyo (Club survey)



Gay Community Centers: From 2003

Linking and facilitating HIV prevention and support activities



Gay Community Centers: Tokyo, Osaka, Nagoya, Fukuoka, Sendai and Okinawa

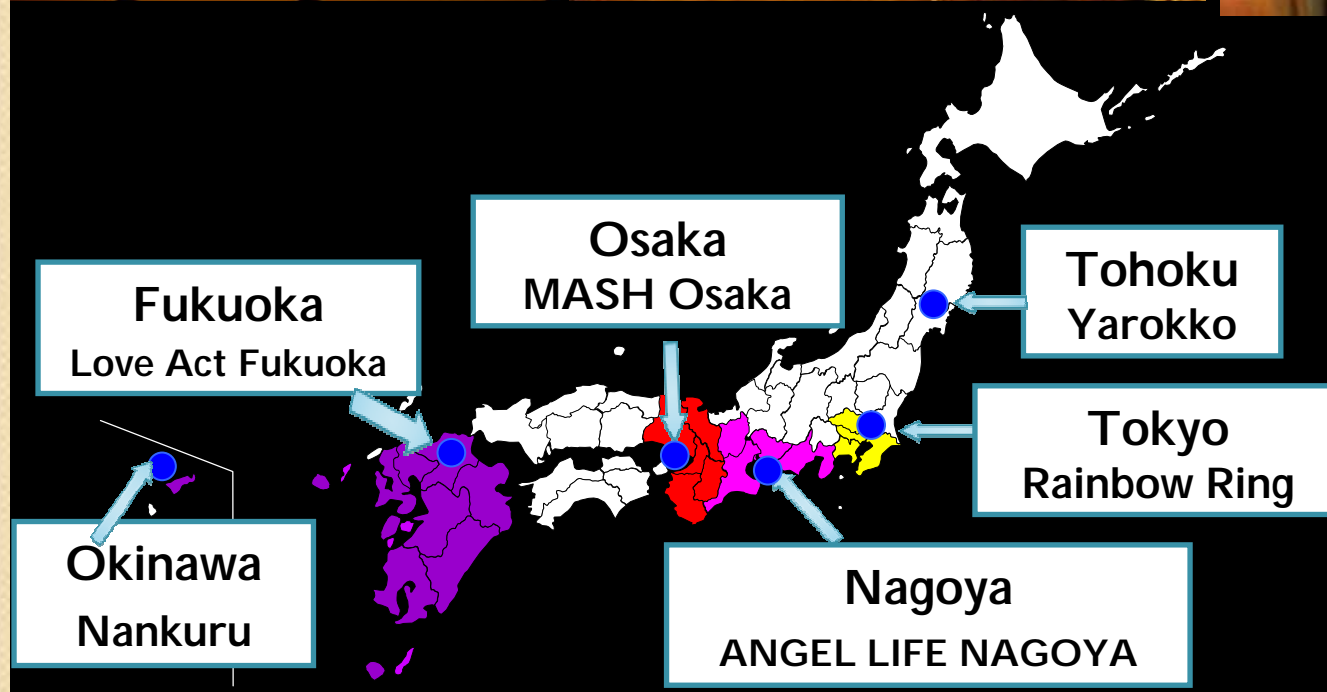
haco (Fukuoka)



dista (Osaka)



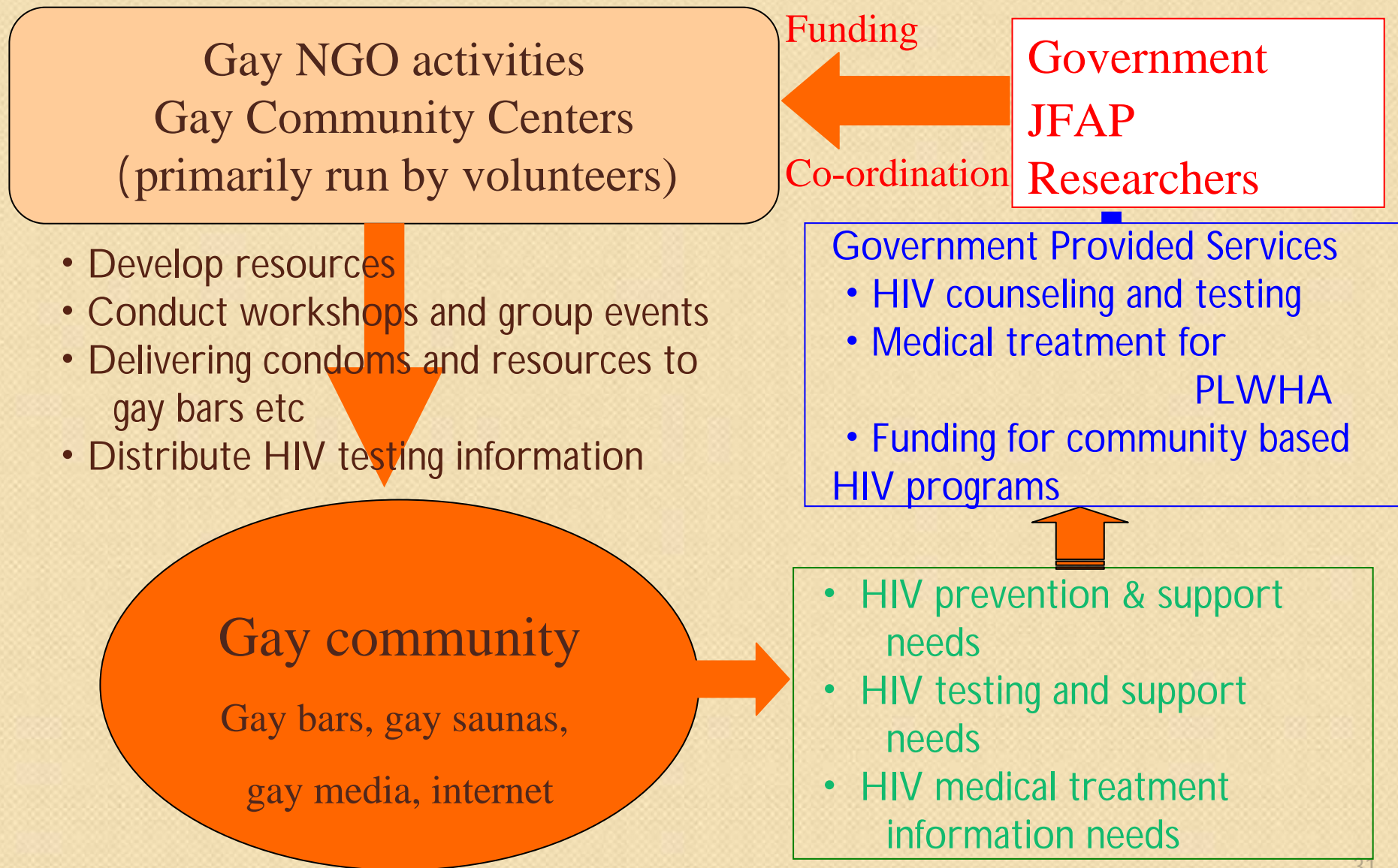
akta (Tokyo)



Rise (Nagoya)



The response to HIV among MSM in Japan



In conclusion:

- It is important to continue to build on the partnership and co-operative approach with gay communities
- Funding is needed for staff to run gay community centers and conduct HIV prevention and support activities for MSM
- MSM Prevention and support activities need to be expanded to smaller cities and local areas
- Anti discrimination legislation and increased support from local government are needed.
- Empowerment of the gay community is needed so that more community members become involved leading to sustainability of NGO activities.
- Research needed on the barriers to individual and community prevention, program evaluation.