

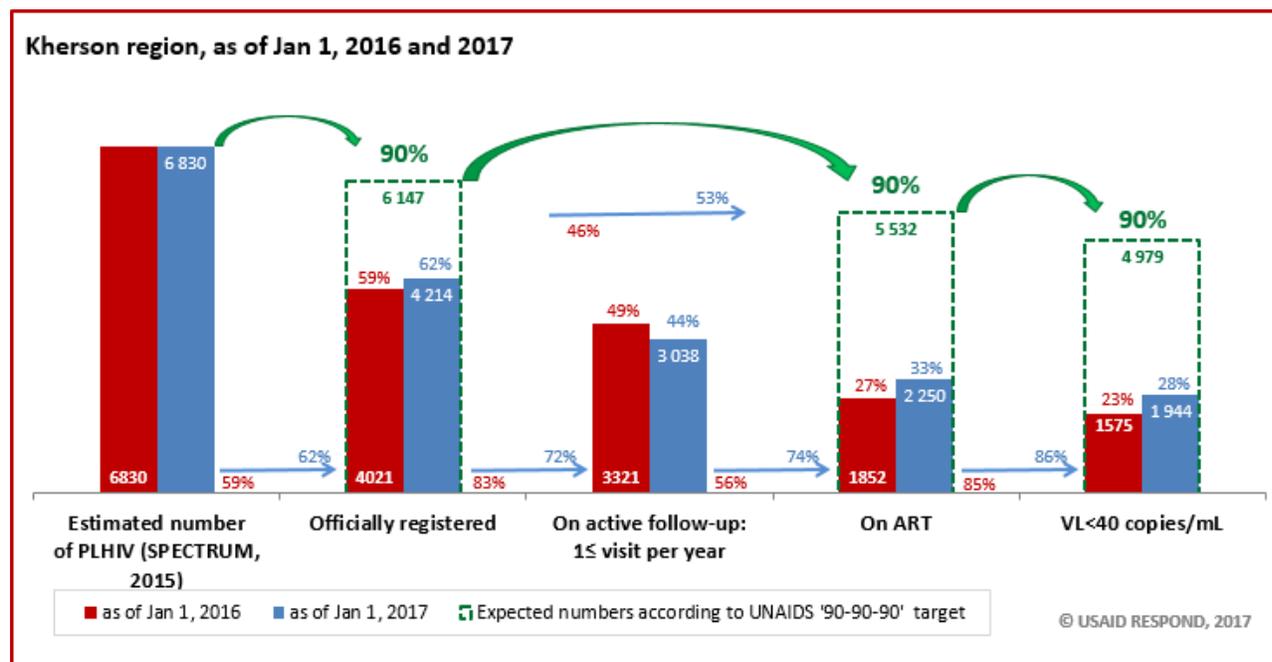
## Kherson region, March 2017

Change: **HIV risk assessment by specialty physicians (STI, TB and narcology specialists)**

Gap: **Testing and referral/linkage gap**

### Problem Statement & Improvement Objectives

In Kherson region, as of January 1, 2016, the gap between the estimated number of PLHIV and the number of PLHIV registered with the AIDS service was over 2,800 people, or 41%. The objective of the regional QI team is to reach 80% of PLHIV registered by March 2017.



### System issues and changes tested

The regional QI team identified the lack of skills among specialty physicians (STI, TB and narcology specialists) for HIV behavior risk screening as the key reason for low HIV testing rates in the region. To address this challenge, the QI team implemented the following set of changes:

- Specialty physicians received a job aid designed by RESPOND for HIV risk behavior screening; and
- Specialists received an on-the-job training to use the HIV risk behavior screening in their practice.
- Patients with behavior risks for HIV were offered HTS.

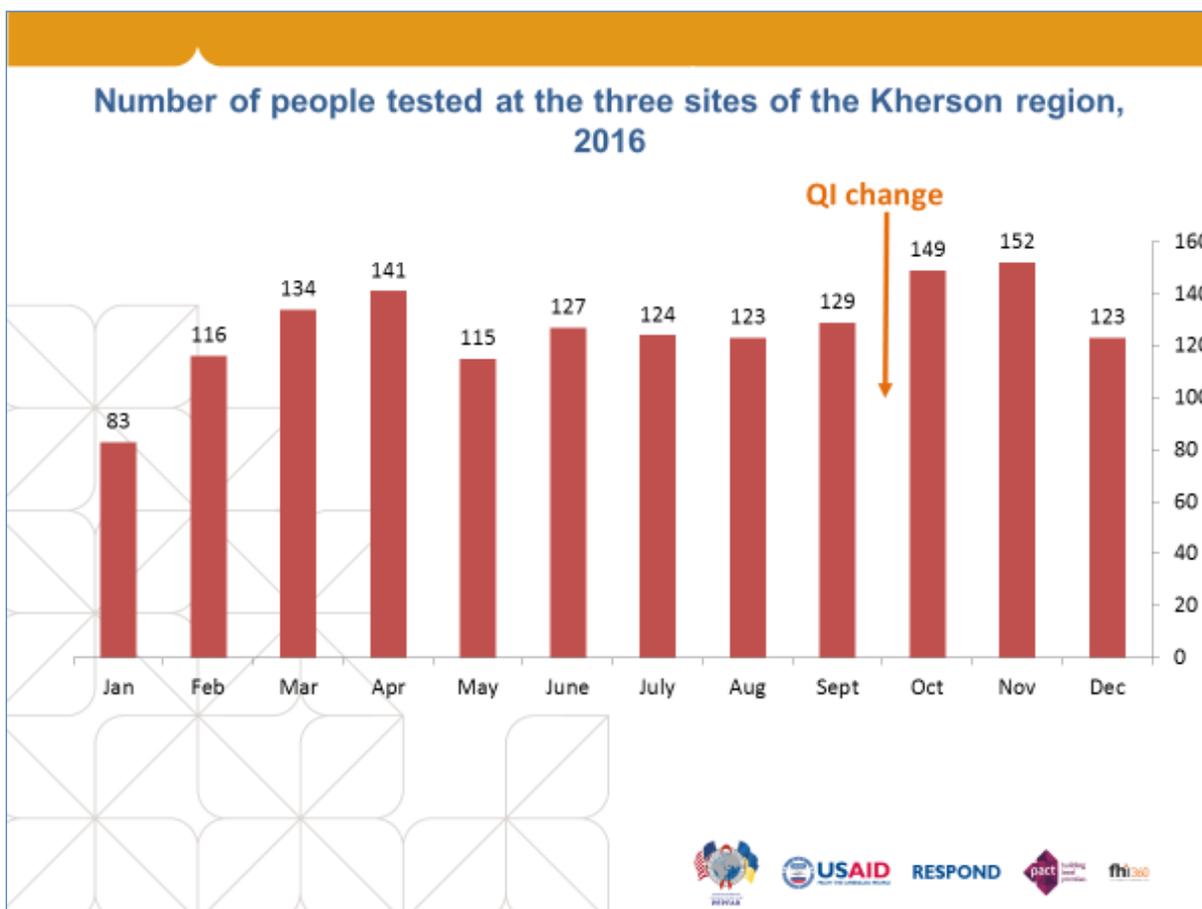
## Kherson region, March 2017

### Scale of the improvement effort

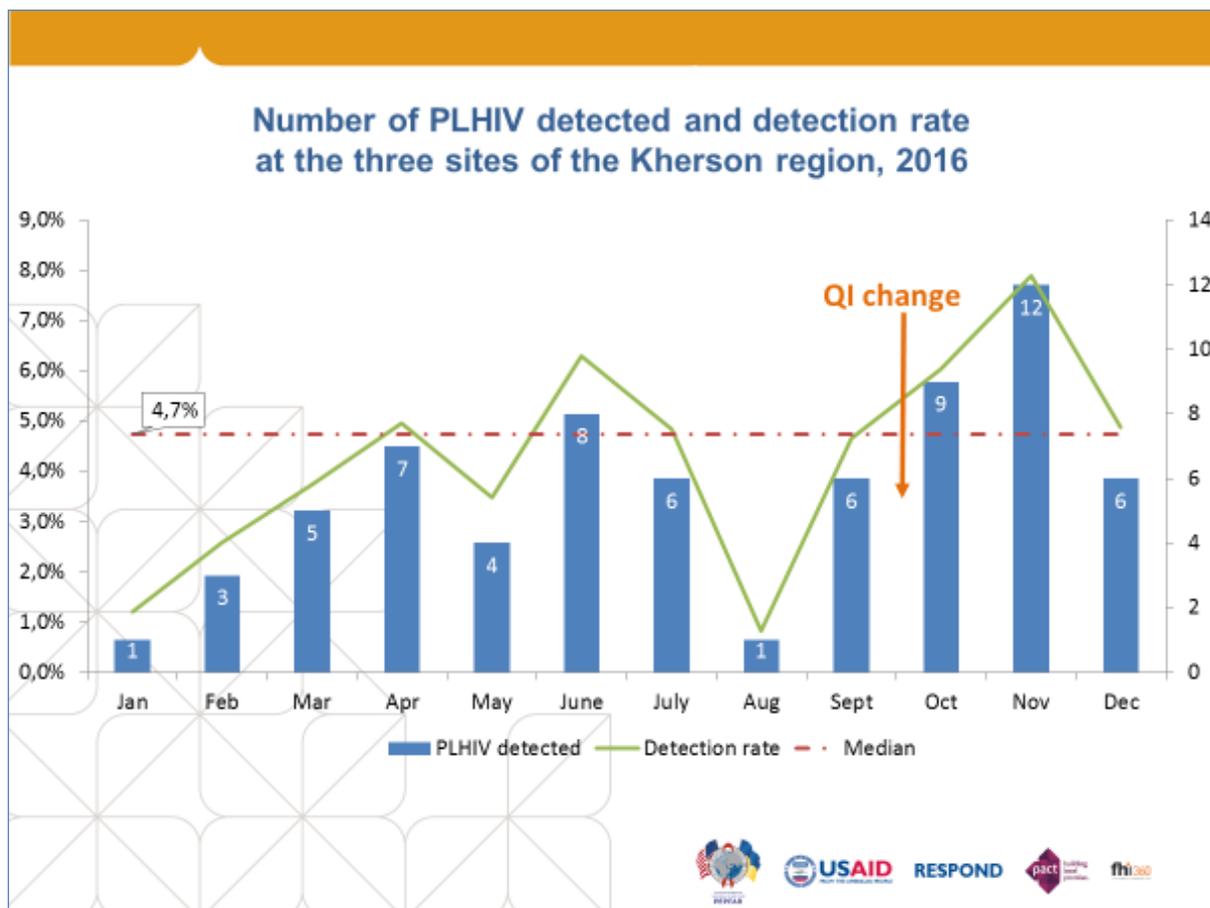
Three of twelve QI local teams started pilot changes aimed at increasing HTS among high-risk patients through specialty physicians in the Karabelesh Kherson city clinic, Velykooleksandrivska city clinic, and Genichesk city clinic.

### Improvement measures, results and interpretation

The change was tracked monthly through the number of patients receiving HTS at three pilot sites, and the number and proportion of them testing positive for HIV.



## Kherson region, March 2017



Since the start of the changes, HIV detection rate has been above the monthly median.

### Learning & Next Steps

On the regional level, this QI change contributed to decreasing the gap between the estimated number of PLHIV and the number of PLHIV registered from 41% in on January 1, 2016, to 38% on January 1, 2017. As a next step, this change will be rolled out to all ART sites in the Kherson region.