COVID-19 infection among people with HIV in New York City: A population-level analysis of linked surveillance data

Sarah L. Braunstein¹, Rachael Lazar¹, Amanda Wahnich¹, Demetre C. Daskalakis², Oni J. Blackstock¹

1. Bureau of HIV, New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, NY
2. Division of Disease Control, New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, NY

Corresponding author:
Sarah L. Braunstein, PhD MPH
HIV Epidemiology Program
NYC DOHMH
42-09 28th Street, WS 22-44
Long Island City, NY 11101
347-396-7760
sbraunstein@health.nyc.gov

Summary: New Yorkers with HIV comprised 1.2% of COVID-19 cases in New York City through 6/2/2020. Population-level analysis found that people with HIV (PWH) differ demographically and had a higher frequency of poor COVID-19-related outcomes than HIV-negative New Yorkers with COVID-19.
Abstract

Background: New York City (NYC) was hard-hit by the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic and is also home to a large population of people with HIV (PWH).

Methods: We matched lab-confirmed COVID-19 case and death data reported to the NYC Health Department as of June 2, 2020, against the NYC HIV surveillance registry. We describe and compare the characteristics and COVID-19-related outcomes of PWH diagnosed with COVID-19 with all NYC PWH and with all New Yorkers diagnosed with COVID-19.

Results: Through June 2, 204,583 NYC COVID-19 cases were reported. The registry match identified 2,410 PWH with diagnosed COVID-19 eligible for analysis (1.06% of all COVID-19 cases). Compared with all NYC PWH and all New Yorkers diagnosed with COVID-19, a higher proportion of PWH with COVID-19 were older, male, Black or Latino, and living in high-poverty neighborhoods. At least one underlying condition was reported for 58.9% of PWH with COVID-19. Compared with all NYC COVID-19 cases, a higher proportion of PWH with COVID-19 experienced hospitalization, intensive care unit admission and/or death; most PWH who experienced poor COVID-19-related outcomes had CD4 <500 cells/µL.

Conclusions: Given NYC HIV prevalence is 1.5%, PWH were not overrepresented among COVID-19 cases. However, compared with NYC COVID-19 cases overall, a greater proportion of PWH had adverse COVID-19-related outcomes, perhaps because of a higher prevalence of factors associated with poor COVID-19 outcomes. Given the pandemic’s exacerbating effects on health inequities, HIV public health and clinical communities must strengthen services and support for people living with and affected by HIV.

Keywords: SARS-CoV-2; COVID-19; HIV; surveillance
Introduction

Early in the HIV epidemic in the United States (US), New York City (NYC) was the epicenter of HIV and while the US epicenter has shifted geographically since the beginning of the epidemic, NYC remains home to an estimated 92,000 people living with HIV (PWH) in 2018[1], representing 9% of the one million PWH nationally[2]. As the novel SARS-CoV-2 pandemic hit the US, NYC became the early epicenter. Through July 8, 2020, 214,570 New Yorkers were diagnosed with COVID-19 infection and 23,224 deaths were attributed to COVID-19[3].

Given that HIV can compromise the immune system and that a rapidly growing number of people are being diagnosed with COVID-19, there is concern about whether PWH could be at higher risk for SARS-CoV-2 infection, and that, compared with people without HIV, PWH could experience worse COVID-19-related clinical outcomes. Older age and coexisting chronic medical conditions, including those that affect the immune system such as diabetes mellitus, have been identified as potential risk factors for poor clinical outcomes after diagnosis with SARS-CoV-2 infection[4-6]. PWH are aging and older compared to the general population, and medical comorbidities are common among PWH[7-9]. However, the intersection between HIV and COVID-19 has not yet been described at the population level. Such an analysis would be critical for several reasons. First, it would enable a comprehensive characterization of the socio-demographic characteristics and clinical outcomes of people with HIV who acquire SARS-CoV-2. Second, such a study would inform additional analyses to quantify the risk for COVID-19 among PWH, particularly in geographic areas and communities hard-hit by both conditions. Third, it would identify differences in COVID-19 clinical outcomes for people with and without diagnosed HIV infection. These reasons are even more compelling given the disproportionate impact of both HIV and COVID-19 on Black and Latino communities. Here we present results of a descriptive, population-level analysis of linked data from the NYC HIV surveillance and COVID-19 surveillance systems.

Methods

Data sources

Data sources for this analysis included the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene’s (DOHMH) HIV surveillance registry and the NYC DOHMH COVID-19 surveillance system. DOHMH is authorized by state and local law to collect clinical and laboratory information for the HIV and COVID-19 surveillance systems for public health surveillance. Individual patient confidentiality for people whose information is maintained in the registries is protected by state and local public health law.

The HIV registry (eHARS) contains records for people diagnosed with HIV in NYC and reported to DOHMH. The registry contains information on all people diagnosed and reported with HIV infection (since 2000) or AIDS (since 1981) in NYC. Providers are required to report all new diagnoses of HIV and AIDS, and laboratories are required to report all positive HIV diagnostic test algorithms, qualitative and quantitative viral load test results (including those that are undetectable), CD4 test results, and the nucleotide sequence generated during HIV genotypic resistance testing ordered by NYC providers or for NYC residents. The registry receives >1 million laboratory reports per year for people living with diagnosed HIV and receiving HIV care in NYC. Surveillance staff verify all new HIV/AIDS diagnoses and collect sociodemographic and HIV-related clinical information for confirmed cases through medical chart review. Sociodemographic information in the registry includes age, sex at birth, race/ethnicity, and residential address, which are derived from patients’ medical charts (recorded by the provider and/or collected from the patient directly) and laboratory test results. We use a measure of area-based poverty in this analysis, which is based on NYC ZIP code of residence and defined as the percentage of the population in a ZIP code whose household income is below the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). Categories include low poverty (<10% below FPL), medium poverty (10 to <20% below FPL), high poverty (20 to <30% below FPL), and very high poverty (≥30% below FPL).
Since March 2020, results of molecular-based diagnostic testing for SARS-CoV-2 have been reportable to DOHMH for purposes of citywide surveillance for SARS-CoV-2 infection. For this analysis, only “confirmed cases,” defined as individuals with a positive polymerase chain reaction test for SARS-CoV-2, were included. Laboratory test result data are received via electronic reporting by testing laboratories. Laboratory tests include basic patient identifying and demographic information; supplemental demographic (e.g., sex at birth, race/ethnicity) and clinical information, including hospitalization history, is extracted, when available, from multiple sources, including patients’ medical records, patient interviews, death certificates, and from matches with other disease surveillance registries maintained by DOHMH. Information on previously diagnosed underlying conditions among people with diagnosed SARS-CoV-2 infection is also captured in the COVID-19 surveillance system when available, including asthma, cancer, diabetes, hepatic disease, heart disease, hypertension, immunodeficiency, kidney disease, lung disease, and other underlying conditions.

Several outcomes are captured in the COVID-19 surveillance dataset, including hospitalization, admission to an intensive care unit (ICU) and death. For this analysis, hospitalizations were those that occurred after an individual’s COVID-19 diagnosis date for any reason, ICU admissions were included if an individual had been admitted to an intensive care unit following hospitalization after COVID-19 diagnosis. Information on deaths attributed to SARS-CoV-2 infection is collected through routine linkage with mortality data from DOHMH’s Office of Vital Statistics for “confirmed” COVID-19 deaths—those for people with a positive molecular-based diagnostic test for SARS-CoV-2—and through supplemental medical chart review for “probable” COVID-19 deaths—those for people with COVID-19 as a primary or contributing cause of death on their death certificate, but without SARS-CoV-2 positive molecular-based diagnosis test results. This analysis included only “confirmed” COVID-19 deaths.

Registry matching methods
COVID-19 case and death data reported to DOHMH as of June 2, 2020, were matched to eHARS HIV registry data on June 19, 2020, and July 2, 2020, respectively. We used a standard 36-key deterministic algorithm for matching against the HIV registry, as previously described elsewhere[10]. Briefly, records that matched exactly on full first and last name and date of birth and those matching on keys 1-7 were accepted as a confirmed match. Records that matched on keys 8-36 (“fuzzy matches”) were manually reviewed by two reviewers, with a third as a tiebreaker when needed, to make a final match determination. Surveillance staff involved in the manual match review process were highly experienced and trained.

Analysis
We used linked data along with additional data from the HIV registry (case and demographic data reported as of March 30, 2020, and HIV-related laboratory data reported as of July 8, 2020) to calculate the prevalence of HIV among people with confirmed COVID-19 and describe characteristics and COVID-19-related outcomes of PWH who were diagnosed with COVID-19. The analytic populations were restricted to people diagnosed with HIV and with a last known address in NYC as of December 31, 2019, and to people diagnosed with COVID-19 residing in NYC at the time of report with SARS-CoV-2 infection. The prevalence of HIV among COVID-19 cases was age-adjusted to the New York City population. All demographic and HIV-related variables for PWH with and without diagnosed COVID-19 were taken from the HIV registry. Demographic data for NYC COVID-19 cases and information on underlying conditions for all groups were taken from the COVID-19 surveillance system.
Results

Among a total of 204,583 COVID-19 cases reported to DOHMH as of June 2, 2020, we identified 2,447 people with diagnosed HIV reported to the HIV surveillance registry. After removing PWH whose current residence was outside NYC or unknown and duplicate records, a total of 2,410 PWH with diagnosed COVID-19 infection were eligible for the analysis. The comparison populations were all NYC PWH excluding those diagnosed with COVID-19 infection (N=113,907) and all NYC residents with diagnosed COVID-19 infection and without diagnosed HIV infection (N=202,012). The age-adjusted prevalence of diagnosed HIV among confirmed NYC COVID-19 cases was 1.06%. There was no apparent difference in the timing with which COVID-19 diagnoses were made among PWH compared with people without diagnosed HIV infection in NYC (Figure 1).

Nearly three-quarters of PWH with and without diagnosed COVID-19 were assigned male sex at birth compared with just over half of all NYC COVID-19 cases (Table 1). PWH with and without diagnosed COVID-19 were generally older than NYC COVID-19 cases overall, with, for example 56.1% and 53.5% of PWH with and without COVID-19, respectively, ages 45-64 years versus 36.1% of all NYC COVID-19 cases; notably, however, a higher proportion of all NYC COVID-19 cases were in the oldest age group of ≥75 years (11.8%) compared with PWH with COVID-19 (5.2%). Among individuals with known race/ethnicity across all three groups, Black and Latino/Hispanic individuals were overrepresented. This disparity was pronounced among PWH with COVID-19, with 86.1% of PWH with COVID-19 identified as Black or Latino/Hispanic compared with 78.6% of PWH without COVID-19 and 62.5% of all NYC COVID-19 cases; including cases with unknown race/ethnicity, 33.1% of all NYC COVID-19 cases were Black or Latino/Hispanic. The distribution of NYC borough of residence also varied across the groups: a higher proportion of PWH with and without COVID-19 were residents of the Bronx and Manhattan compared with all NYC COVID-19 cases, and a lower proportion of PWH with and without COVID-19 were residents of Queens compared with all NYC COVID-19 cases. PWH with COVID-19 were more likely to be living in areas with high and very high-poverty levels (56.9%), compared with 51.4% of PWH without COVID-19 and 39.9% of all NYC COVID-19 cases.

Most PWH with and without diagnosed COVID-19 had male-to-male sexual contact (MSM), heterosexual contact or a history of injection drug use (IDU) as their documented HIV transmission risk prior to HIV diagnosis. Compared to PWH without COVID-19, a lower proportion of PWH with COVID-19 were MSM (33.9% vs. 41.4%) and a higher proportion had a history of IDU (15.1% vs. 11.5%). In both groups of PWH, the majority (61.4% and 63.8%, respectively) had been diagnosed with HIV in the year 2000 or after.

Compared with all NYC COVID-19 cases, a substantially higher proportion of PWH with COVID-19 had documentation of at least one underlying condition (64.3% vs. 35.4%). The frequency of specific underlying conditions varied across the two groups, and the rankings of most common conditions differed somewhat. The most common specific underlying conditions among PWH with COVID-19 after the general “immunodeficiency” category were heart disease, diabetes mellitus, hepatic disease, hypertension, and lung disease. Excluding PWH with only immunodeficiency documented, which was likely documented due to HIV status, 58.9% of PWH with COVID-19 had at least one underlying condition reported. Among all NYC COVID-19 cases, the most common specific underlying conditions were diabetes, heart disease, hypertension, and lung disease.

Compared with all NYC COVID-19 cases, a higher proportion of PWH with COVID-19 experienced COVID-19-related hospitalization, admission to an ICU, and death during this period (Table 2). Forty-two percent of PWH with COVID-19 were hospitalized (vs. 26% of all cases), 5% were admitted to ICU (vs. 3% of all cases), and 13% died (vs. 8% of all cases) (Figure 2). Generally, compared with all NYC COVID-19 cases, PWH with COVID-19 who experienced these COVID-19 outcomes were more likely to be older, Black or Latino/Hispanic, and living in high-poverty NYC neighborhoods. Compared with their representation among all PWH with COVID-19, higher proportions of Bronx residents experienced hospitalization, ICU admission, and death, and lower proportions of Manhattan and Queens residents experienced ICU admission and death; lower
proportions of MSM experienced hospitalization, ICU admission, and death, while higher proportions of PWH with a history of IDU experienced hospitalization, ICU admission, and death. Compared with their proportions among all PWH with COVID-19, higher proportions of PWH who were hospitalized, admitted to ICU, and died had earlier HIV diagnoses (e.g., before 1990, or from 1991-1999); relatively small proportions of PWH diagnosed with HIV in the most recent decade (2010-2020) experienced these adverse COVID-19 outcomes (Table 2).

By HIV viral suppression status, the vast majority of PWH who were hospitalized, admitted to ICU and died were virally suppressed at last HIV viral load. By latest CD4+ cell count, among PWH with a history of hospitalization, most had ≥500 cells/µL; among those with history of ICU admission, most PWH had <200 cells/µL. The majority of PWH with COVID-19 with these outcomes had a history of AIDS diagnosis per the HIV surveillance registry. Finally, the majority of PWH who were hospitalized and especially those who experienced ICU admission or death due to COVID-19 had at least one underlying condition documented in the COVID-19 surveillance database (88.3%, 93.6% and 93.6%, respectively).

Discussion
Our population-level analysis of matched surveillance data on HIV and SARS-CoV-2 infection in NYC found that people with diagnosed HIV comprised 1.06% of all confirmed COVID-19 cases in the first 14 weeks of the City’s outbreak. Given that the overall prevalence of HIV in the NYC population was 1.5% in 2018[11], this finding suggests that, compared with people without HIV, PWH might not be disproportionately vulnerable to SARS-CoV-2 infection. However, despite this encouraging finding, our analysis demonstrated that, compared with all NYC COVID-19 cases, a higher proportion of NYC PWH with COVID-19 were hospitalized for COVID-19, admitted to the ICU and died due to COVID-19. This may not be due to HIV itself but to the fact that NYC PWH have characteristics in common with people who have been diagnosed with COVID-19 and had poor outcomes. Further analysis beyond this descriptive one is required to identify whether HIV infection is an independent risk factor for poor COVID-19-related outcomes. We also found that, compared with all NYC COVID-19 cases, a higher proportion of PWH with COVID-19 were male, older, and Black and Latino/Hispanic, which is reflective of NYC PWH overall. However, compared with PWH without COVID-19, PWH with COVID-19 were more likely to be Latino and less likely to be White, suggesting pronounced inequities among PWH with COVID-19. More PWH with COVID-19 lived in the Bronx, an NYC borough hit particularly hard by the NYC COVID-19 outbreak thus far.

Our study contributes to the limited published literature on the intersection of HIV and SARS-CoV-2 infection. The scientific community has conjectured that PWH may be especially vulnerable to poor outcomes after SARS-CoV-2 infection due to immunosuppression and/or the presence of other conditions—or, conversely, that PWH could potentially experience protection from the most serious sequelae of COVID-19 because of their history of immune response and/or because of the potential anti-SARS-CoV2 activity of HIV antiretroviral treatments[12]. In our study, we did find that PWH who experienced poor COVID-19-related outcomes, particularly those who had been admitted to ICU or died, had lower CD4 counts (majority had <500 cells/µL), and that PWH who had been diagnosed with HIV prior to the year 2000 were more heavily represented among those with poor COVID-19-related outcomes. Those with longer time since HIV diagnosis are more likely to be older and have other comorbid conditions which could put them at higher risk for poor COVID-19-related outcomes. We also found a high prevalence of other comorbidities among PWH with COVID-19, which has been identified in other cohorts[13,14]. We also saw high levels of HIV viral control in our population of PWH with COVID-19, which suggests high levels of antiretroviral coverage, and a relatively low proportion with very low CD4 cell counts. While we found that people with HIV and COVID-19 were more likely to have worse outcomes than COVID-19 cases overall, in a relatively small group of PWH hospitalized for COVID-19 infection in NYC, Sigel et al. found no difference in the frequency of poor outcomes, including mechanical ventilation and death, for hospitalized PWH and non-PWH [13]. Consistent with other studies, we found that PWH do not appear to be overrepresented among those who acquire SARS-CoV-2 infection, and in fact the
prevalence of HIV among NYC COVID-19 cases was slightly lower than NYC’s overall HIV prevalence. This analysis did not examine risk for COVID-19 infection and whether risk among PWH may be influenced by differences in their likelihood to self-quarantine, especially if immunosuppressed.

This study’s findings have important implications for the care of people living with HIV. We found that racial and ethnic inequities in the NYC COVID-19 pandemic overall are mirrored—and even more pronounced—among PWH with COVID-19. Efforts to eliminate racial/ethnic inequities among people living with HIV and for other individuals affected by HIV are central to achieving the goals of NYC DOHMH’s ending the HIV epidemic (EtE) strategy[15]. Given the exacerbating effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on health inequities, including among PWH, this is a critical time for the HIV public health and clinical community to strengthen services and support for people living with and affected by HIV to protect and accelerate progress made thus far toward the EtE strategy. More rigorous exploration of COVID-19 outcomes among PWH compared with people without HIV is needed to understand which factors—older age, higher prevalence of comorbidities and/or HIV itself—may be contributing to worse clinical outcomes. Additionally, the extent to which older age and accelerated aging related to HIV infection may contribute to these outcomes merits further investigation.

To our knowledge, this is among the largest population-level analyses to draw on data collected by surveillance systems for HIV and COVID-19, and its robustness and comprehensiveness are major strengths. Several limitations of the analysis are also noted. First, reporting lags in COVID-19 case and death data mean that very recently diagnosed individuals and deaths may have been missing from the June 2nd dataset. Second, SARS-CoV-2 testing availability was not consistent throughout the analytic period; early COVID-19 cases are presumed to be under-ascertained. However, SARS-CoV-2 infection among PWH may have been more likely to be detected given their connection to healthcare. Third, there are important gaps in data collection and availability for NYC COVID-19 cases given that DOHMH is not able to investigate all cases to collect ancillary data; instead COVID-19 laboratory test results are the primary data source and these data typically only contain limited personal information. Importantly, race/ethnicity is missing for 47% of cases in the COVID-19 surveillance dataset. We acknowledge the possibility that data are missing differentially for different race/ethnic groups depending on the data sources available (patient interview or electronic medical record if hospitalized (more complete), vs. laboratory test result only (less complete)). In addition, information on underlying conditions is likely incomplete since this information is captured from clinical data, hospital records, or patient interview when available; the fact that only 39% of PWH with COVID-19 had information indicating immunodeficiency despite confirmed HIV status via the registry match suggests potentially substantial under-ascertainment of coexisting conditions in this dataset. Differential ascertainment of comorbidities is possible if PWH are more likely to be diagnosed with comorbidities since most are in continuous medical care that routinely screens for a range of comorbidities. Lastly, as this is a population-level analysis, we do not have data about potential differences in clinical practices that may exist across NYC hospitals with respect to criteria for hospitalization and ICU admission for COVID-19.

Conclusion
This large-scale, combined analysis of NYC COVID-19 and HIV surveillance data should inform the public health response to COVID-19 and shape approaches to service delivery and programming for people with and at risk for HIV and COVID-19 in NYC, and potentially in other jurisdictions as applicable. Even if PWH are not overrepresented among NYC COVID-19 cases thus far, their experience as a community of racism and other forms of structural oppression, their frequent exposure to poverty, housing insecurity, and other adverse socioeconomic conditions, the high prevalence of comorbid conditions, and other challenges and vulnerabilities underscore the need to assess and respond to community needs during this time. Additional epidemiologic research on the intersection of HIV and COVID-19 is needed to inform the response, including to quantify risk for SARS-CoV-2 infection among PWH, and to identify risk factors associated with specific COVID-19-related outcomes among PWH.
NOTES

Acknowledgments

The authors acknowledge the many staff of the HIV Epidemiology Program within the Bureau of HIV and the Surveillance and Epidemiology branch within the COVID-19 Incident Command System at the NYC DOHMH who contributed to the collection, management and analysis of the HIV and COVID-19 surveillance data that were used for this work.

Funding

This work was supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (HIV surveillance) [1 U62PS924575-01-00].

None of the authors have any potential conflicts.
References

1. HIV Epidemiology Program. HIV Surveillance Annual Report, 2018. New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene: New York, NY. November 2019. Available at: https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/dires/hiv-surveillance-annualreport-2018.pdf. Accessed 8 October 2020.

2. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. HIV Surveillance Report, 2018 (Updated); vol. 31. Available at: http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/library/reports/hiv-surveillance.html. Published May 2020. Accessed 8 October 2020.

3. NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. COVID-19 Data. Available at: https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-data.page. Accessed 8 October 2020.

4. Yang J, Zheng Y, Gou X, et al. Prevalence of comorbidities and its effects in patients infected with SARS-CoV-2: a systematic review and meta-analysis. Int J Infect Dis, 2020 May 94: 91-95.

5. CDC Covid-19 Response Team, Preliminary Estimates of the Prevalence of Selected Underlying Health Conditions Among Patients with Coronavirus Disease 2019 – United States, February 12-March 28, 2020. MMWR, 2020; 69(13): 382-386.

6. Petrilli CM, Jones SA, Yang J, et al. Factors Associated with Hospital Admission and Critical Illness Among 5279 People With Coronavirus Disease 2019 in New York City: Prospective Cohort Study. BMJ, 2020 May 22; 369: m1966.

7. Balderson BH, Grothaus L, Harrison RG, McCoy K, Mahoney, Catz S. Chronic illness burden and quality of life in an aging HIV population. AIDS Care, 2013; 25(4): 451-458.

8. Guaraldi G, Orlando G, Zona S, et al. Premature Age-Related Comorbidities Among HIV-Infected Persons Compared with the General Population. Clin Infect Dis, 1 December 2011; 53(11): 1120-1126.

9. Schouten J, Wit FW, Stolte IG, et al, for the AGEhIV Cohort Study Group. Cross-sectional Comparison of the Prevalence of Age-Associated Comorbidities and Their Risk Factors Between HIV-Infected and Uninfected Individuals: The AGEhIV Cohort Study. Clin Infect Dis, 15 December 2014; 59(12): 1787-1797.

10. Drobnik A, Pinchoff J, Bushnell G, et al. Matching HIV, tuberculosis, viral hepatitis, and sexually transmitted diseases surveillance data, 2000-2010: identification of infectious disease syndemics in New York City. J Public Health Manag Pract, 2014 Sep-Oct; 20(5): 506-12.

11. HIV Epidemiology Program. New York City HIV/AIDS Annual Surveillance Statistics, 2018. New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene: New York, NY. December 2019. Available at: https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/ah/surveillance2018-table-all.pdf. Accessed 8 October 2020.

12. Cash-Goldwasser S, Kardooni S, Kachur SP, Cobb L, Bradford E, Shahpar C. Weekly COVID-19 Science Review June 27-July 3, 2020. Resolve to Save Lives. 2020 July 7. Available at: https://preventepidemics.org/coronavirus/weekly-science-review/. Accessed 8 October 2020.
13. Sigel K, Swartz T, Golden E, et al. Covid-19 and People with HIV Infection: Outcomes for Hospitalized Patients in New York City. Clin Infect Dis, 2020 Jun 28; ciaa880. doi: 10.1093/cid/ciaa880.

14. Meyerowitz EA, Kim AY, Ard KL, et al. Disproportionate burden of COVID-19 among racial minorities and those in congregate settings among a large cohort of people with HIV. AIDS, 2020 Jun 25. doi: 10.1097/QAD.0000000000002607.

15. NYC DOHMH. Ending the HIV Epidemic Strategy. Available at: https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/ah/ete-strategy.pdf. Accessed 8 October 2020.
# TABLES

Table 1. Intersection of HIV and COVID-19 in the New York City population: Demographic characteristics

|                         | NYC PWH with Diagnosed COVID-19 | NYC PWH without Diagnosed COVID-19 | New Yorkers with Diagnosed COVID-19, excluding PWH |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
|                         | N   | Col% | N   | Col% | N   | Col% |
| Total                   | 2,410 | 100 | 113,907 | 100 | 202,012 | 100 |
| Sex at birth            |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Male                    | 1,720 | 71.4 | 83,561 | 73.4 | 103,304 | 51.1 |
| Female                  | 690  | 28.6 | 30,346 | 26.6 | 98,588  | 48.8 |
| Unknown                 | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 120    | 0.1  |
| Age group (years)       |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| 0-17                    | 3    | 0.1  | 188  | 0.2  | 5,653  | 2.8  |
| 18-44                   | 557  | 23.1 | 35,947 | 31.6 | 74,505 | 36.9 |
| 45-64                   | 1,351 | 56.1 | 60,912 | 53.5 | 72,995 | 36.1 |
| 65-74                   | 374  | 15.5 | 13,562 | 11.9 | 24,945 | 12.4 |
| 75+                     | 125  | 5.2  | 3,298 | 2.9  | 23,914 | 11.8 |
| Race/Ethnicity¹         |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Black                   | 1,079 | 44.8 | 50,543 | 44.4 | 31,412 | 15.6 |
| Latino/Hispanic         | 995  | 41.3 | 38,724 | 34.0 | 35,370 | 17.5 |
| White                   | 270  | 11.2 | 20,900 | 18.4 | 30,734 | 15.2 |
| Asian/Pacific Islander  | 52   | 2.2  | 2,825  | 2.5  | 8,044  | 4.0  |
| Native American         | 6    | 0.3  | 264   | 0.2  | 193    | 0.1  |
| Multiracial             | 5    | 0.2  | 364   | 0.3  | 1,226  | 0.6  |
| Unknown                 | 3    | 0.1  | 287   | 0.3  | 95,033 | 47.0 |
| NYC borough of residence|      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Bronx                   | 815  | 33.8 | 30,518 | 26.8 | 45,343 | 22.5 |
| Brooklyn                | 571  | 23.7 | 30,071 | 26.4 | 56,060 | 27.8 |
| Manhattan               | 511  | 21.2 | 32,392 | 28.4 | 25,062 | 12.4 |
| Queens                  | 447  | 18.6 | 18,420 | 16.2 | 62,003 | 30.7 |
| Staten Island           | 66   | 2.7  | 2,506 | 2.2  | 13,544 | 6.7  |
| Area-based poverty level²|    |      |      |      |      |      |
| Low poverty (<10% below FPL) | 211  | 8.8  | 11,250 | 10.0 | 31,449 | 15.6 |
| Medium (10 to <20% below FPL) | 824  | 34.3 | 43,496 | 38.6 | 83,737 | 41.5 |
| High (20 to <30% below FPL) | 607  | 25.3 | 29,653 | 26.3 | 48,134 | 23.8 |
| Very high poverty (30%+ below FPL) | 760  | 31.6 | 28,216 | 25.1 | 32,457 | 16.1 |
| Area-based poverty level not available | 8    | 0.3  | 1,292 | 1.1  | 6,235  | 3.1  |
| HIV transmission risk³  |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Men who have sex with men (MSM) | 816  | 33.9 | 47,116 | 41.4 | Not applicable |
| Injection drug use history (IDU) | 364  | 15.1 | 13,110 | 11.5 |
| MSM-IDU                 | 74   | 3.1  | 2,837  | 2.5  |
| Heterosexual contact    | 552  | 22.9 | 22,744 | 20.0 |
Transgender people with sexual contact | 25 | 1.0 | 1,680 | 1.5
Perinatal | 14 | 0.6 | 2,312 | 2.0
Other/Unknown | 565 | 23.4 | 24,108 | 21.2

| Year of HIV diagnosis | 1990 or before | 1991-1999 | 2000-2009 | 2010-2020 | Not applicable |
|-----------------------|---------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| People | 219 | 712 | 970 | 509 | | |
| Percent | 9.1 | 29.5 | 40.3 | 21.1 | 27,389 | 24.1 |

At least one underlying condition

| Underlying condition | People | Percent |
|----------------------|--------|---------|
| Asthma | 111 | 4.6 |
| Cancer | 223 | 9.3 |
| Diabetes | 664 | 27.6 |
| Hepatic disease | 600 | 24.9 |
| Heart disease | 700 | 29.1 |
| Hypertension | 580 | 24.1 |
| Immunodeficiency | 950 | 39.4 |
| Kidney disease | 263 | 10.9 |
| Lung disease | 342 | 14.2 |
| Other condition | 472 | 19.6 |

PWH=People with HIV; FPL=Federal Poverty Level. All percentages are column percentages except for those for specific underlying conditions (see footnote 5).

Data sources include the NYC DOHMH HIV surveillance registry, with data as reported by March 31, 2020, and the NYC DOHMH COVID-19 surveillance system, with data as reported by June 2, 2020. All demographic and HIV-related variables for PWH with and without diagnosed COVID-19 are from the HIV surveillance registry; demographic data for NYC COVID-19 cases are from the COVID-19 surveillance system. Underlying condition data are from the COVID-19 surveillance system.\(^2\)\(^3\)

11 Standard race/ethnicity classification in the HIV surveillance registry (www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/ah/new_race_def_dec2010.pdf) was applied to this analysis for both PWH and NYC COVID-19 cases.

\(^2\) Area-based poverty level is based on NYC ZIP code of most recent residence. For PWH, residential ZIP code is based on most recent record available in the surveillance registry (most recent record is >5 years old for 27% of PLWH in 2019).

\(^3\) HIV transmission risk information is based on exposures reported prior to HIV diagnosis. "Heterosexual contact" includes people who had heterosexual sex with a person they know to be living with HIV, a person who has injected drugs or a person who has received blood products. For women only, also includes history of sex work, multiple sex partners, sexually transmitted disease, crack/cocaine use, sex with a bisexual man, probable heterosexual transmission as noted in a medical chart or sex with a man and negative history of injection drug use. "Transgender people with sexual contact" includes people identified as transgender at any time by self-report, a medical provider or chart review or ongoing data collection with sexual contact reported and negative history of injection drug use. "Other" includes people who received treatment for hemophilia, people who received a transfusion or transplant, people with other healthcare-associated transmission and children with non-perinatal transmission risk.

\(^4\) Data on underlying conditions come from the COVID-19 surveillance system, and reflect data available from medical records, interview, and registry matches. These data are recorded when available and are not complete for all people diagnosed with COVID-19. Information on individual conditions in the table is not mutually exclusive; multiple conditions can be collected for an individual. Percentages for specific conditions are for the number of people with each condition out of total PWH with COVID-19 (N=2,410) or total NYC COVID-19 cases (N=202,012). "Immunodeficiency" refers to immune suppression resulting from a range of conditions including HIV; because data on underlying conditions are incomplete, the proportion of PWH with "immunodeficiency" recorded is <100%.
Table 2. COVID-19-related Outcomes among People with HIV and COVID-19 in New York City

|                        | Hospitalized (ever) | Intensive Care Unit (ever) | Deceased' |
|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------|
|                        | N       | Col% | N       | Col% | N     | Col%  |
| Total                  | 1,011   | 42.0 | 124     | 5.2  | 312   | 13.0  |
| Sex at birth           |         |      |         |      |       |       |
| Male                   | 720     | 71.2 | 90      | 72.6 | 224   | 71.8  |
| Female                 | 291     | 28.8 | 34      | 27.4 | 88    | 28.2  |
| Age group (years)      |         |      |         |      |       |       |
| 0-17                   | 0       | 0    | 0       | 0    | 0     | 0     |
| 18-44                  | 121     | 12.0 | 14      | 11.3 | 18    | 5.8   |
| 45-64                  | 561     | 55.5 | 75      | 60.5 | 150   | 48.1  |
| 65-74                  | 230     | 22.8 | 27      | 21.8 | 88    | 28.2  |
| 75+                    | 99      | 9.8  | 8       | 6.5  | 56    | 18.0  |
| Race/Ethnicity         |         |      |         |      |       |       |
| Black                  | 504     | 49.9 | 53      | 42.7 | 153   | 49.0  |
| Latino/Hispanic        | 394     | 39.0 | 60      | 48.4 | 124   | 39.7  |
| White                  | 92      | 9.1  | 8       | 6.5  | 31    | 9.9   |
| Asian/Pacific Islander | 16      | 1.6  | 3       | 2.4  | 4     | 1.3   |
| Native American        | 3       | 0.3  | 0       | 0    | 0     | 0     |
| Multiracial            | 2       | 0.2  | 0       | 0    | 0     | 0     |
| Unknown                | 0       | 0    | 0       | 0    | 0     | 0     |
| Current NYC borough of residence |     |      |         |      |       |       |
| Bronx                  | 370     | 36.6 | 59      | 47.6 | 121   | 38.8  |
| Brooklyn               | 236     | 23.3 | 22      | 17.7 | 82    | 26.3  |
| Manhattan              | 218     | 21.6 | 20      | 16.1 | 64    | 20.5  |
| Queens                 | 164     | 16.2 | 21      | 16.9 | 36    | 11.5  |
| Staten Island          | 23      | 2.3  | 2       | 1.6  | 9     | 2.9   |
| Area-based poverty level |         |      |         |      |       |       |
| Low poverty (<10% below FPL) | 77   | 7.6  | 3       | 2.4  | 17    | 5.5   |
| Medium (10 to <20% below FPL) | 318 | 31.5 | 38      | 30.7 | 94    | 30.1  |
| High (20 to <30% below FPL) | 271 | 26.8 | 31      | 25.0 | 73    | 23.4  |
| Very high poverty (30%+ below FPL) | 344 | 34.1 | 52      | 41.9 | 128   | 41.0  |
| Poverty level not available | 1   | 0.1  | 0       | 0    | 0     | 0     |
| HIV transmission risk  |         |      |         |      |       |       |
| Men who have sex with men (MSM) | 262 | 25.9 | 32      | 25.8 | 79    | 25.3  |
| Injection drug use history (IDU) | 202 | 20.0 | 27      | 21.8 | 71    | 22.8  |
| MSM-IDU                | 37      | 3.7  | 7       | 5.7  | 7     | 2.2   |
| Heterosexual contact   | 238     | 23.5 | 21      | 17.0 | 70    | 22.4  |
| Transgender people with sexual contact | 12 | 1.2  | 2       | 1.6  | 1     | 0.3   |
| Perinatal              | 1       | 0.1  | 0       | 0    | 0     | 0     |
| Other/Unknown          | 259     | 25.6 | 35      | 28.2 | 84    | 26.9  |
| HIV diagnosis year     |         |      |         |      |       |       |
| 1990 or before         | 115     | 11.4 | 17      | 13.7 | 40    | 12.8  |
| 1991-1999              | 363     | 35.9 | 43      | 34.7 | 130   | 41.7  |
|                | 2000-2009 | 2010-2020 |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|
|                | 14        | 10         |
|                | 2000-2009 | 2010-2020 |
|                | 401       | 132        |
| 2000-2009      | 39.7      | 13.1       |
| 2010-2020      | 52        | 12         |
| 2000-2009      | 41.9      | 9.7        |
| 2010-2020      | 114       | 28         |
| 2000-2009      | 36.5      | 9.0        |

### Most recent HIV viral load

| Viral Load Range | Count (N) | Percent |
|-----------------|-----------|---------|
| <200 cc/mL      | 894       | 88.4    |
| 200-1499 cc/mL  | 38        | 3.8     |
| 1,500-9,999 cc/mL | 13   | 1.3     |
| 10,000-99,999 cc/mL | 32  | 3.2     |
| 100,000+ cc/mL  | 17        | 1.7     |
| No viral load reported | 17 | 1.7       |

### HIV virally suppressed at last viral load

|                  | Yes | No |
|------------------|-----|----|
| Count (N)        | 894 | 117|
| 2000-2009        | 88.4| 11.6|
| 2010-2020        | 11 | 9.9|

### Most recent CD4 cell count

| CD4 Cell Count | Count (N) | Percent |
|----------------|-----------|---------|
| <200 cells/µL  | 237       | 23.4    |
| 200-349 cells/µL | 211 | 20.9     |
| 350-499 cells/µL | 187 | 18.5     |
| 500+ cells/µL   | 358       | 35.4    |
| No CD4 reported | 18        | 1.8     |

### History of AIDS diagnosis

|                  | Yes | No |
|------------------|-----|----|
| Count (N)        | 742 | 269|
| 2000-2009        | 73.4| 26.6|
| 2010-2020        | 94  | 30 |
| 2000-2009        | 75.8| 4.2|
| 2010-2020        | 749 | 63 |
| 2000-2009        | 79.8| 20.2|

### At least one underlying condition

|                  | Yes | No |
|------------------|-----|----|
| Count (N)        | 893 | 118|
| 2000-2009        | 88.8| 11.7|
| 2010-2020        | 116 | 8   |
| 2000-2009        | 93.6| 6.4|
| 2010-2020        | 292 | 20 |
| 2000-2009        | 93.6| 6.4|

PWH=People with HIV; FPL=Federal Poverty Level. Percentages are row percentages for total, column percentages elsewhere.

See Table 1 footnotes for information on demographic variables.

1Deaths include “confirmed” COVID-19 deaths (those for people with positive COVID-19 diagnostic tests) only.

1Laboratory data on viral load and CD4 count are reported as of July 9, 2020.
Figure legend

Figure 1. Epidemic curve of confirmed COVID-19 cases by date of diagnosis, citywide and among people with HIV, March 1-June 2, 2020, New York City

Figure 2. COVID-19-related outcomes among people with HIV and COVID-19 in New York City
Figure 1. Epidemic curve of confirmed COVID-19 cases by date of diagnosis, citywide and among people with HIV, March 1-June 2, 2020, New York City.
Figure 2. COVID-19-related outcomes among people with HIV and COVID-19 in New York City

| Outcome          | All NYC COVID-19 cases | PWH with COVID-19 |
|------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| Hospitalized (ever) | 26%                    | 42%               |
| ICU (ever)       | 3%                     | 5%                |
| Deceased         | 8%                     | 13%               |

*Deaths shown here are "confirmed" COVID-19 deaths (those among people with positive molecular-based diagnostic test for SARS-CoV-2).

PWH: People with HIV

Data source: match of NYC COVID-19 surveillance data reported as of June 2, 2020, against the NYC HIV surveillance registry.