

Assessing the Added Value of Internet Partner Services for Syphilis and HIV

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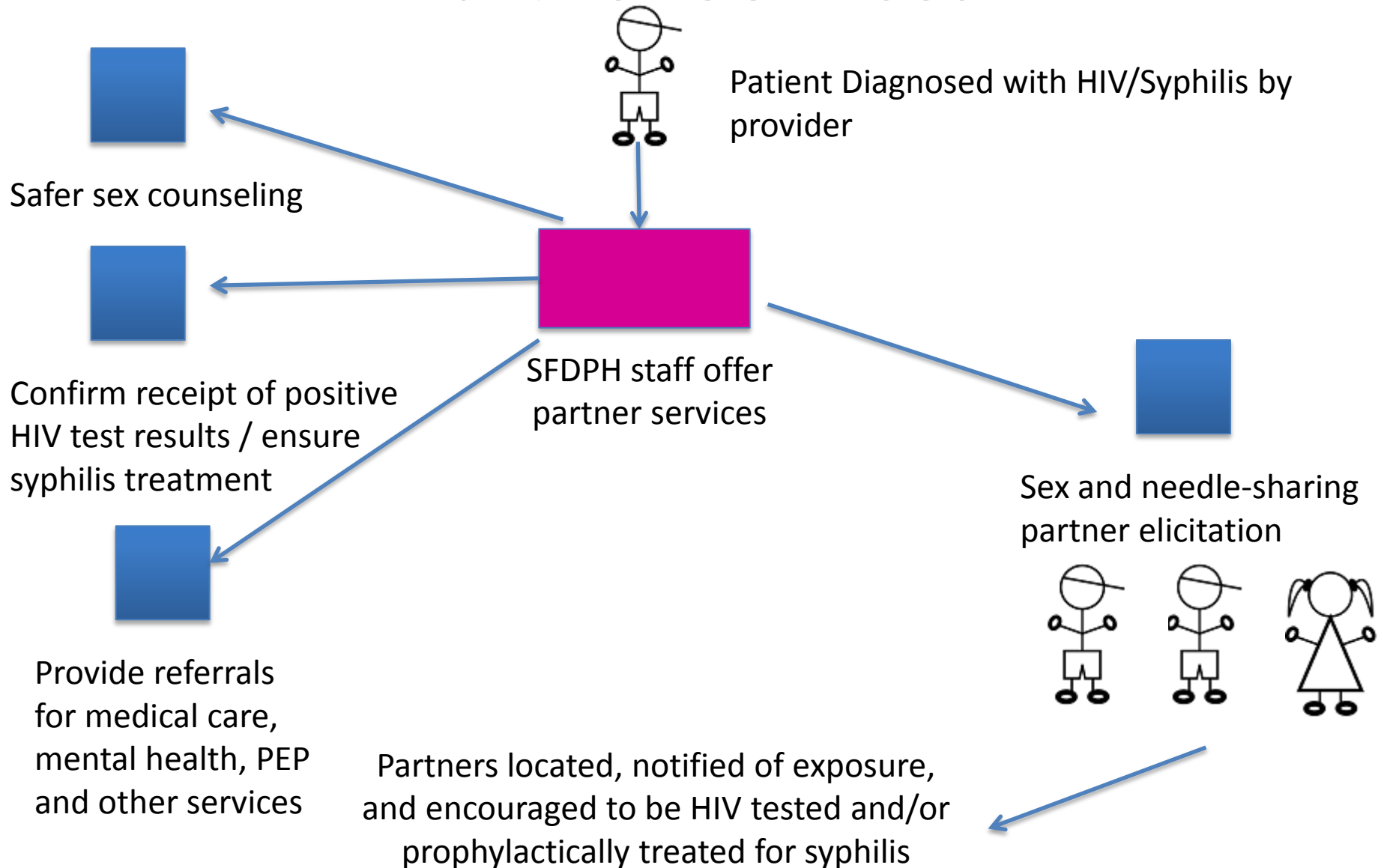
STD Prevention and Control Services
San Francisco Department of Public Health



What are Partner Services?

- Partner Services (PS) are a broad range of services offered to people infected with HIV/AIDS or syphilis including:
 - Confirmation of treatment (syphilis) and HIV test results
 - Discussion of notifying partners of potential HIV/syphilis exposure and offering of 3rd party notification
 - Prophylactic treatment for syphilis partners
 - Provision of referrals to medical care, mental health, substance abuse, and other social services
- One team of Disease Intervention Specialists (DIS) provide both HIV and Syphilis PS in San Francisco
- SF has been offering IPS since 1999

Partner Services



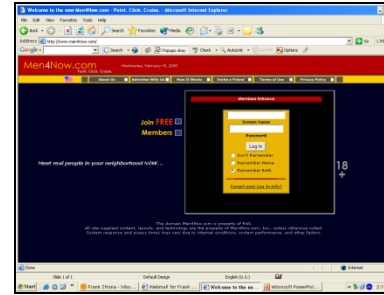
MSM sexual networks and the internet



www.AOL.com



www.manhunt.net



www.man4now.com



www.m4m-world.com



www.pozpersonals.com



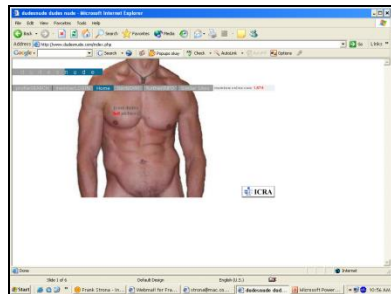
www.GAY.com



www.asspig.com
Aka www.sexpig.com



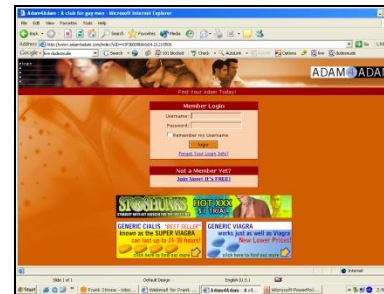
www.misterrightnow.com



www.dudesnude.com



www.BigMuscle.com



www.Adam4Adam.com



www.Men4SexNow.com

Objective: Has internet partner services (IPS) been a productive public health activity in San Francisco?

- What proportion of HIV and syphilis index partners are known only by email or web handle?
- Does IPS result in improved partner outcomes?
- Does IPS improve efficiency of partner services?

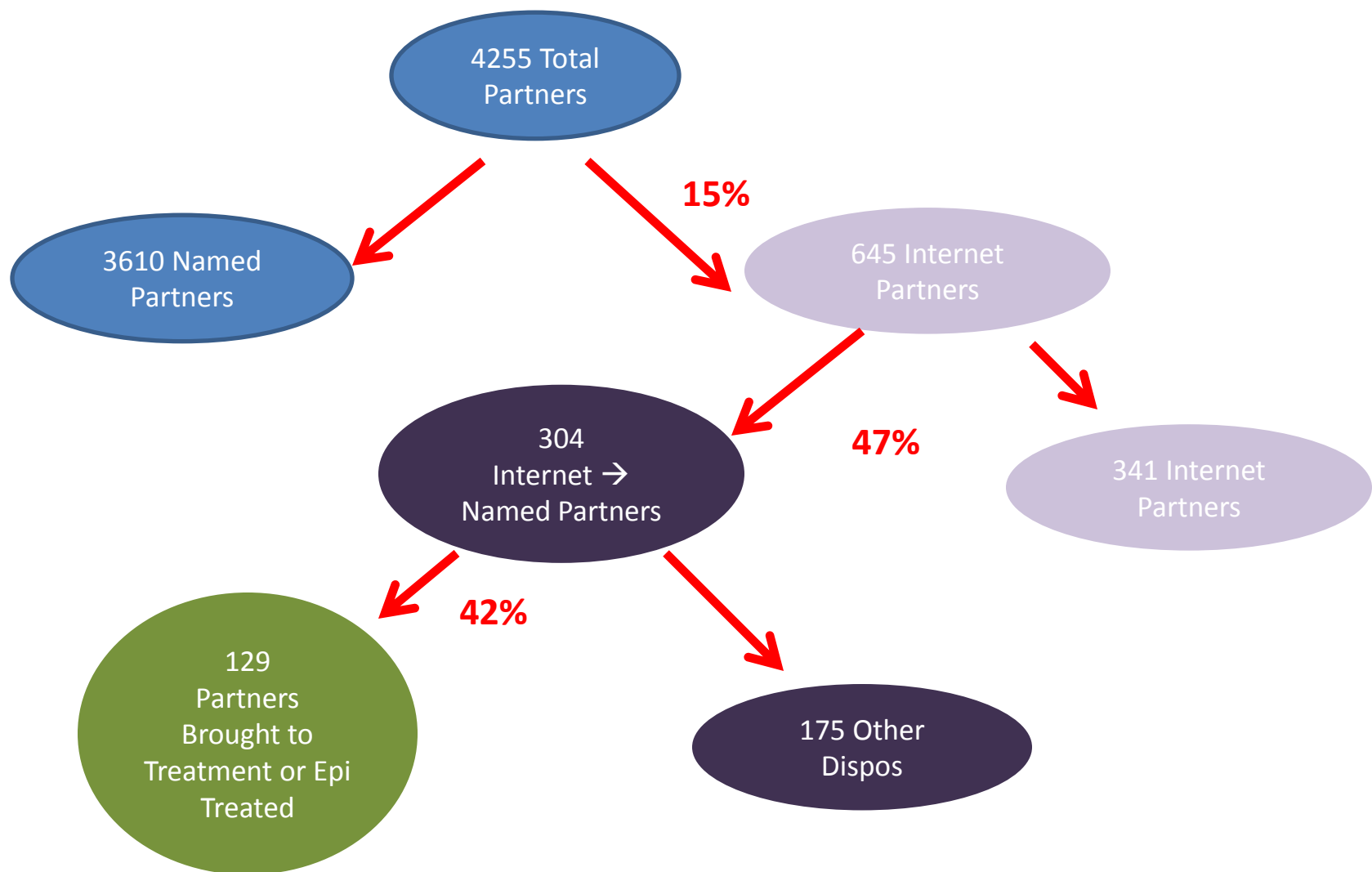
Internet Partner Services in San Francisco

- Named Partner
 - Index provides name and address or phone number
- Internet Partner
 - Index provides **only** email address or website handle (Manhunt, Adam4Adam)
- Internet Partners → Named Partners
 - DIS contacts Internet partner and obtains phone number/address

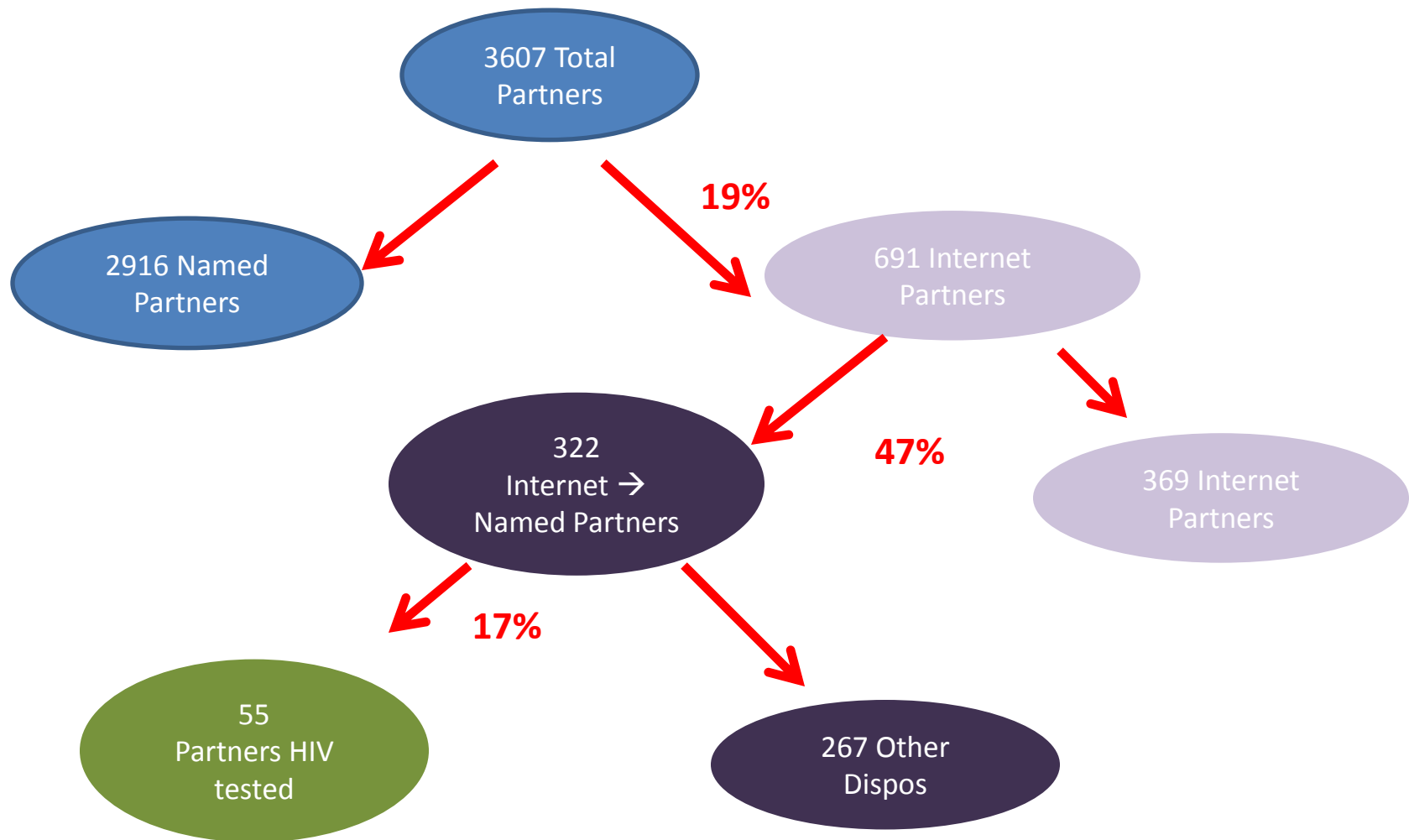
Defining “Success”

- Syphilis
 - Brought to Treatment
 - Partner was infected with syphilis and was treated as a result of DIS investigation
 - Epi Treatment
 - Partner was prophylactically treated for syphilis as a result of DIS investigation
- HIV
 - Partner was HIV tested as a result of DIS investigation

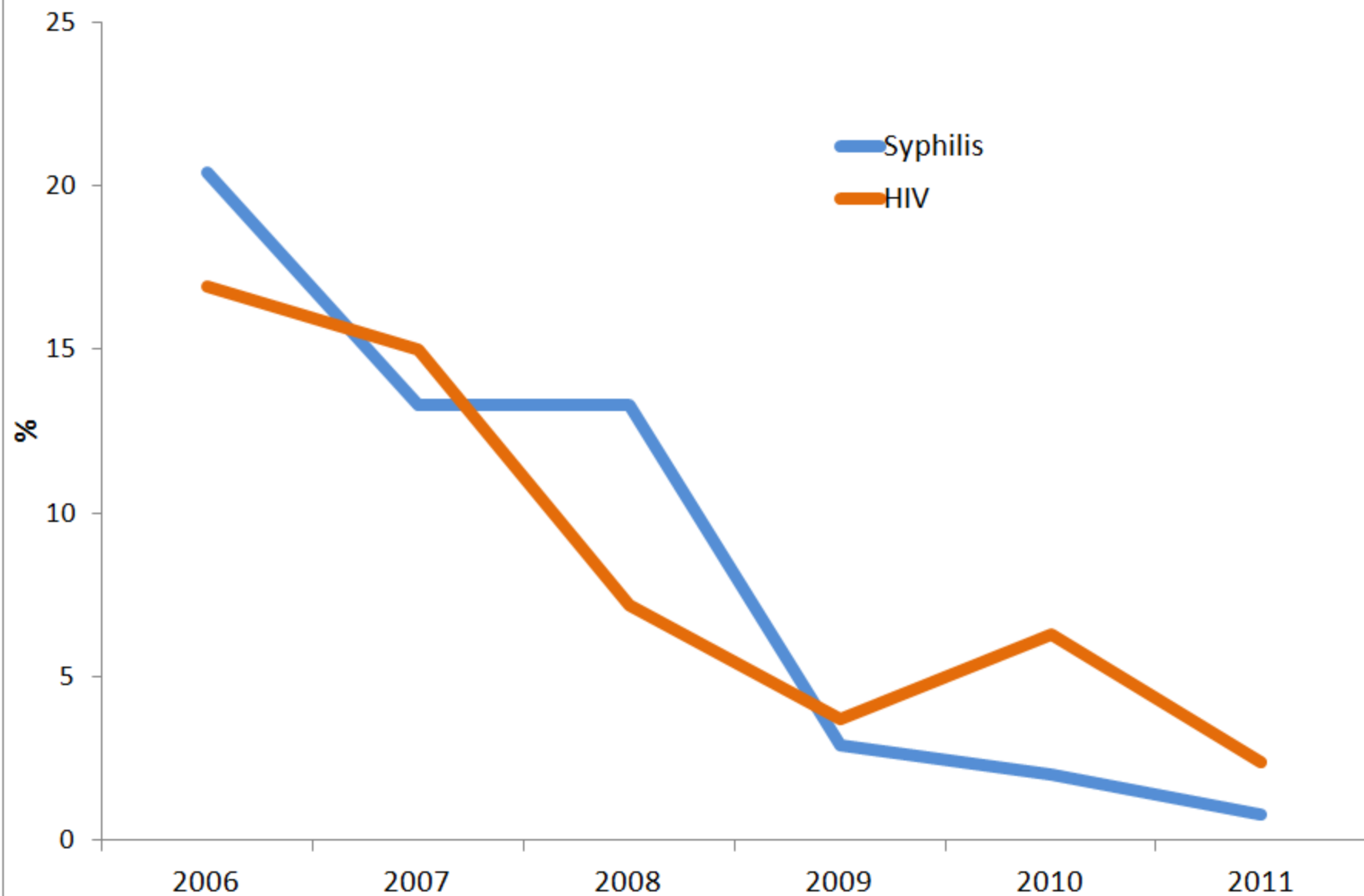
Syphilis Internet Partner Services San Francisco 2006-2011



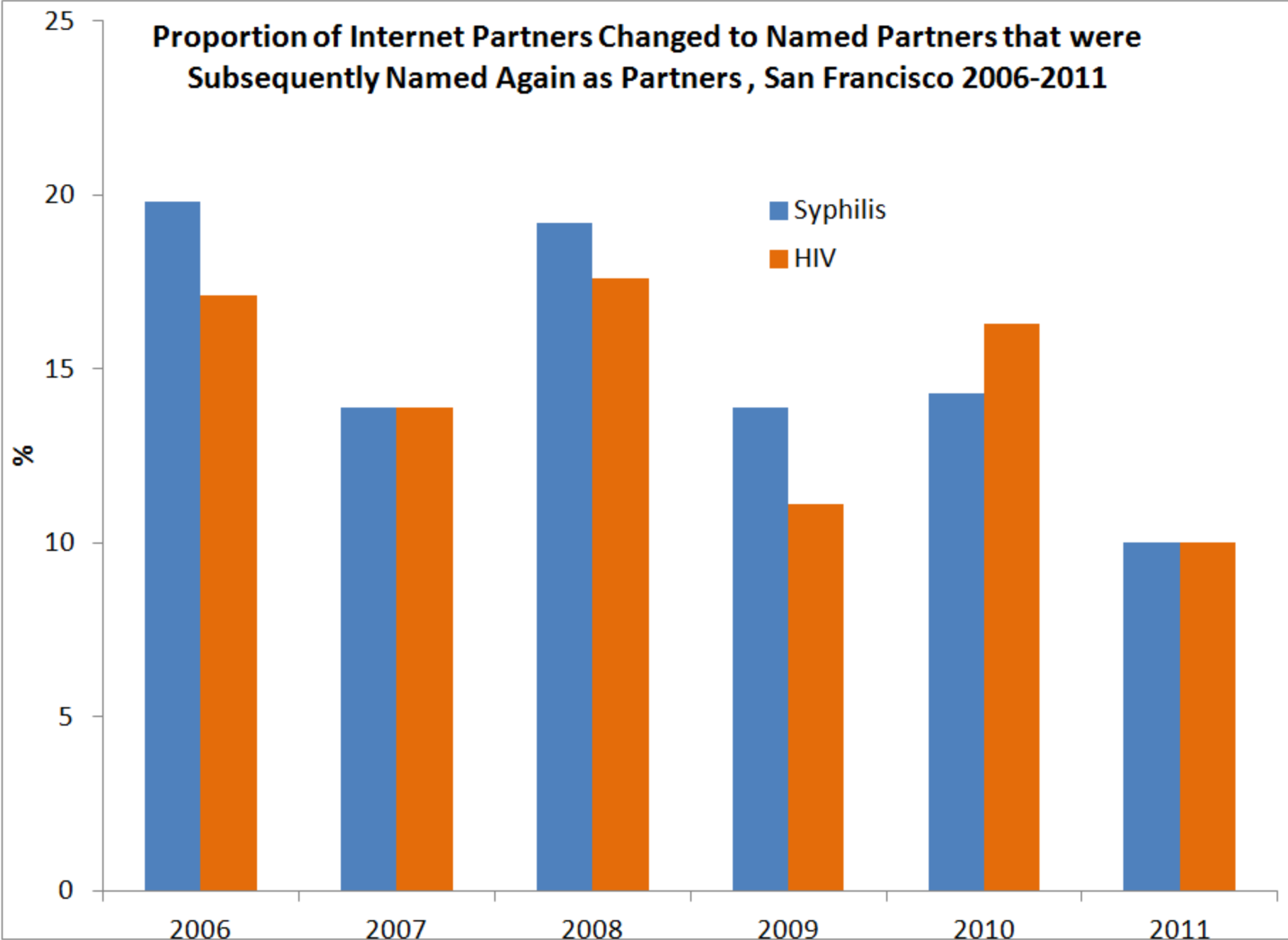
HIV Internet Partner Services San Francisco 2006-2011



Relative Increase in Successful Outcomes from HIV and Syphilis Internet Partner Services, San Francisco 2006-2011



Proportion of Internet Partners Changed to Named Partners that were Subsequently Named Again as Partners, San Francisco 2006-2011



IPS Outcomes (2006-2011)

- ~1/2 of initial Internet Partners → Named Partners
- Over 40% of initial Internet Partners successfully treated for syphilis
 - 50% of initial Named Partners successfully treated
- IPS associated with:
 - 8% increase in the number of named syphilis partners
 - 11% increase in the number of named HIV partners
 - 7% increase in the number of successfully treated syphilis partners
 - 8% increase in the number of successfully tested HIV partners
- 112 Internet Partners → Named Partners were named again increasing efficiency overtime

Summary

- San Francisco STD has successfully integrated IPS into HIV and syphilis partner services
- Implementing IPS has increased the number of named partners identified and successful outcomes for HIV and syphilis partners
- Being able to search user names and handles further improves the efficiency of San Francisco's partner services program

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