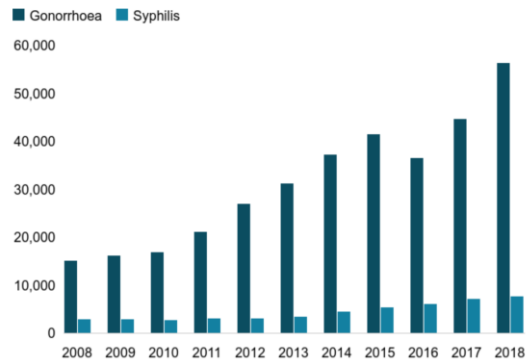# Online sexual health testing – saint or sinner?
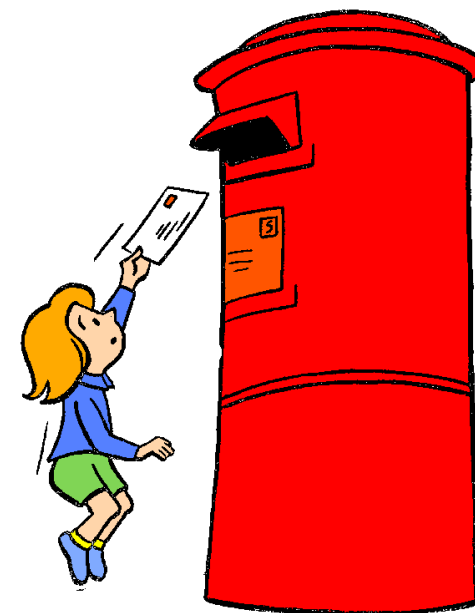
BENJAMIN MORAN- SOUTHAMPTON

Sexually transmitted infections in England — New diagnoses 2008-18
Source: Public Health England

Background

"You're suffering from a terrible postcode."

Concerns with Access

Aims

- to see if the introduction of Online Testing has not compromised access for those asymptomatic patients that are most in need.
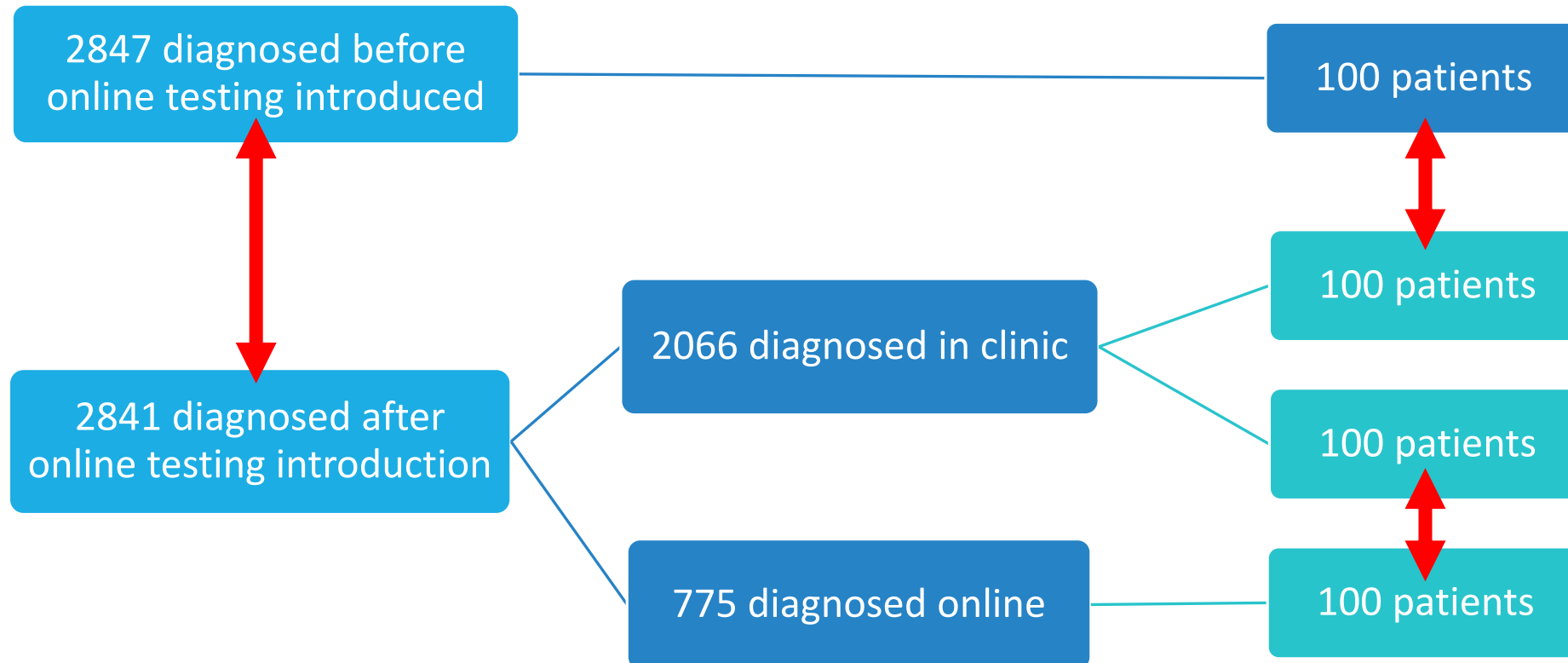
- Done by analyzing:

Demographics	and	Case Management

Sample

What did we look at?

The following factors were of particular interest in the results:
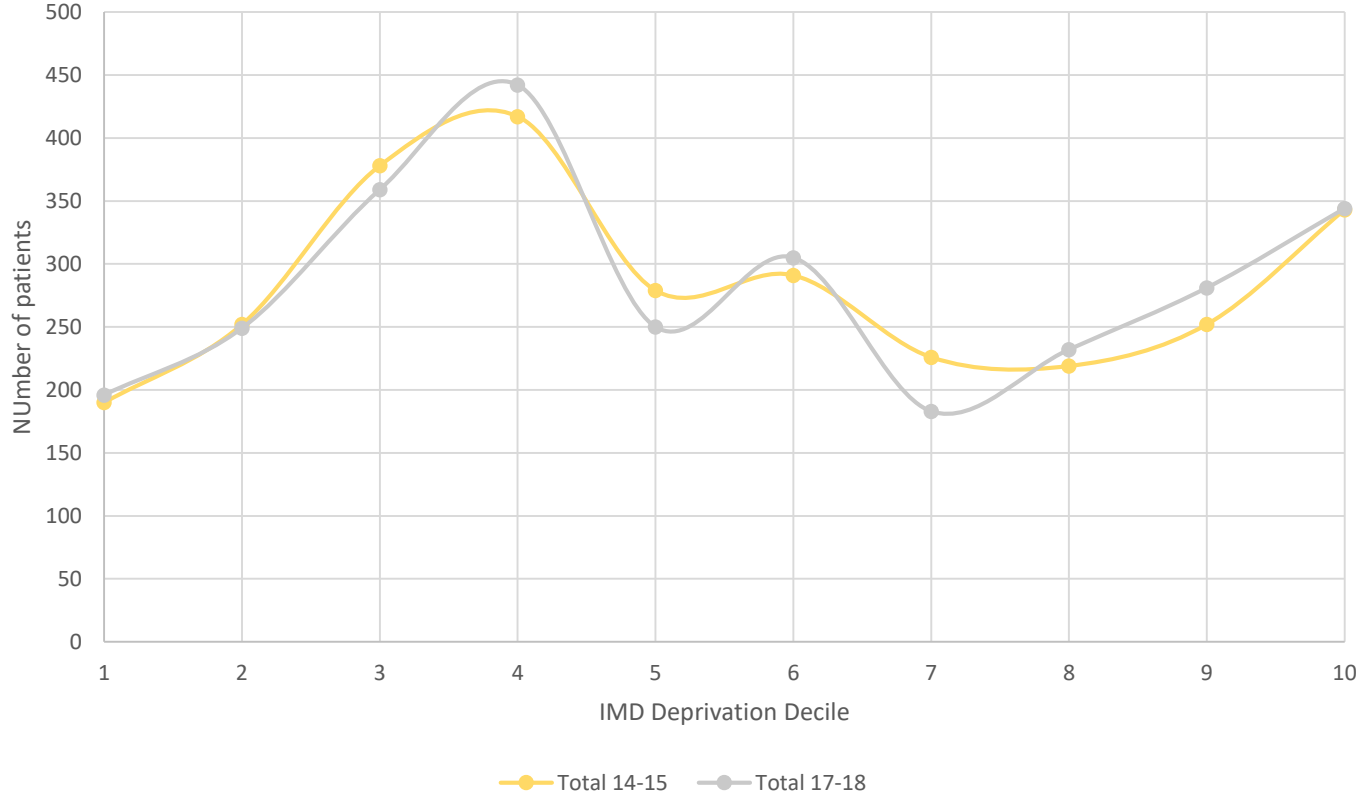
1. Demographics
   1. Deprivation
   2. Age
   3. Gender
   4. Sexual Orientation
   5. Ethnicity

2. Case Management
   1. Duration between time of test and treatment
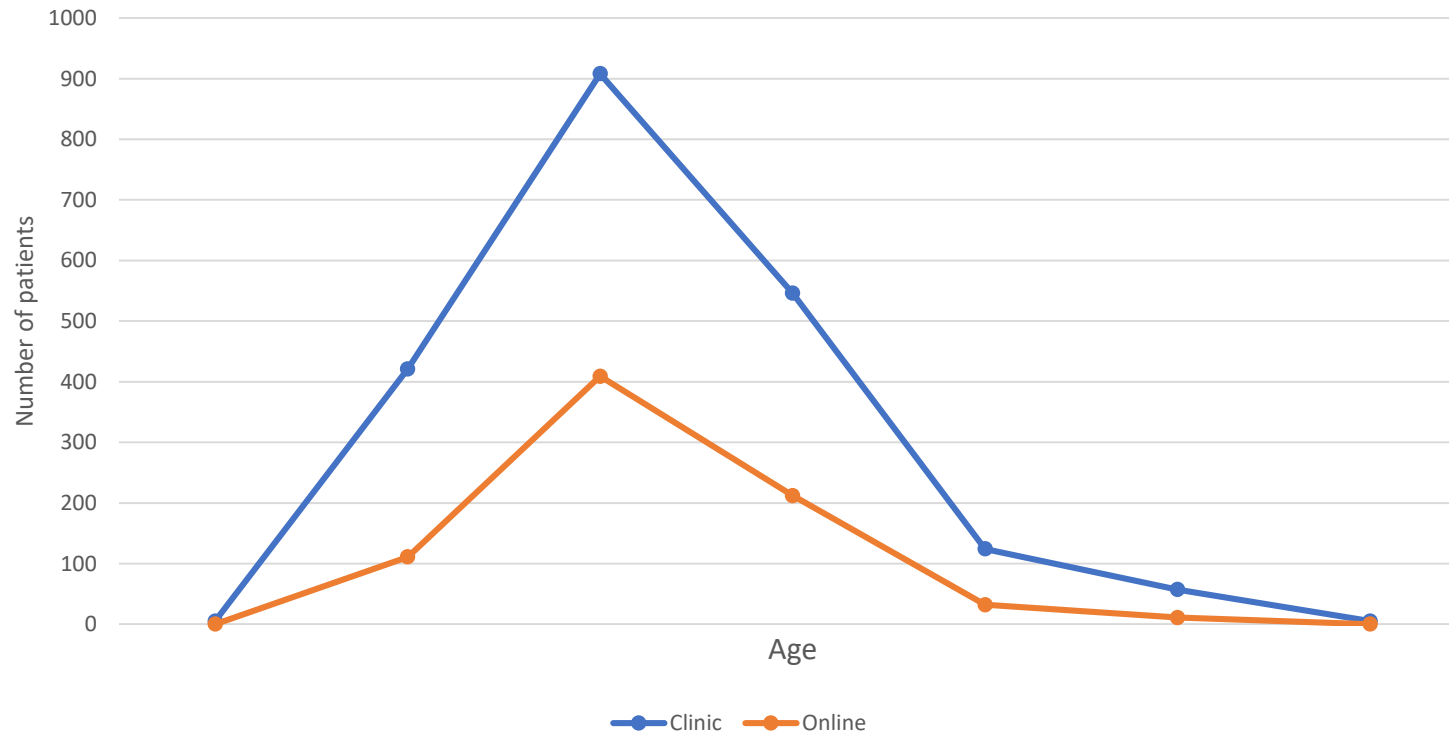   2. Was Retreatment required?

Deprivation in patients before and after online testing

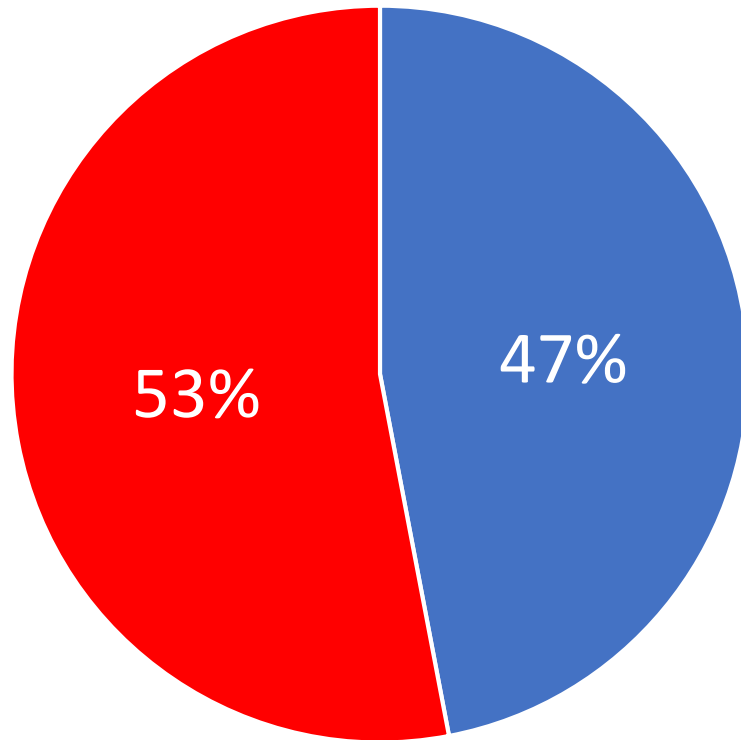Trend in patient deprivation index has **NOT** changed

Age of patients diagnosed after online testing

Trend in patient age is **NOT** different

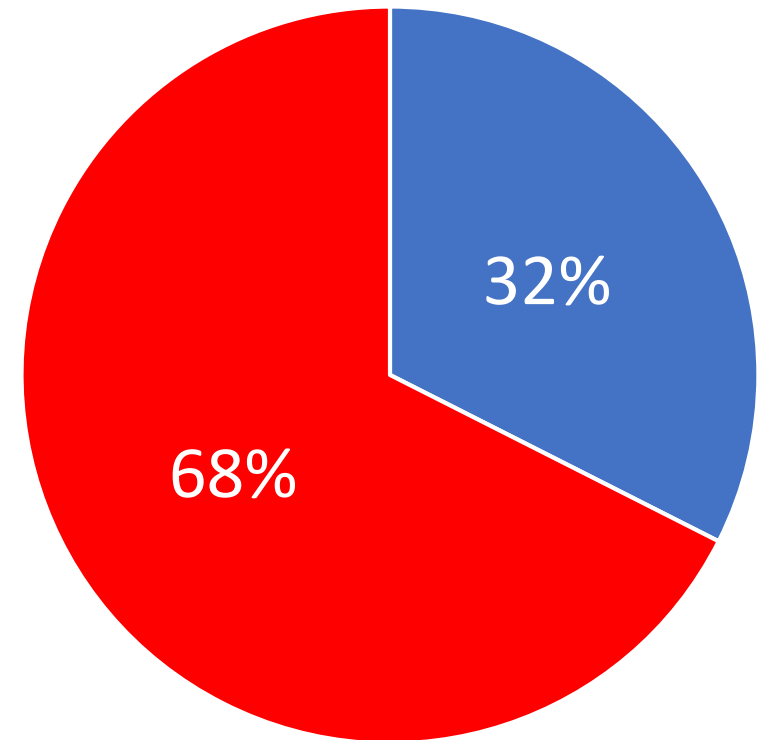# Gender of patients diagnosed after online testing introduction

Clinic

Online

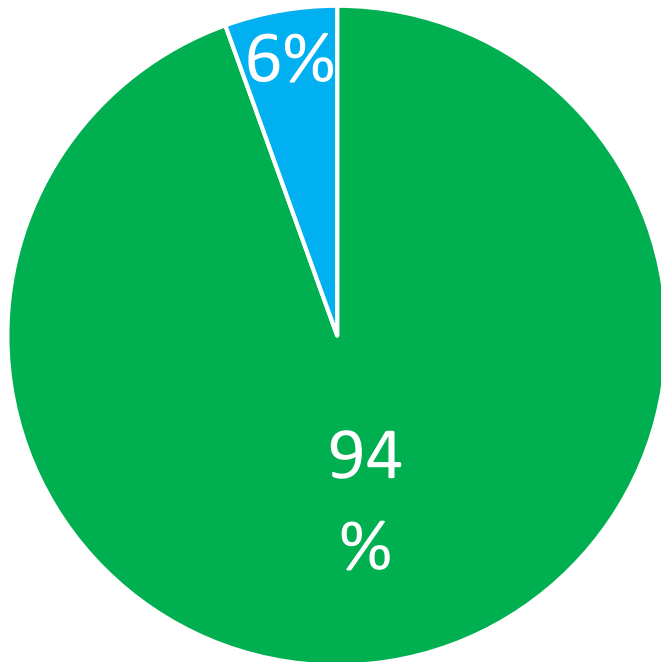Larger proportion of patients using online are **FEMALE**

47%

53%

32%

68%

■ Male ■ Female

■ Male ■ Female

Sexual Orientation of patients diagnosed after online testing introduction

Clinic

Larger proportion of patients using online are **NON-HETEROSEXUAL**

Online

6%

94%

12%

88%
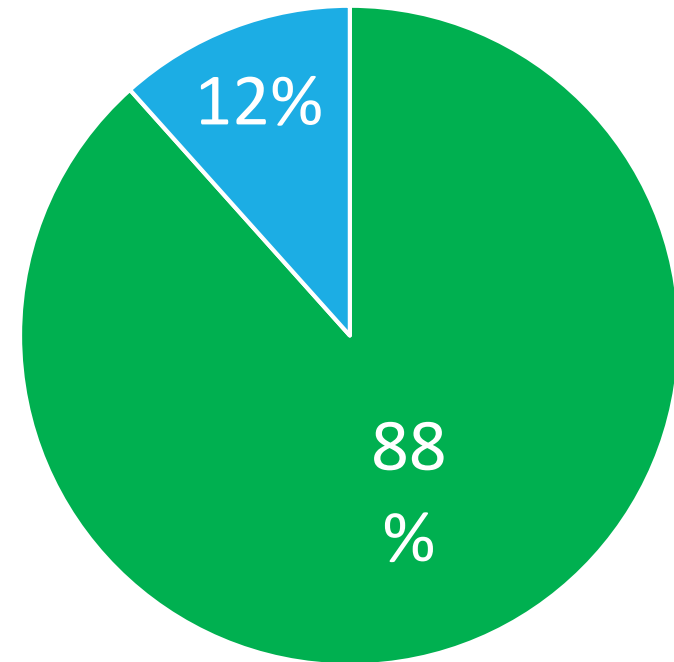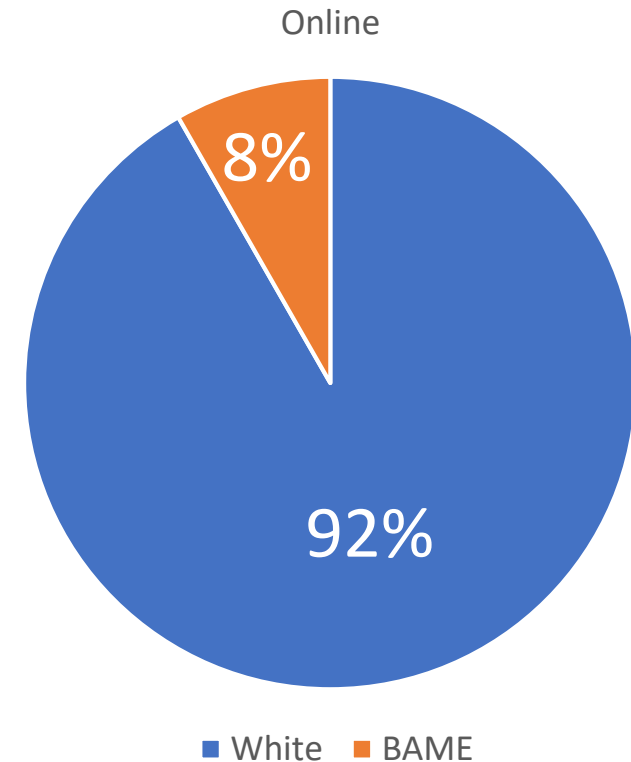
- Hetero
- Non-hetero

- Hetero
- Non-hetero

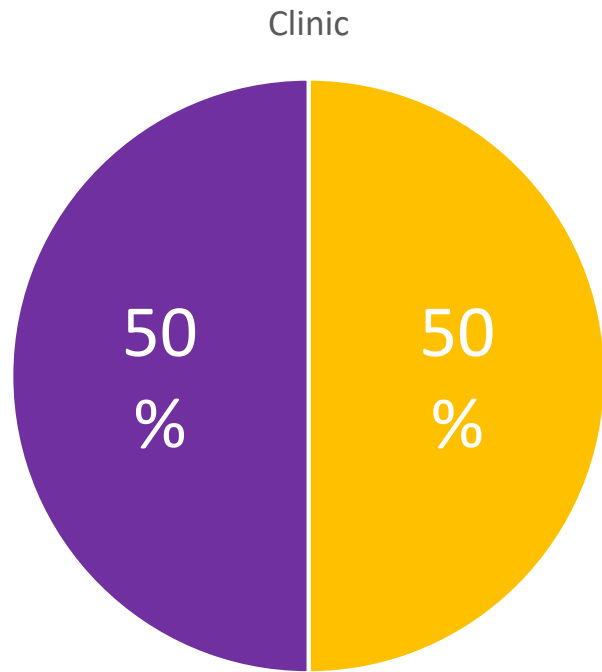# Ethnicity of patients diagnosed after online testing introduction
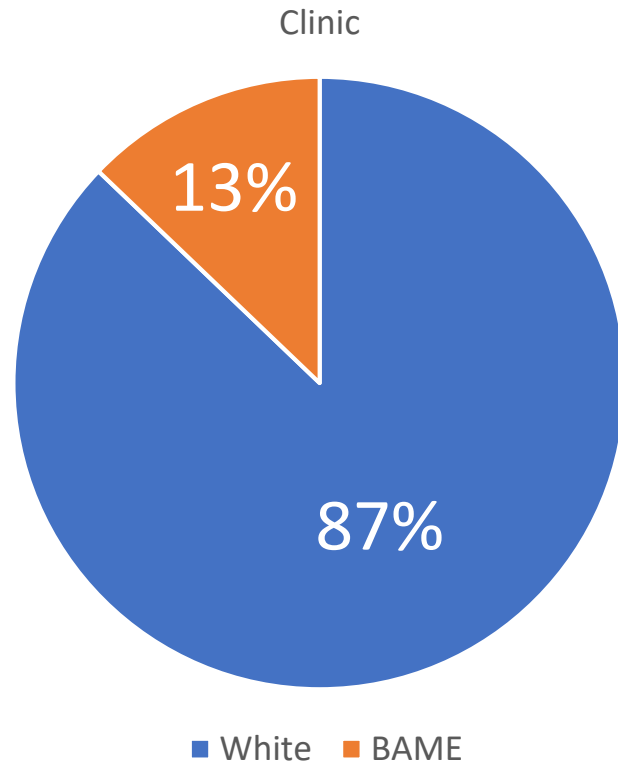
Clinic

Online
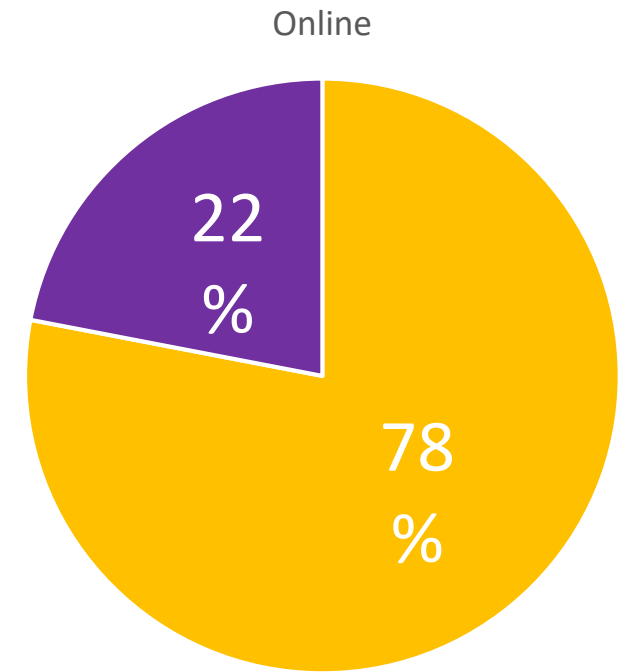
Larger proportion of patients using clinic are **BAME**

13%

87%

- White ■ BAME

8%

92%

- White ■ BAME

Duration between time of test and treatment of patients diagnosed after online testing introduction

Clinic

50% Within 1 week / 50% Longer than 1 week

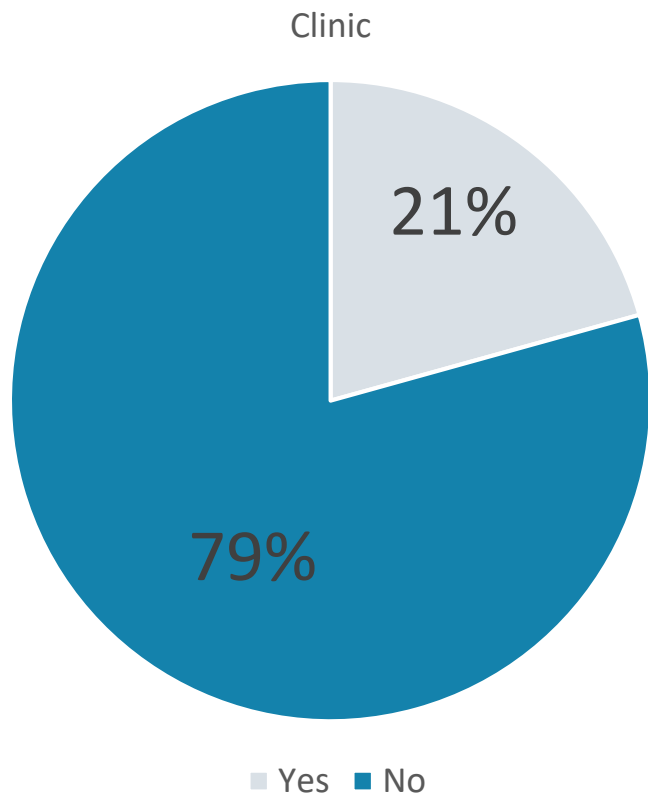- Within 1 week
- Longer than 1 week

Larger proportion of patients using online receive treatment in **LESS THAN 1 WEEK**
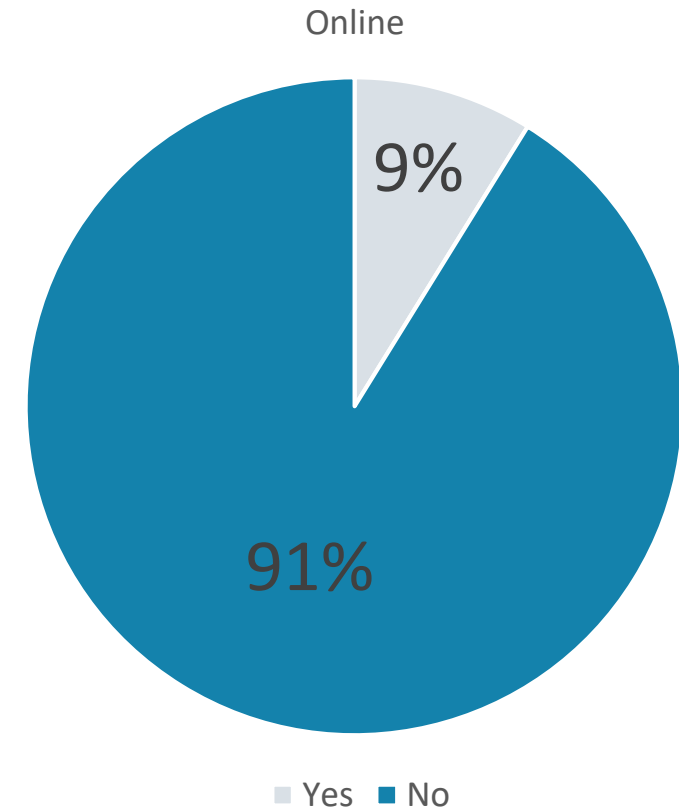
Online

22% Longer than 1 week / 78% Within 1 week

- Within 1 week
- Longer than 1 week

Was Retreatment required in patients diagnosed after online testing introduction?

Clinic

21%

79%

▪ Yes ▪ No

Larger proportion of patients using online are **DID NOT** need retreatment

Online

9%

91%

▪ Yes ▪ No

What does this mean?

✔️

❌

- Gender
- Sexual Orientation
- Ethnicity
- Duration between time of test and treatment
- Was Retreatment required?

- Deprivation
- Age

Conclusion

- Online Testing has **<u>NOT</u>** produced a barrier to access

- Online Testing is being used by HRGs

- Patients using online testing receive treatment faster and are less likely to need retreatment
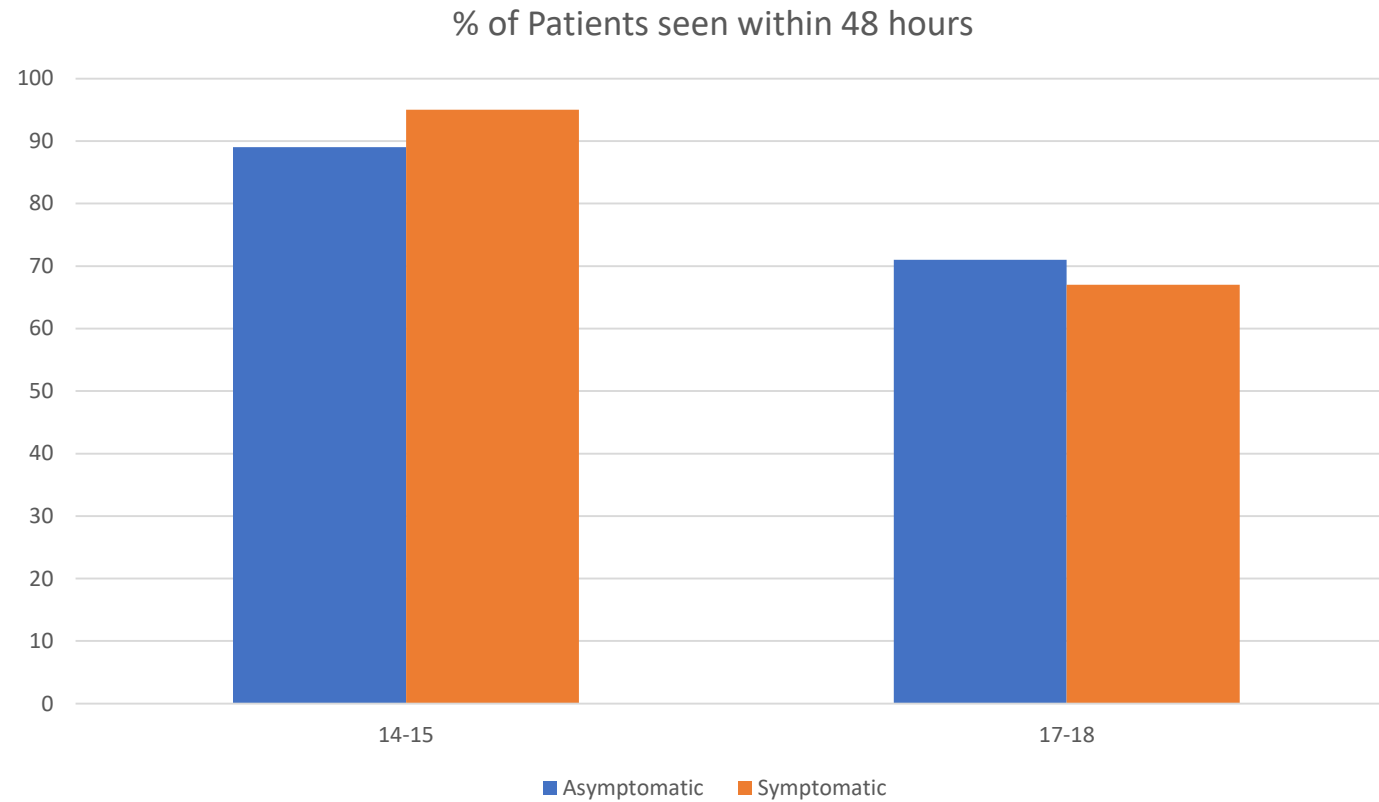
Acknowledgements

Nur Gasmelsid- Research Partner

Dr Elizabeth Foley- Project supervisor

Tomasz Nadarzynski- Help with Statistical analysis

Waiting time for a Clinical Appointment

% of Patients seen within 48 hours

Duration between time of test and treatment

% of patients treated within a week