

HIV Risk Behaviors and Psychosexual Factors among Young African American and Latino MSM Participants in the Mpowerment Project

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Overview

- ❑ Description of Mpowerment and evaluation study
- ❑ Process monitoring
- ❑ Individual-level outcome monitoring
- ❑ Preliminary longitudinal findings
- ❑ Community-level assessment
- ❑ Summary

What is Mpowerment?

- ❑ **Community-level intervention for young gay and bisexual men:**
 - Mobilizes men to reduce sexual risk taking
 - Encourages regular HIV testing
 - Builds positive social connections
 - Supports peers to have safer sex
- ❑ **Relies on 6 integrated core elements:**
 - Ongoing publicity campaign
 - Formal outreach (social events, discussion groups, venues)
 - M-groups
 - Core group
 - Informal outreach (social network communication)
 - Project space

Purpose of Evaluation Study

Determine whether Mpowerment will produce outcomes in community settings that are similar to the outcomes that have been observed in research intervention trials

MEM

Monitoring and Evaluation of Mpowerment



Participating Mpowerment Programs

□ Family Health Centers of San Diego

- San Diego County
- Targets young MSM of color (aged 18 to 24) and their partners



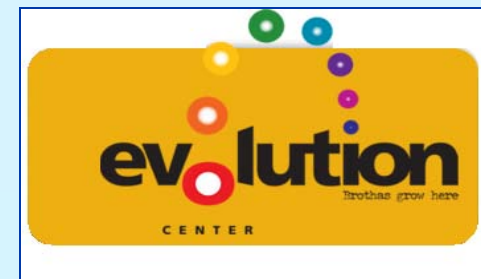
□ CALOR

- Chicago area
- Targets Latino MSM (aged 13 to 24 during first year of 06-618; aged 18 to 24 during last year of 06-618)



□ AID Atlanta

- Atlanta area
- Targets young African American, gay and bisexual men (and MTF transgender) (aged 18 to 29)



Evaluation Components

❑ Process monitoring

- Monitor Mpowerment implementation at three community-based organizations funded by CDC (PS06-618)

❑ Individual-level outcome monitoring

- Assess if Mpowerment produces desired outcomes for young gay or bisexual men of color who participate in the program
 - Baseline= before M-group participation
 - Follow-up 1= 3 months after baseline date
 - Follow-up 2= 6 months after baseline date

❑ Community-level assessment

- Assess if Mpowerment produces desired outcomes for young gay or bisexual men of color in the overall community

PROCESS MONITORING

APRIL 2010 – JUNE 2011

Process Monitoring Data Collection

Which intervention activities were conducted? Adaptations?

- **Mpowerment evaluation staff**
 - Attends all Mpowerment sessions
 - Collect and enter data on activities conducted
 - Submit these process data monthly to CDC
- **CDC team**
 - Provides monthly feedback to agencies
 - Data summary of activities conducted
 - Feedback on data quality issues

Ongoing Publicity Campaigns

How were participants recruited and enrolled into the intervention?

❑ Delivery methods

- In person
- Internet
- Pamphlets and brochures

❑ Average of 22 publicity campaigns conducted across the 3 agencies

Formal Outreach: Venue-based

How were participants recruited and enrolled into the intervention?

- Types of venues**
 - Nightclubs
 - Bars
 - Parks
 - Schools

- Average of 56 venue-based outreach events conducted across the 3 agencies**

Formal Outreach: Social Events

How were participants recruited and enrolled into the intervention?

- **Types of social events:**
 - Volleyball/dodge ball/ice skating
 - Six flags
 - Potlucks/luncheons
 - Movie nights
 - Listening parties

Average number of social events conducted across three agencies

59
Range 40-71

Average event length (in min.)

189

Average number of people attending

15

Formal Outreach: Discussion Groups

How were participants recruited and enrolled into the intervention?

□ Discussion group topics:

- Health issues
- Dating
- Sexuality
- Movies/Music
- Finances

Average number of discussion groups conducted across three agencies

64
Range 9-117

Average group length (in min.)

114

Average number of people attending

12

M-groups

Which intervention activities were conducted?

- **Topics discussed:**
 - Interpersonal issues
 - Safer sex guidelines
 - How to have fun, hot safer sex
 - Fun with condoms
 - Negotiating safer sex
 - Encouraging friends to have safer sex

Average number of M-groups conducted across the three agencies

32
Range 16-47

Average session length (in minutes)

132

Average number of people attending

8

Core Groups

Which intervention activities were conducted?

□ Core group ratings:

- Sufficient size group to carry out activities
- Participants seem empowered to make vital decisions
- Group represents diversity of community
- Meeting is productive, fun and social
- Meeting addresses HIV prevention
- Participants appear to support each other in safer sexual behaviors

Average number of core groups conducted across three agencies

28
Range 14-54

Average session length (in minutes)

202

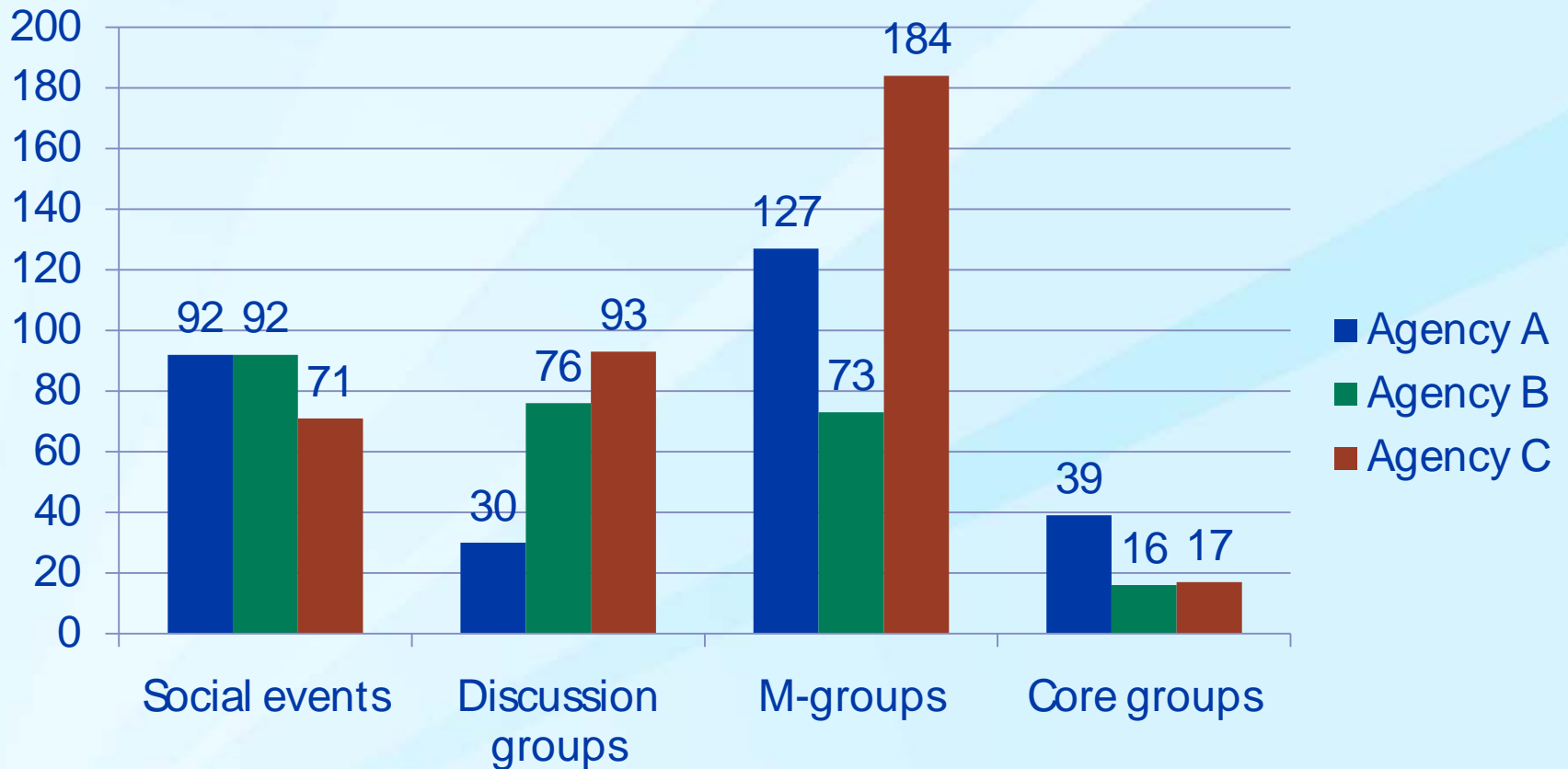
Average number of people attending

8

^a One core group was a weekend retreat that lasted 3 days.

^b 1= Does not describe the session at all to 5= Describes the session very well. Standard deviation is in parentheses

MEM Client Participation



**INDIVIDUAL-LEVEL OUTCOME MONITORING
MAY 2010 – JUNE 2011**

Individual-level outcome monitoring

How are individual level data collected and processed?

- ❑ Mpowerment participants enrolled in the evaluation complete surveys using Questionnaire Development System software (QDS)
- ❑ Self-administered on handheld device/laptop
- ❑ Mpowerment evaluation staff submit data monthly to CDC
- ❑ CDC team provides monthly feedback to Mpowerment evaluation staff and Mpowerment staff

Data collected to date (June 2011)

Agency	Baseline	Follow-up 1	Follow-up 2
A	187	117	77
B	112	89	69
C	183	82	42

Recruitment
goal= 160
Retention
goal=120

Overall:

482 baseline surveys
288 follow-up 1 surveys
188 follow-up 2 surveys

Participant Characteristics at Baseline

Participant characteristics	Agency A (N=187)	Agency B (N=112)	Agency C (N=183)
Race/ethnicity	No. (%)	No. (%)	No. (%)
Hispanic	83 (44%)	110 (98%)	-
Non-Hispanic White	32 (17%)	1 (1%)	1 (1%)
Non-Hispanic African American	18 (10%)	-	160 (87%)
Non-Hispanic Other*	54 (29%)	1 (1%)	22 (12%)
Age			
Less than or equal to 17 yrs	1 (1%)	40 (16%)	6 (3%)
18-24 yrs	186 (99%)	72 (64%)	136 (74%)
Greater than or equal to 25yrs	-	-	41 (22%)
HIV-positive	8 (5%)	2 (3%)	35 (19%)

*Non-Hispanic other includes: American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, and Multi-racial

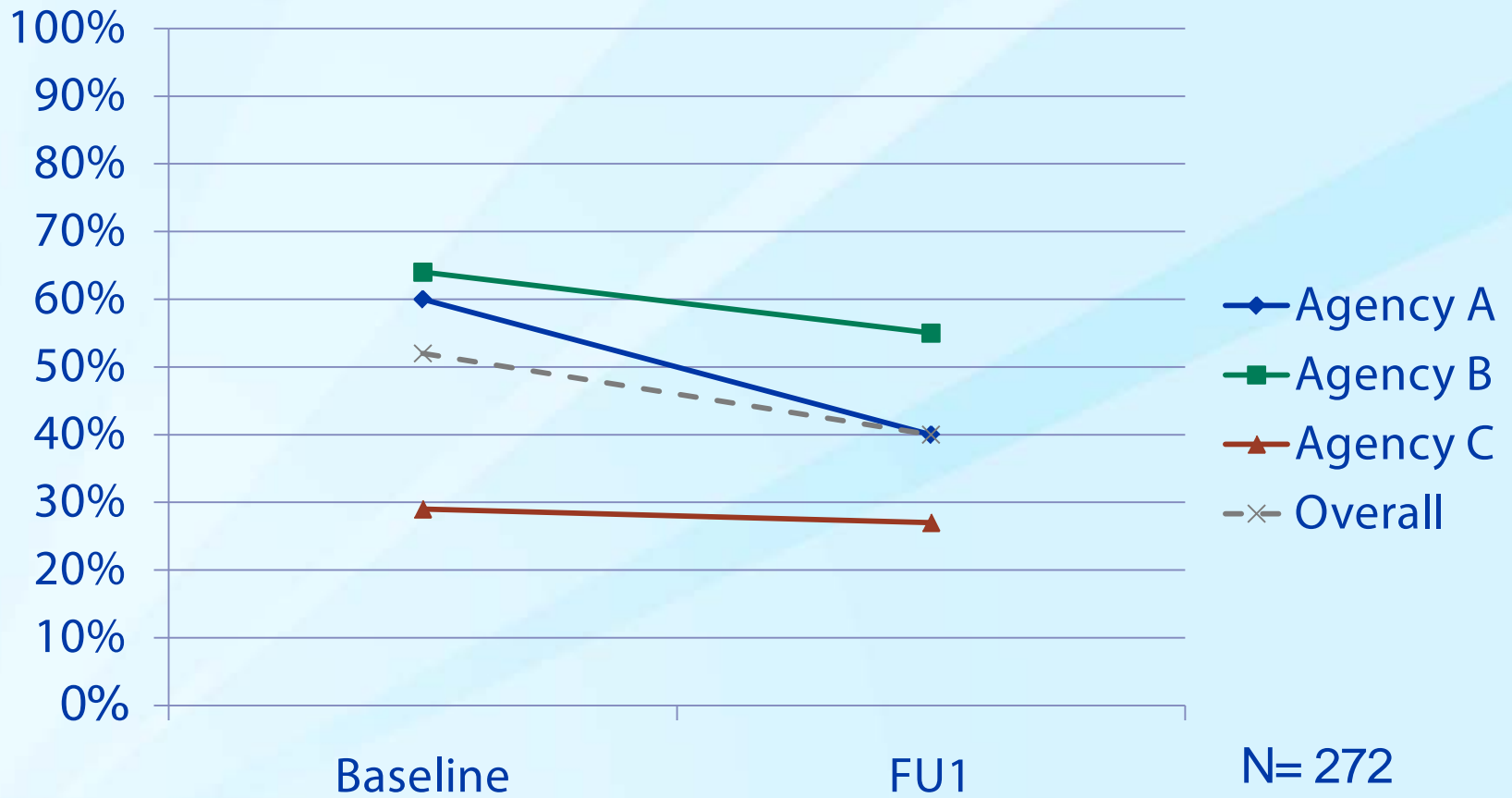
Participant Risk Behaviors at Baseline

In the last 3 months	Agency A (N=187)	Agency B (N=112)	Agency C (N=183)
	No. (%)	No. (%)	No. (%)
Substance use:			
Alcohol	152 (81%)	67 (60%)	106 (58%)
Marijuana	57 (27%)	24 (21%)	33 (18%)
Sexual behavior:			
Had sex with male	134 (72%)	62 (55%)	145 (79%)
Had unprotected sex with a male	70 (52%)	40 (65%)	57 (39%)

PRELIMINARY LONGITUDINAL FINDINGS

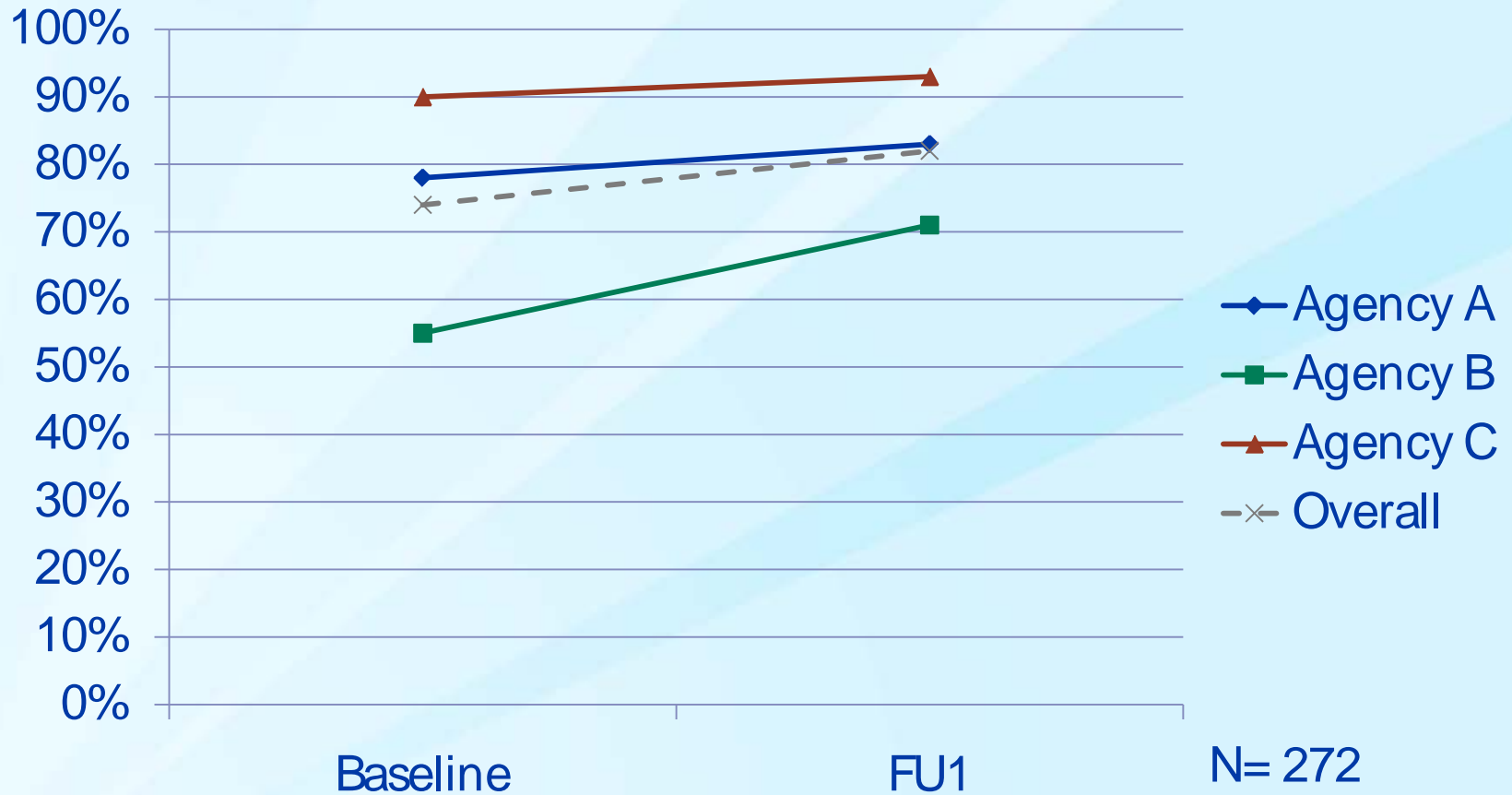
Unprotected sex with male partners (last 3 months)

Reduction in sexual risk taking after receiving Mpowerment?



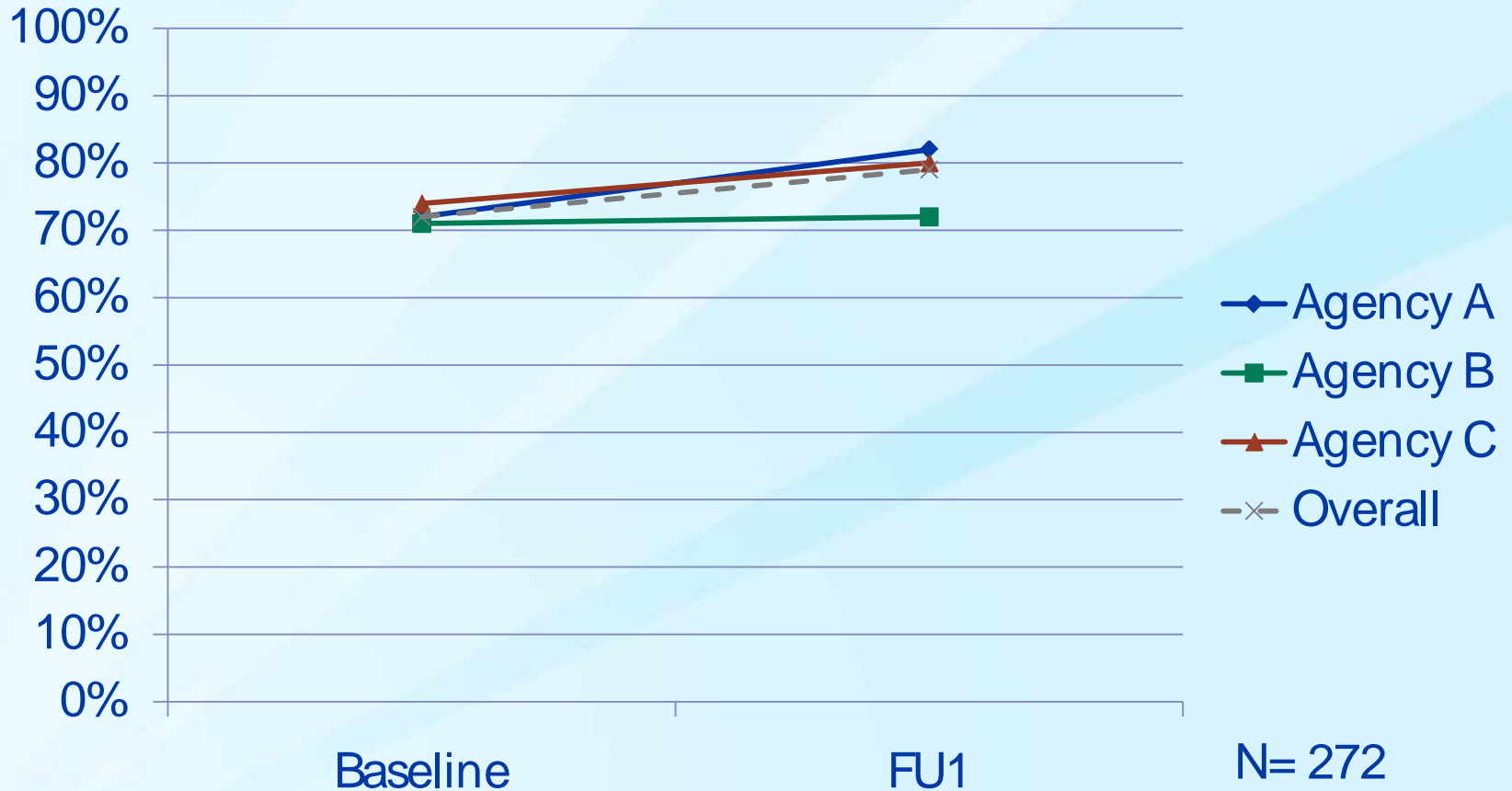
Has ever tested for HIV (Lifetime)

Was HIV testing increased?



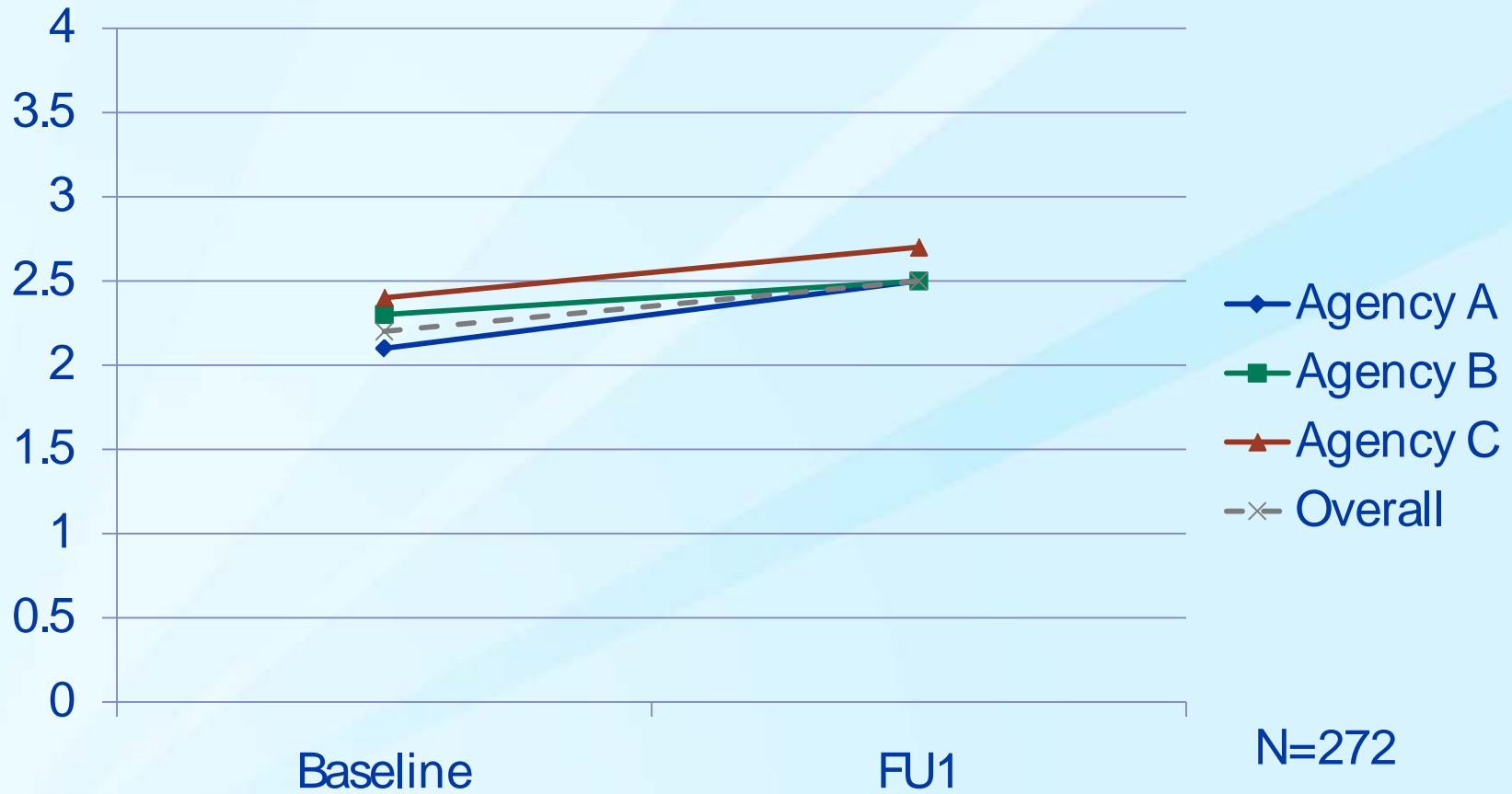
Talked to their friends about the importance of safer sex (last 3 months)

Did peers support one another to have safer sex?



Satisfaction with safe anal sex (last 3 months)

Changes in psychosexual factors after receiving Mpowerment?



COMMUNITY-LEVEL ASSESSMENT

SUMMER 2011 AND 2012

Community-level assessment methods and timeline

- ❑ Will be conducted at two time points
 - June -July 2011
 - May-June 2012
- ❑ 100 individuals from each site interviewed at each time point, using hand-held devices
- ❑ Agencies will interview young men at venues where clients were found for the evaluation data collection, or similar venues
- ❑ Participants will be screened according to project criteria (age, sexual behavior, time in area, cannot be a previous participant in the evaluation data collection)

Summary

- ❑ Sites have made changes in the planning and delivery of program, resulting in better recruitment
- ❑ High levels of enthusiasm and commitment among Mpowerment staff to implement program
- ❑ Regular collaboration between CDC and Mpowerment staff to coordinate evaluation activities and troubleshoot problems
- ❑ CDC provides monthly feedback to agencies on their data, two weeks after agency data submission to CDC

Summary

- ❑ Mpowerment activities appear to be well-received by participants
- ❑ Young MSM of color are being reached through Mpowerment
- ❑ Preliminary data trends show Mpowerment goals below are being accomplished:
 - Mobilizes men to reduce sexual risk taking
 - Encourages regular HIV testing
 - Builds positive social connections
 - Supports peers to have safer sex
- ❑ Successful use of hand-held devices

Questions

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The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.