

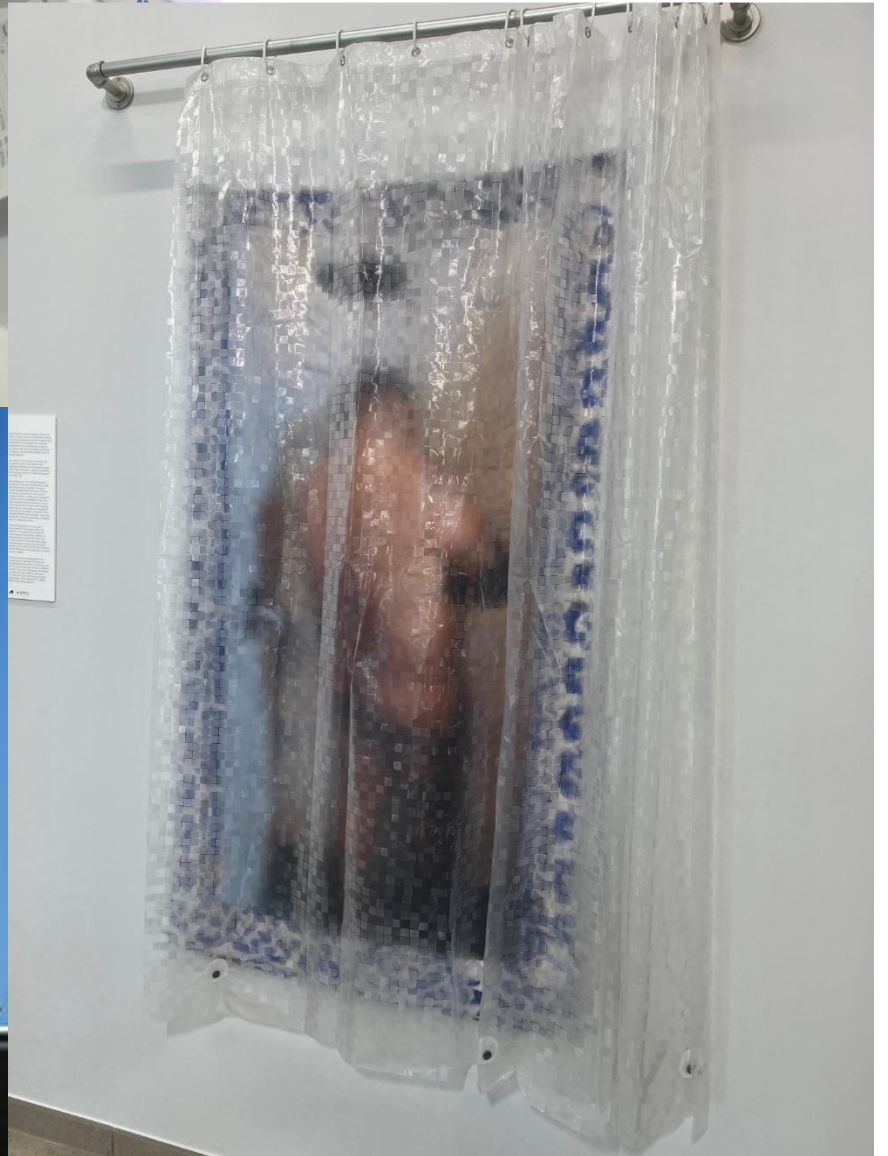
**Burnett
Foundation
Aotearoa**

AIDS2024 report back

25th International AIDS Conference: Munich, Germany

20-26 July 2024

The International AIDS Conference



20-26 July 2024

The big scientific breakthroughs and key themes

Vaccines: Where are we, and what does the future look like?

Good news and bad news.

Conventional approaches have not reliably worked for HIV.

But there is some promising data: New HIV vaccine concepts are now in human trials, the pipeline is robust with many promising immunogens, and we are on the pathway to elicit broadly neutralising antibodies by vaccination.

Vaccines can not end epidemics, but vaccination can.



Long-Acting PrEP

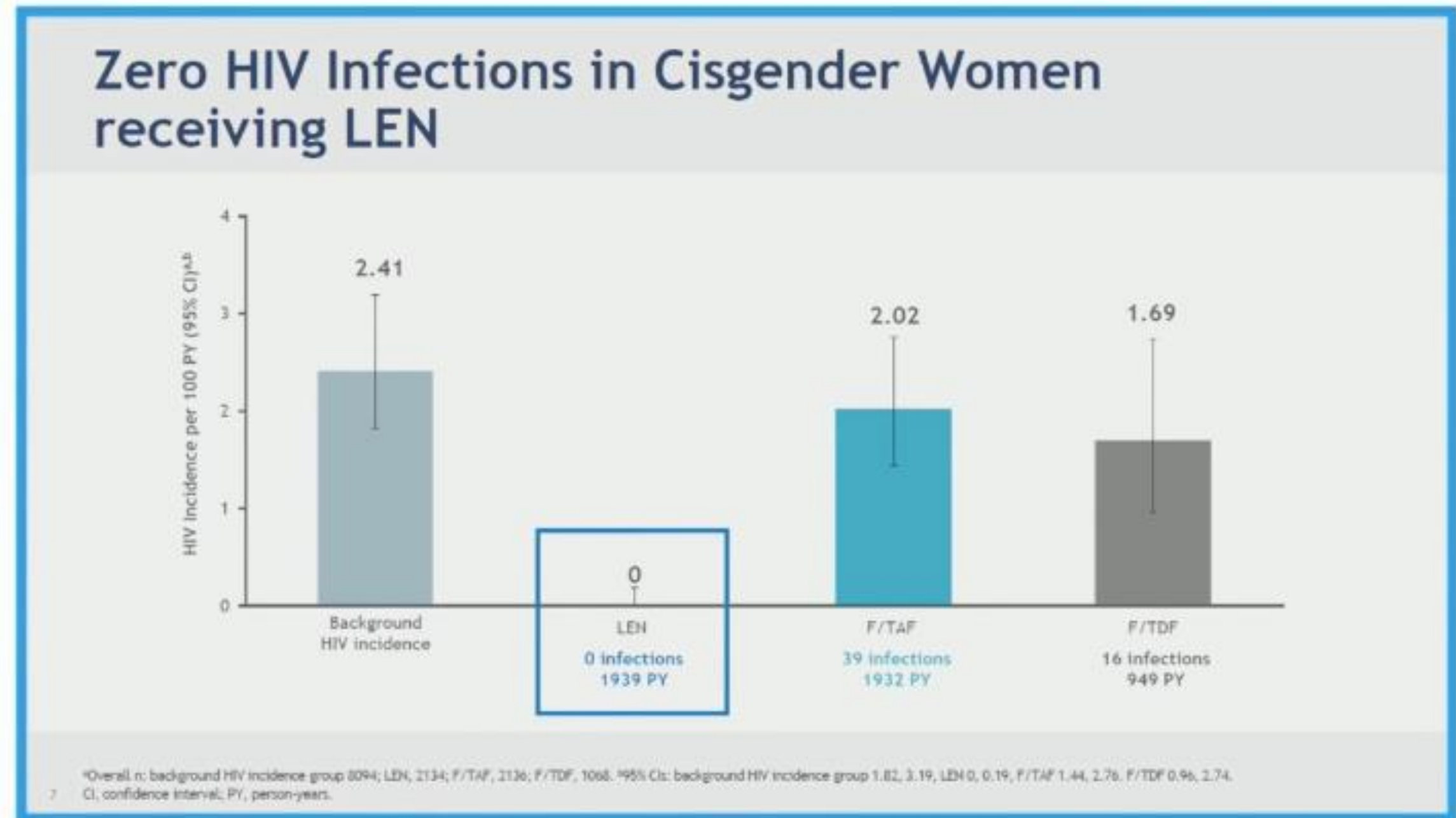
Twice-yearly injectable PrEP lenacapavir showed 100% (!!) protection against HIV in cisgender women during the PURPOSE 1 trial.

PURPOSE 2 trial in gay men, trans and non-binary people: 96% efficacy and safe

Lives over profit! Afordability and accessibility are big concerns.

USD 40,000 vs USD 35-40

The era of PrEP choice has arrived



Simplify, decentralise and demedicalise

PrEP uptake is stalling

- Will miss global PrEP targets
- In 12 years, 6.7 million PrEP initiations, but 17 million new acquisitions during this time.
- Options ≠ equal choice

“The era of PrEP choice” (?!?!)

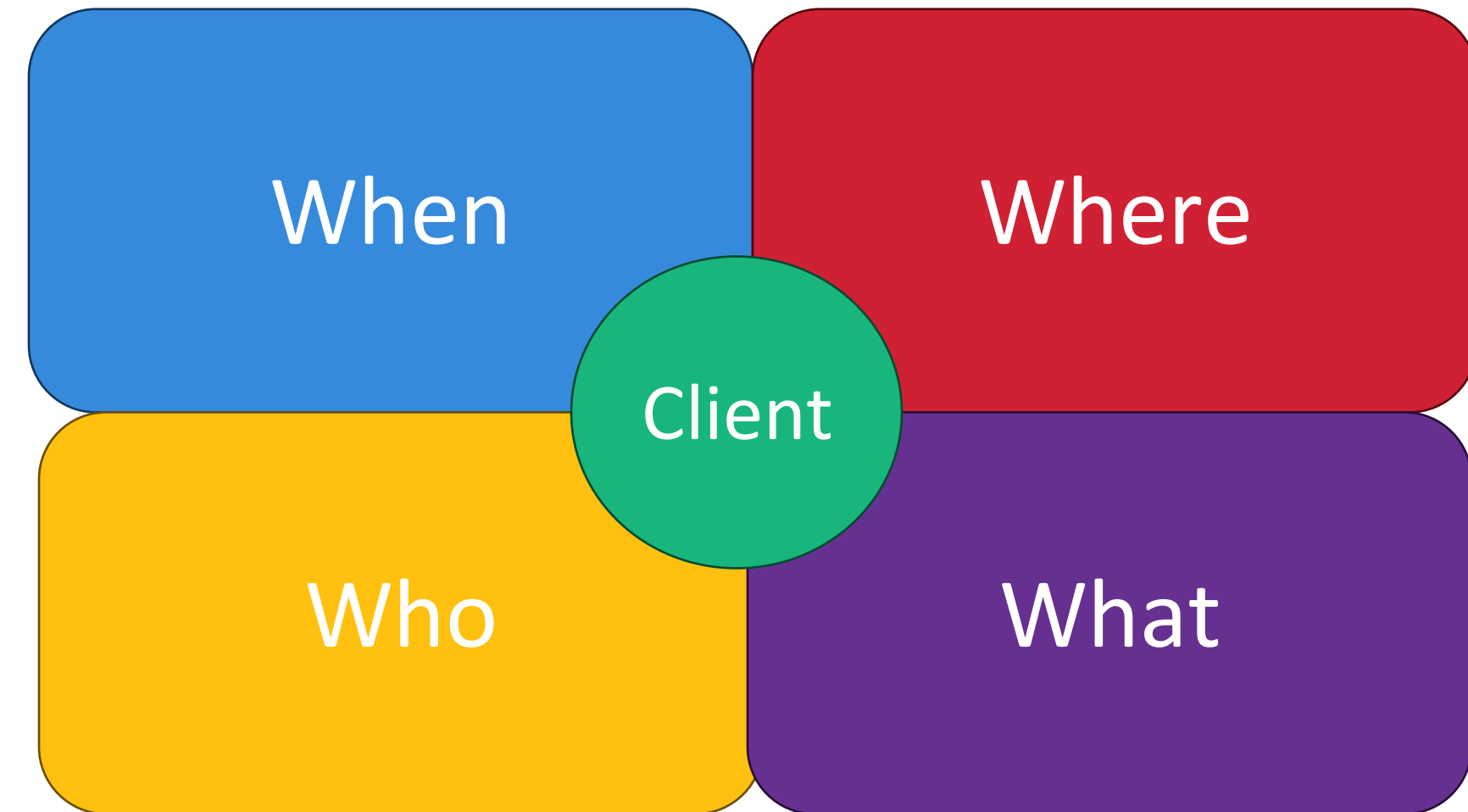
- Options ≠ equal choice

Innovative models of PrEP service delivery

Does PrEP monitoring need to be so complicated?

- Expert panel – only an HIV test is needed
- Do not let the perfect be the enemy of the good by putting barriers in the way

PEP is underutilised and overly medical intervention



Undetectable=Untransmittable

U=U University launched!

There remains a lack of awareness and education about U=U as an intervention, of its benefits, a lack of resources to scale it up, and ongoing stigma.

Need to ensure that awareness among the general public and health professionals is increased to realise U=U's full stigma reduction potential



Cure research

The next Berlin patient:

- Seventh person cured of HIV
- HIV remission >5.5 years
- Received a stem cell transplant for leukaemia from a donor with a genetic mutation for HIV resistance (CCR5 co-receptors).

Strategies for cure

- CRISPR-CAS gene editing
- Challenge: To cure HIV by CRISPR need 100% editing and multiple rounds, causes large chromosomal deletions which increases the risk of cancer, participants require 15 years of follow-up

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“I Once Had HIV”: The Dusseldorf Patient



Criminalisation

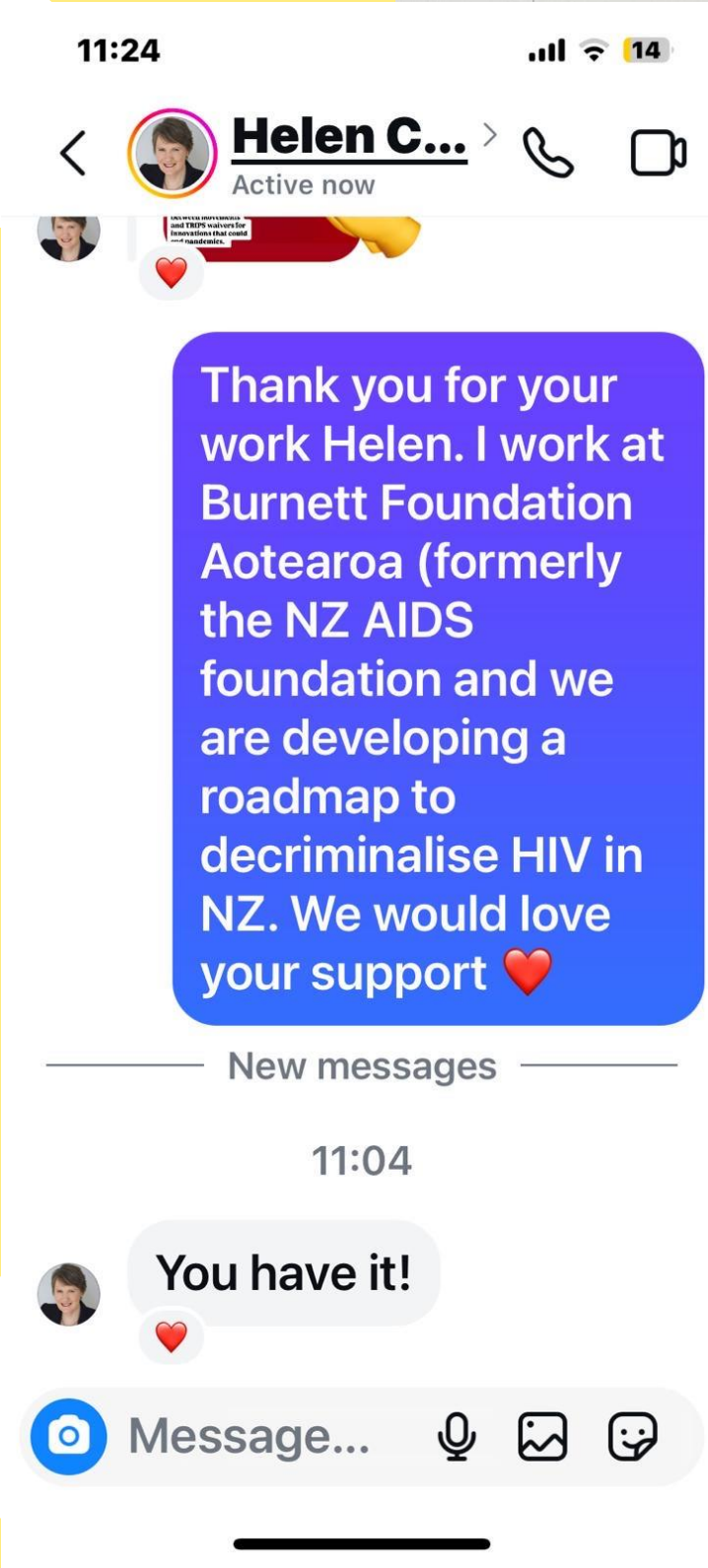
Remains a significant issue, undermining the global health response.

Russia and US are world-leaders

9 countries have reformed HIV-specific laws, but 4 countries introduced...

Intersectionality of criminalisation

In New Zealand, general criminal laws are often misapplied in HIV cases, ignoring modern science and leading to stigma and unjust prosecutions.



Funding and commitments

Global concern that governments worldwide shifted significant resources to COVID, and these have not returned to HIV programming.

UNAIDS reports a significant decrease in international HIV funding

Many HIV NGOs are diversifying funding to protect against cuts to dedicated HIV funding, often by expanding into general health services like primary care or community-focused services rather than HIV-specific ones.

Response is at an inflection point: Progress is made, but it is all at risk



Innovative person-centred, culturally-tailored and community-led models

One size does not fit all: Communities have unique needs (and desires) therefore require tailored, diverse, inclusive and innovative.

Language matters

Explosion of evidence to PUT PEOPLE FIRST!

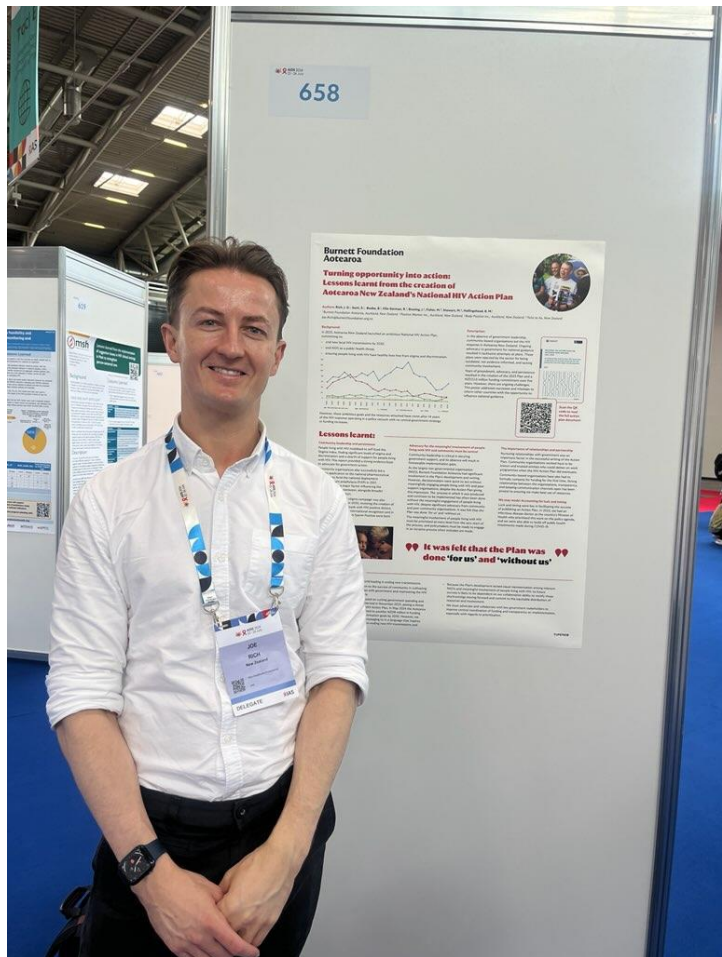
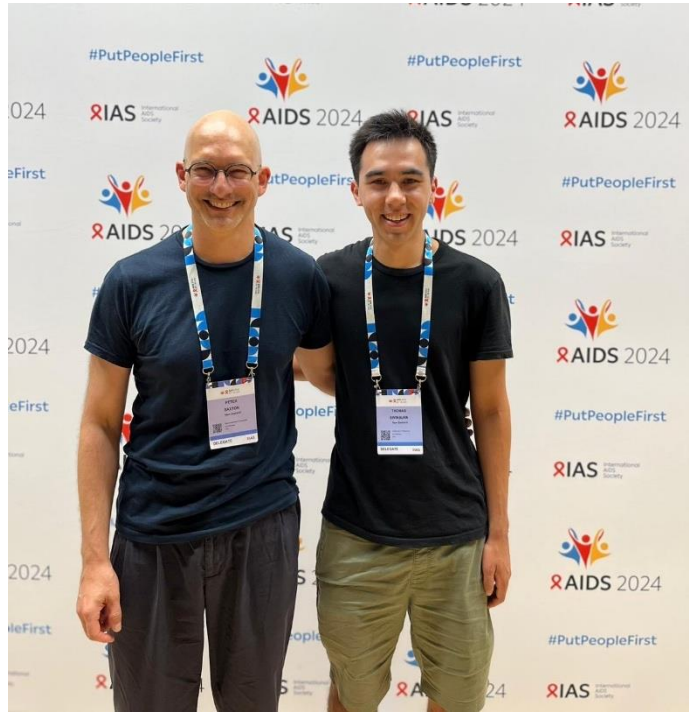
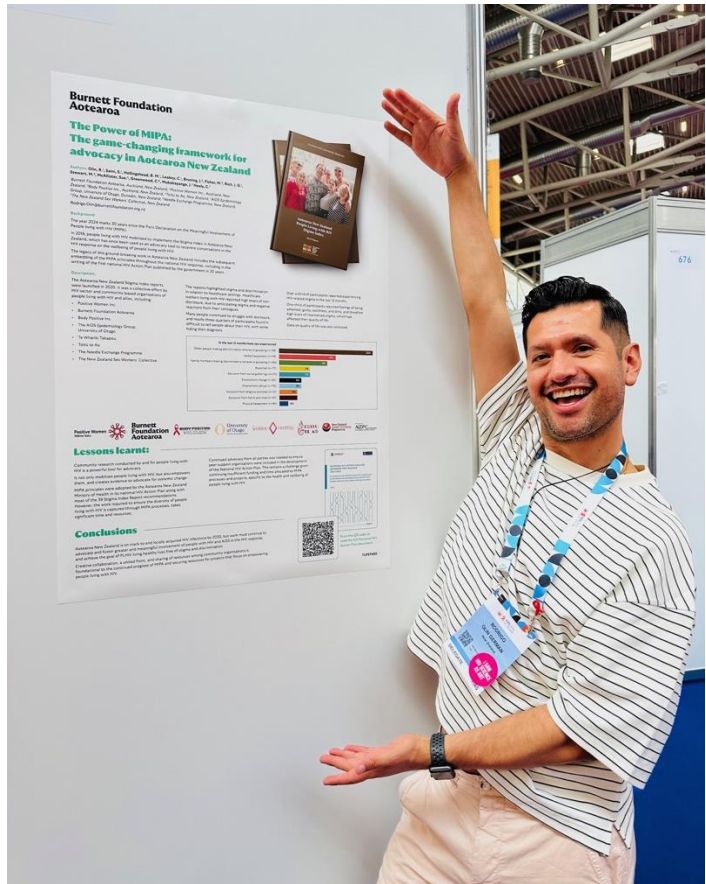
Communities are experts! Nothing about us without us.

(but do not overburden them, and make sure they are funded 😊)



Kiwis at the conference

20-26 July 2024



Ngā mihi
Thank you

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