

15° CONGRESSO NAZIONALE



**Italian Conference on AIDS**  
and **Antiviral Research**

Presidenza del Congresso:

F. Ceccherini Silberstein, M. Formisano, S. Lo Caputo, A. Saracino

**BARI** 14-16 GIUGNO 2023



Promosso da  
**SIMIT**  
Società Italiana  
di Malattie Infettive  
e Tropicali

From prevention to cure: ready for new challenges

**Knowledge reduces stigma and generates awareness.**  
The experience of the #cHIVuoleconoscere project in Bergamo

Ilaria Mercurio

*Cooperativa Don Giuseppe Monticelli*

# Disclosures

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Cooperativa Don Giuseppe Monticelli has received funds in support of projects (#cHIVuoleconoscere-Test&Go and Bergamo leaves no-one behind) from Gilead Sciences.

Bergamo fast-track City has received funds in support of the project FriendlyTest from Gilead Sciences, ViiV Healthcare.



# #cHIVuoleconoscere

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Don Giuseppe Monticelli Società Cooperativa Sociale from 2019 promotes in the high schools of Bergamo and its Province the project #cHIVuoleconoscere and is part of Bergamo Fast Track City.



**Goal:** Inform students about HIV/AIDS

1. scientifically (what, how it is transmitted and can be prevented)
2. relational (which reasons make communicating the positivity status difficult)
3. socio-cultural (as the theme of HIV has evolved and presented over the years).



# Value Method

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## Value Method

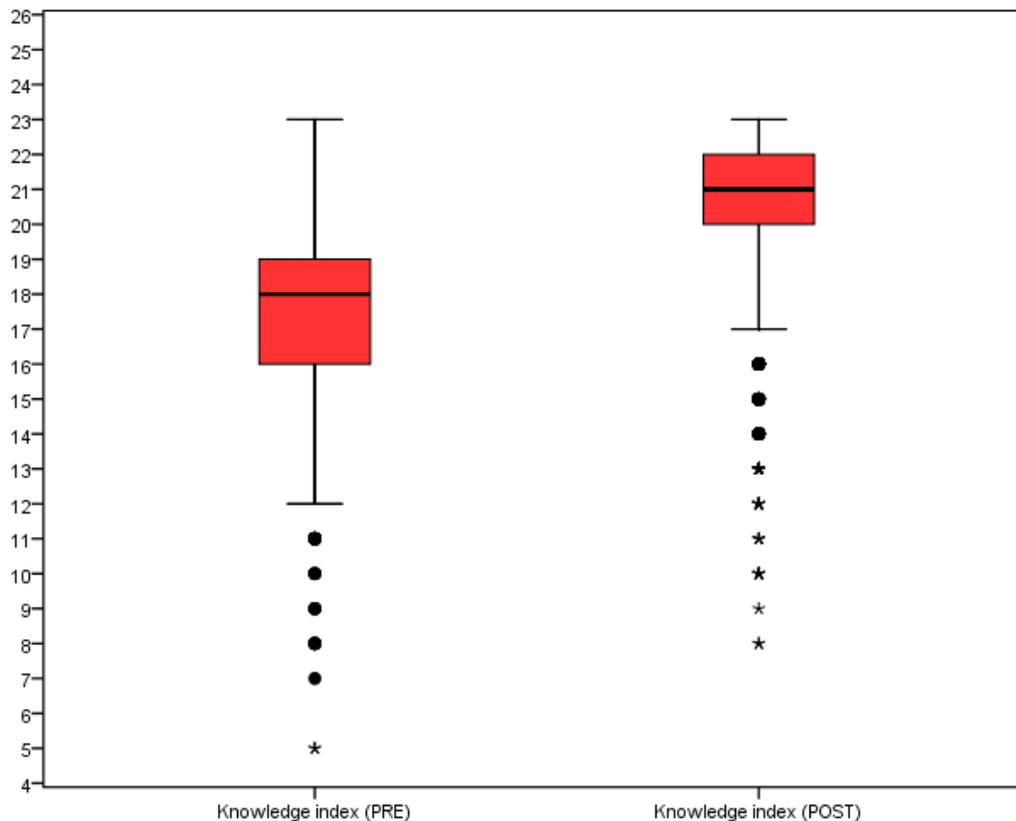
1. The results of a pre- and post-intervention questionnaire are compared
2. The access to the test during specific events at school

## Goal

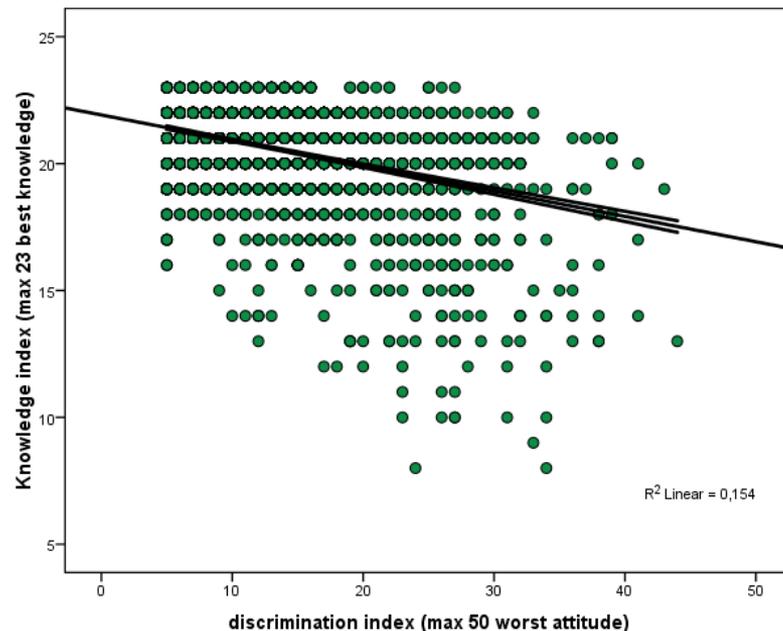
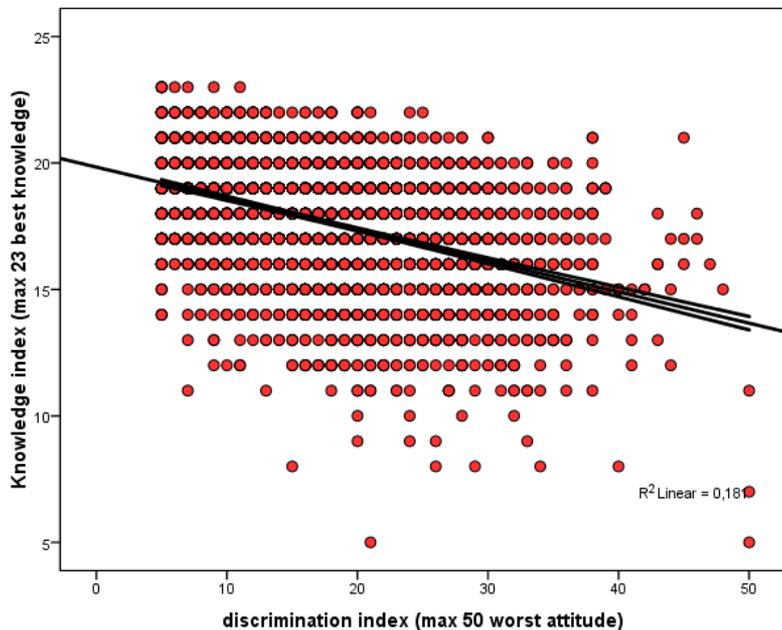
1. Verify the increased of knowledge post intervention
2. Verify the change perception about HIV reducing preconceptions towards PLWHIV post intervention
3. Verify how a better knowledge allow a better awareness about sexual health
4. Verify if awareness generates taking care of health doing test



# Change of Knowledge pre and post interventions



# Better Knowledge generates Awareness



# The awareness to bring up the health

School year 2021/2022

#cHIVuoleconoscere 2.0

2 events at school (Istituto Caterina Caniana and Liceo Don Lorenzo Milani

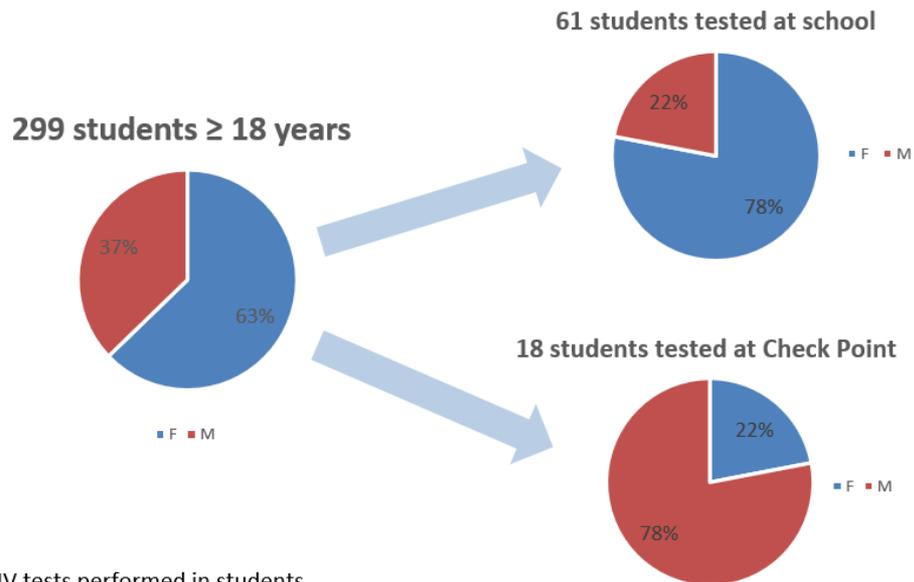
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3 appointments at University of Bergamo

## 299 people tested for HIV, HCV and Syphilis



# Testing Young People



# Conclusion

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1. Better knowledge → people take care of their own health
2. Increased awareness → positive impact on the stigma towards people living with HIV, reducing fear and judgment.
3. Possibility to do the test → take care of sexual health in a more comprehensive and active way



# What we want to do

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- Focus on youth people → #cHIVuoleconoscere-Test&Go 2022/2023

## **#cHIVuoleconoscere - Test&Go**

- Focus on target population → Bergamo Leaves No One Behind



- Focus on general population → Bergamo Check Point

