

## Dettaglio abstract

**N. pgm:** OP 27

**Title:** Population of the Bergamo Check-Point. A first analysis of Cobatest data

**Presentation type:** Oral Poster

### Session/Topic

Access to test and educational aspects

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### Abstract

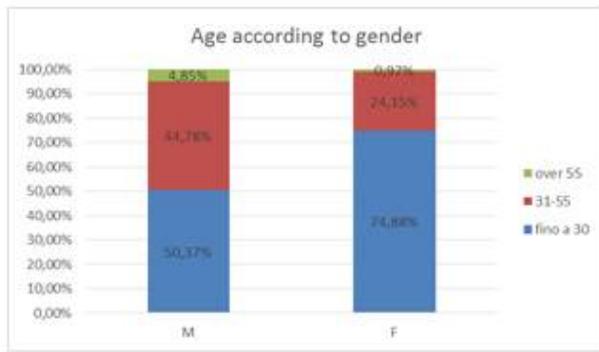
**Background:** on March 19th, 2019, Bergamo has signed the Paris Declaration becoming a Fast Track City (FTC). In June 2020 the Check point was opened offering rapid tests for HIV, HCV and syphilis. Since November 2021 the Bergamo Check Point adhered to the Cobatest network that connects CBVCT centers promoting STI testing in Europe and shares an instrument to collect data on sexual health care and transmittable diseases so to promote testing, early diagnosis and access to care for all.

**Methods:** At the Check Point the possibility to compile, together with a trained operator, the Cobatest questionnaire is offered to all clients. We analyzed results on data obtained in the first 4 months of use of this instrument (Nov 2021 to Mar 2022)

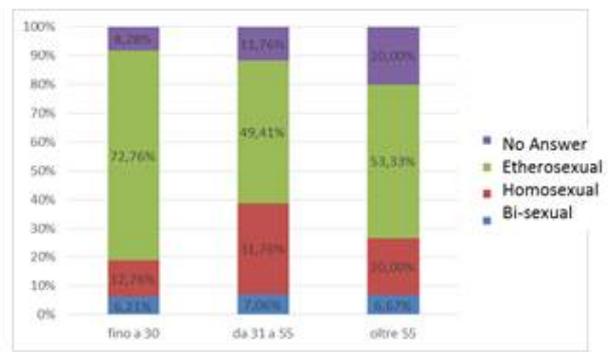
**Results:** The questionnaires concern 43.58% females and 56.42% males. More than half (50.37%) of males ages between 18 and 30 years, 44.78% ages between 31 and 55 and 4.85% has more than 55 years. For females the same figures are 74.88%, 24.15% and 0.97%, respectively (figure A). Overall, 87.37% of clients refers to be Italian and 12.63% of foreign origin. Limited to people reporting a sexual intercourse in the last 12 months, 63.79% of subjects refer a heterosexual relationship, 19.79% with a person defined of the same gender and 6.53% both with men or women. A remaining 9.89% do not respond or did not have a relationship in the last 12 months (figure B). For 47.27% of persons that was the first HIV test ever done (62.25% females and 38.58% males). Knowledge of the Check Point existence was in 4% of cases due to information given by relatives or friends, in 21.3% through paper-based propaganda, 19.26% through web-based research and 24.8% because directly reached by a direct e-mail sent during the European testing week thanks to a collaboration with the “Consulta” of students and the rectorate of the Bergamo University. Finally, 2% of persons reaches the service because involved in a program of awareness raising and information held at a high school level in the year 2021/2022 (figure C & D).

**Conclusions:** We believe that the high proportion of people that performs the HIV test for the first time is an index of a growing attention to personal sexual health and well-being and of a rising awareness of the potential risks especially among young people. The high prevalence of young subjects highlights the efficacy of strategies based on awareness rising programs in high schools and of a constant collaboration with the University management. Young women seem more sensitive to these factors compared to male peers. The interaction among different services, institutions and third sector organizations already operating on the territory allows the construction of a positive network as confirmed, among the key populations, by the good prevalence of MSM accessing the test. Some of them seems to be already sensitized about this topic (previous test already performed) but still prefer and find more friendly this type of service.

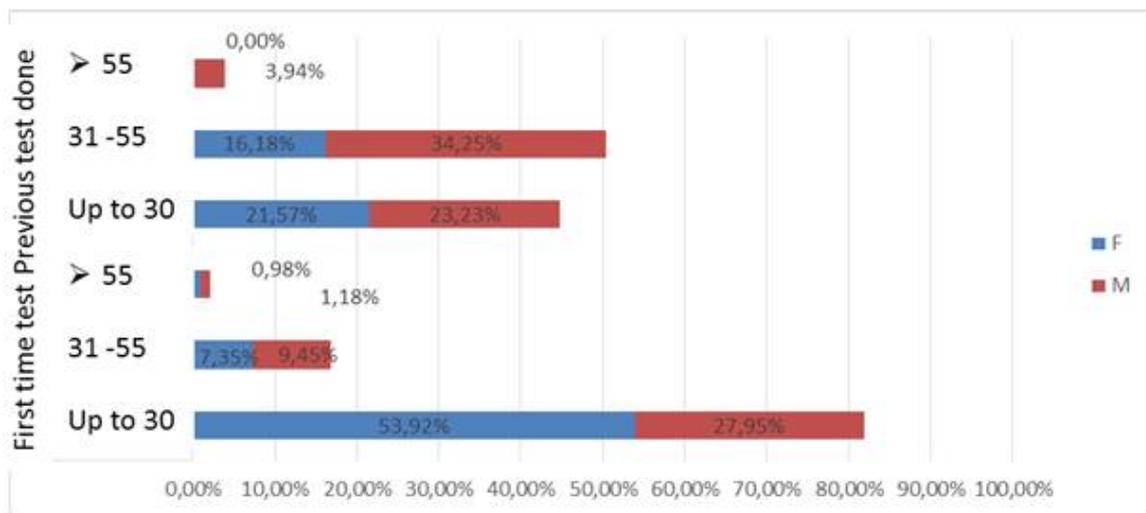
Panel A



Panel B



Panel C



Panel D

