



**Assessment of knowledge, attitude and practices among IDU's regarding sexual behaviour and HIV /AIDS in OST Center, S.N Medical College, Agra**

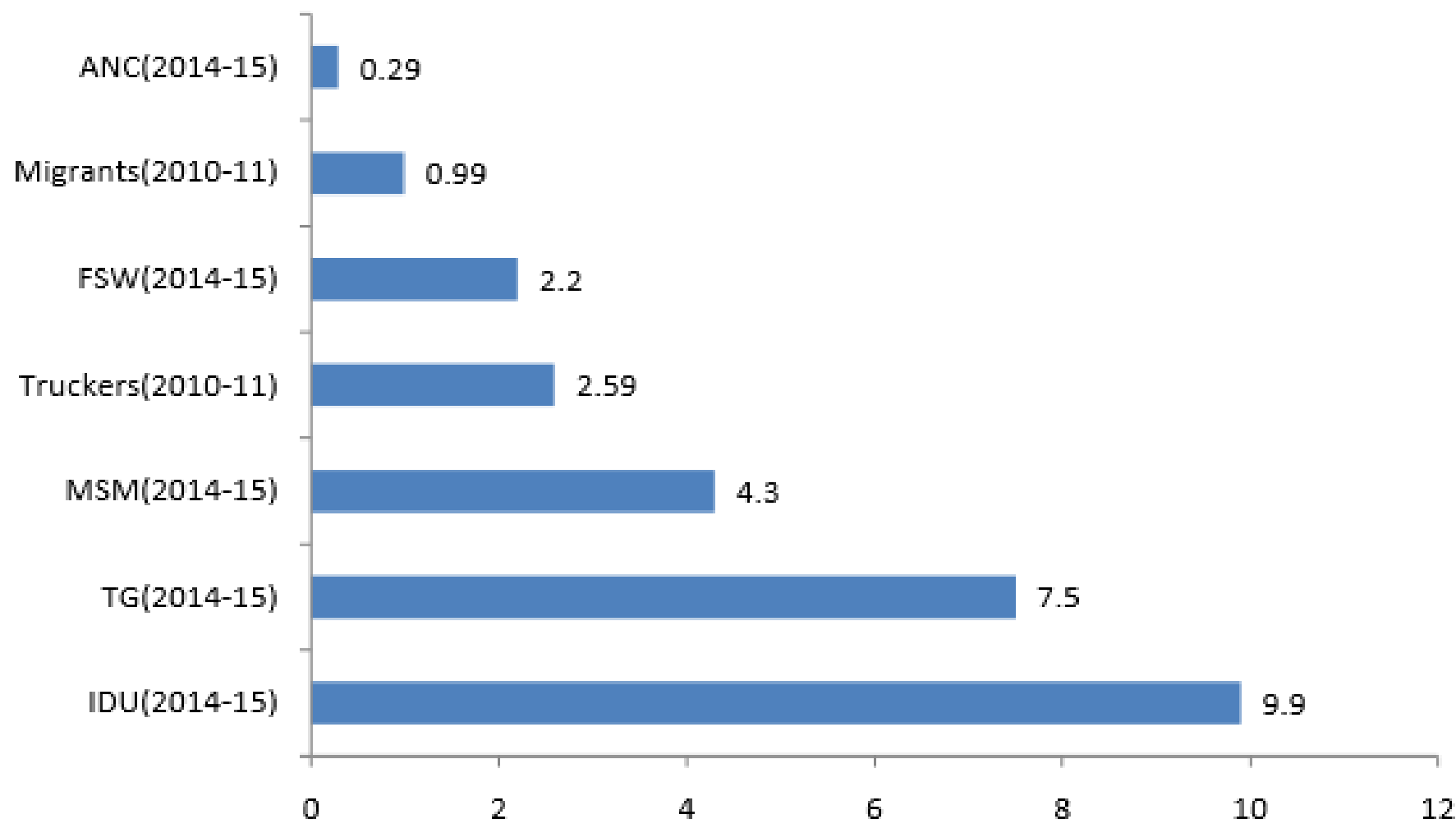
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## Introduction

- The number of people who inject drug , their HIV. prevalence rate remained steady at around 7% between 2007 and 2013, but was estimated at 9.9% in 2015.
- Opioid substitution therapy (OST) is an evidence-based intervention for opiate dependant persons that replaces illicit drug use with medically prescribed, orally administered opiates such as buprenorphine and methadone
- OST reduces HIV risk behaviours and harms associated with injecting (such as abscesses, septicaemia and endocarditis), overdose and participation in criminal activity, thereby improving the quality of life and health of injecting drug users

## HIV Prevalence (%)(HSS 14-15 & HSS 10-11)



## **About OST Centre AGRA**

- OST Centre is Agra is operational under State Medical College.
- It was started in year Dec 2013 but got clients enrolled in the year Jan 2014.
- Currently there are 167 clients enrolled in the OST Centre out of which 93 are active.
- Free Medical Check –up and treatment Provided
- Facilities for physical health like gym, football, basketball available
- HIV Testing facility and referral to ART centre to HIV positive patients.
- Counselling Facility.

## **Staff Position at OST Centre**

| <b>Name of sanctioned position</b> | <b>Numbers</b> |
|------------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Nodal Officer</b>               | <b>1</b>       |
| <b>Medical Officer</b>             | <b>1</b>       |
| <b>ANM</b>                         | <b>1</b>       |
| <b>Counsellor</b>                  | <b>1</b>       |
| <b>Data Manager</b>                | <b>1</b>       |

## **STUDY PROBLEM**

- Approximately 10% of HIV infections worldwide are attributable to injecting drug use.
- Globally, the number of people who inject drugs has been estimated to be nearly 12.7 million, which corresponds to a prevalence of 0.27% (0.19%–0.48%). In India, an estimated number of 177,000 adults are injection drug users (IDUs), defined as those with ever use of injecting drugs in their lifetime.

# Table1 :Review Of Literature

| S. No. | Author /Report                                                              | Year | Setting/ Country          | No. of participants | Results                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|--------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|---------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1.     | India HIV Estimation 2015 report ,NACO report.                              | 2015 | India                     |                     | •At national level the prevalence of HIV among IDU is estimated to be about 9.9%.                                                                                                               |
| 2.     | National survey on Extent, pattern and trends of drug abuse in India report | 2005 | India                     | 40697               | Heroin, cannabis & opiates are the major substances of abuse in India.                                                                                                                          |
| 3      | Armstrong G et al                                                           | 2015 | Manipur & Nagaland ,India | 1657                | Younger PWID were more likely to share needles and syringes in manipur<br><br>Out of 1,657 PWID in Manipur 23.7% ( <i>n</i> =392) were aged 18 to 24 years, 54.1% ( <i>n</i> =897) were aged 25 |

## Table 1 contd.....

| S. No. | Author        | Year | Setting/ City              | No. of participants | Results                                                                                                                                      |
|--------|---------------|------|----------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 5.     | Mehra B et al | 2014 | Delhi,India                | 200                 | One hundred thirty-two (56.4%) were                                                                                                          |
| S. No. | Author        | Year | Setting/ City              | No. of participants | Results                                                                                                                                      |
| 5.     | Mehra B et al | 2014 | Delhi,India                | 200                 | One hundred thirty-two (56.4%) were aware of blood transfusion and use of unsterile needles and syringes as other modes of HIV transmission. |
| 6.     | Yadav et al.  | 2009 | Saurashtra region, Gujarat | 543                 | Living with an HIV infected person: 20.78%<br>Mosquito bite 18.56%<br>Eating food with an HIV infected individual: 17.25%                    |

## **RATIONALE**

Prevalence of HIV/AIDS among injecting drug users is quite high so studying their sexual behaviour as well as knowledge about HIV, will help the state Government to analyze the situation and take appropriate steps to control the number of Injecting drug users.

## **RESEARCH QUESTIONS:**

What are the reasons of DROP OUT of OST Clients?

What is the retention rate of OST Treatment among IDU clients?

What are the factors that increased the likelihood of relapse and longer duration in treatment?

## **Objectives of the study:**

- 1) To calculate OST treatment retention.
- 2) To find out the reason for drop-outs.
- 3) To understand the factors that increased the likelihood of relapse and longer duration in treatment.
- 4) To assess the Knowledge, Attitude and Practices of IDU's regarding Sexual Behaviour and HIV/AIDS

## **Materials and Methods**

**STUDY PERIOD:** 12 weeks (19<sup>th</sup> February 2018 to 16<sup>th</sup> May 2018)

**PLACE OF STUDY :** OST Centre, S.N Medical College ,District Agra, Uttar Pradesh.

**STUDY POPULATION:** All clients enrolled in an OST program in Agra between April 2017 to January 2018.

- Patients having Severe Psychiatric problems are excluded
- Should be above to the age of 18 years.
- Persons those who refuse for written consent were excluded.

**RESEARCH DESIGN**- The research design selected for this study was Descriptive cross sectional type of study

**SAMPLING TECHNIQUE**: Non-probability Convenient type of sampling.

**Sample size**: 53

**Note: Number of Clients Enrolled=167**

**Number Of Active Clients =93**

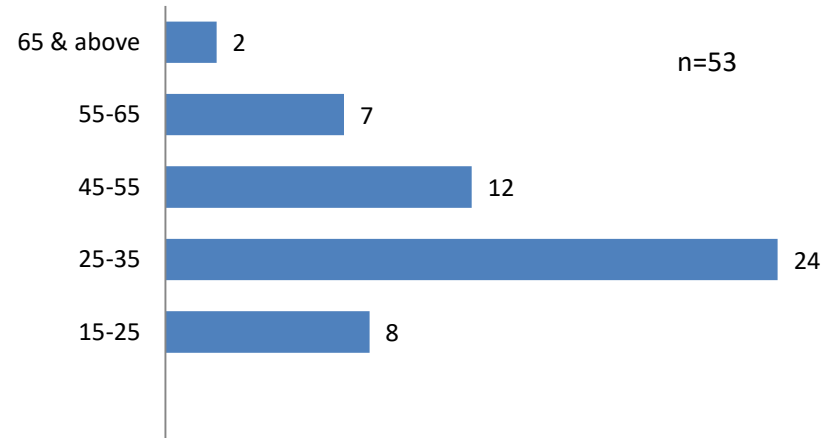
•**Data collection method**: Structured and Semi Structured questionnaires is used to collect data on demographics, drug use history and practices, sexual behaviour & Knowledge ,attitude and practice about HIV/ AIDS

## **ETHICAL CONSIDERATION**

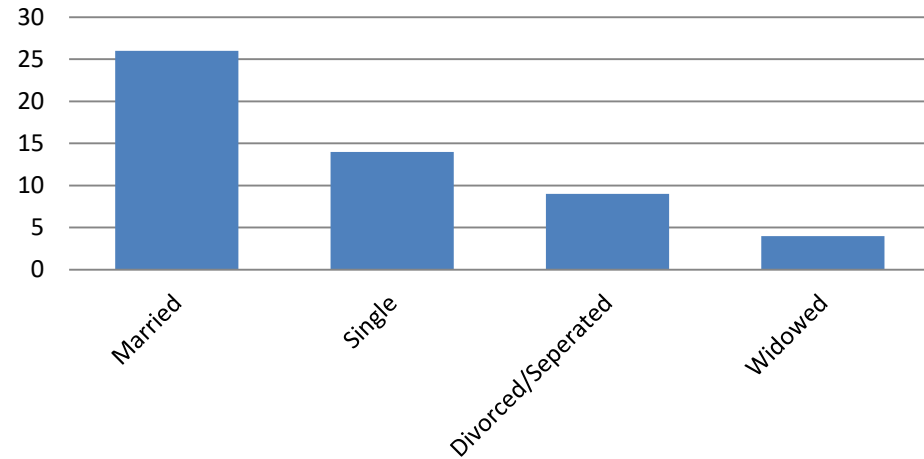
- Written permission is taken from the NACO and the concerned authority before carrying out the research.
- Informed consent was obtained from all participants prior to administration of the questionnaire and confidentiality of every client was assured.
- Participation was voluntary and no incentives were given.
- At any stage the participants were free to withdraw from the study or not answer some questions without penalty.

# SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CLIENTS

## AGE Distribution

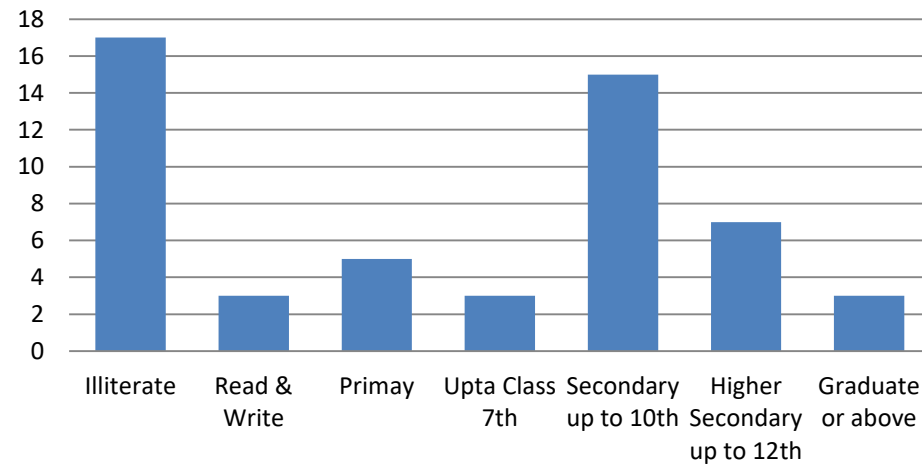


## Marital Status

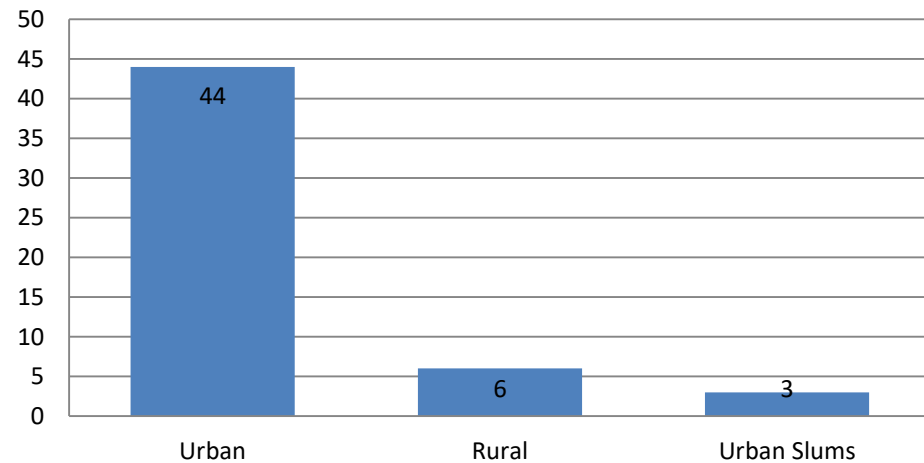


n = 53

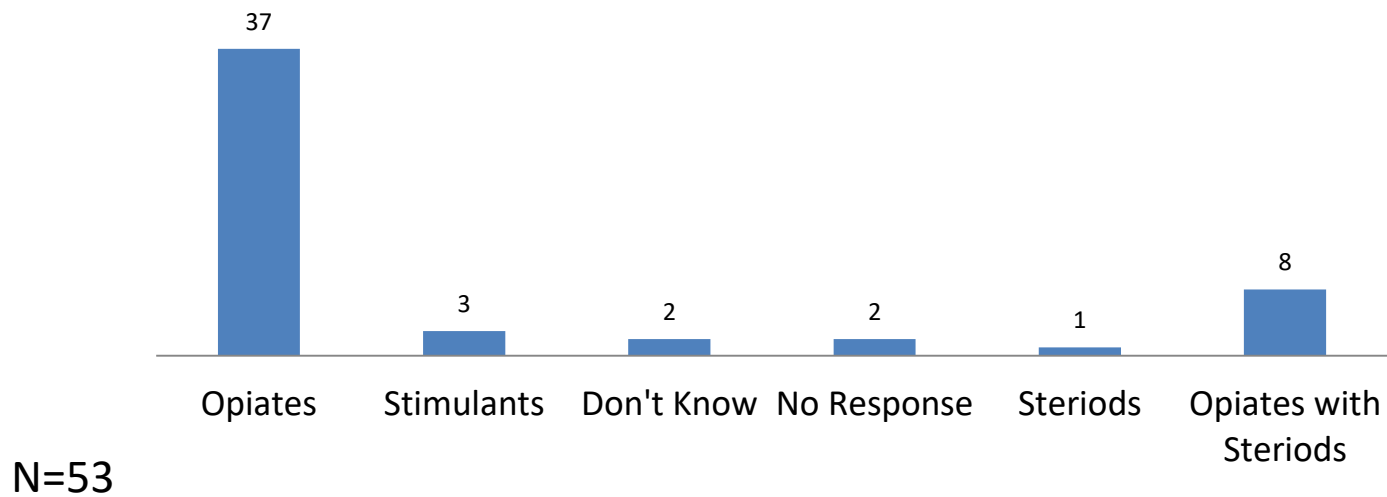
## Education Classification



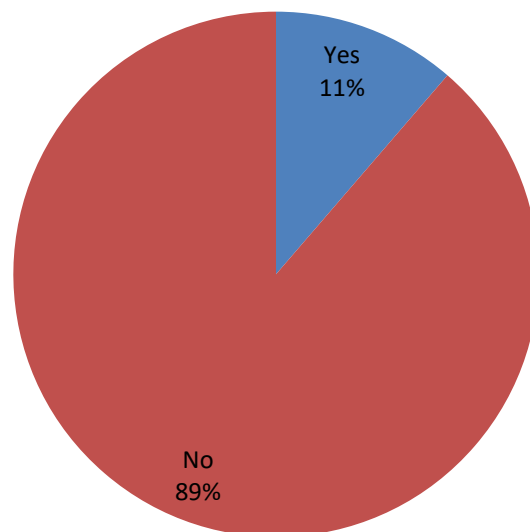
## Area Of Residence



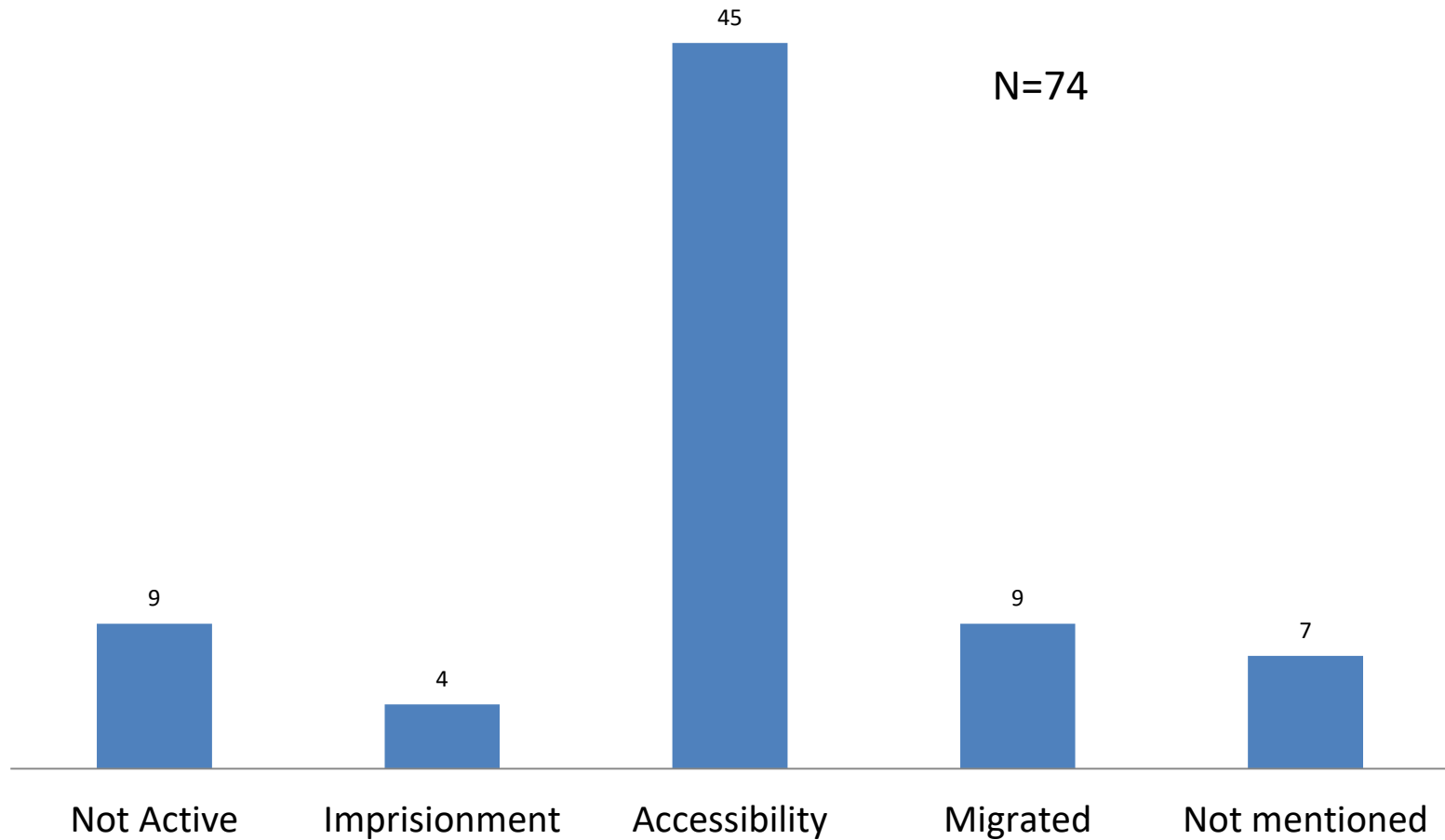
## Drug Use



## Injected drug in last 4 weeks



## Drop out reason

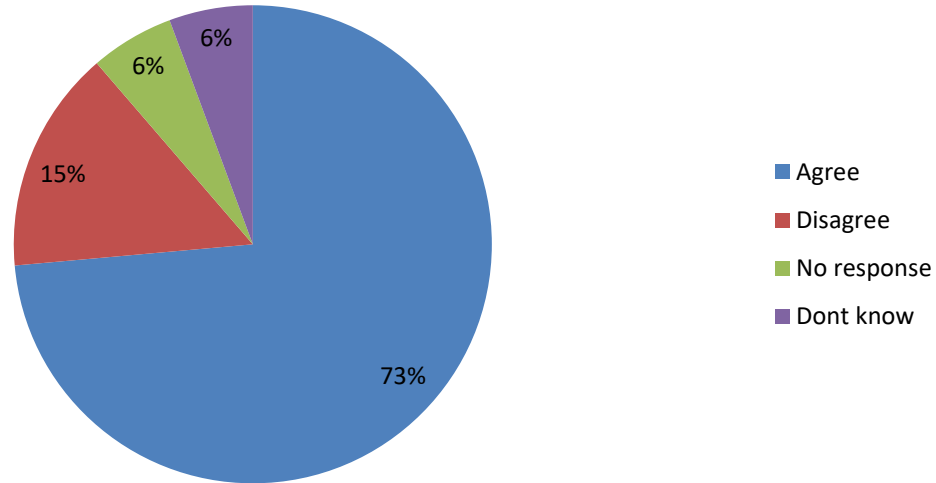


# Retention Rate (April'17 to Jan' 18)

| Month    | Clients started on OST (Cumulative) | No. of clients currently on OST (Received at least one dose during the month) | % Retention |
|----------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| April 17 | 140                                 | 80                                                                            |             |
| July17   | 145                                 | 79                                                                            | 98.75       |
| Oct17    | 147                                 | 78                                                                            | 98.75       |
| Jan 18   | 156                                 | 75                                                                            | 93.75       |

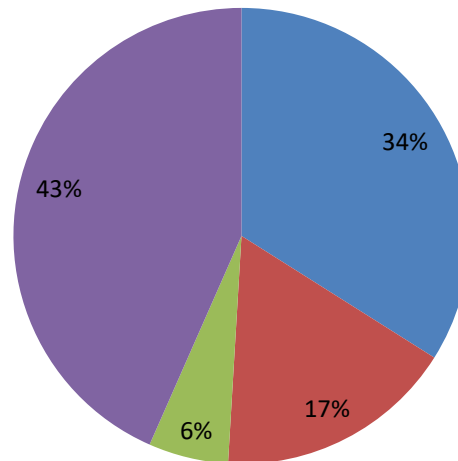
Note: For calculating the OST retention rate, I have excluded the new patient enrolled in OST after April 2017, and kept that static to 140 during the overall period .

## Using a male condom reduces sexual pleasure

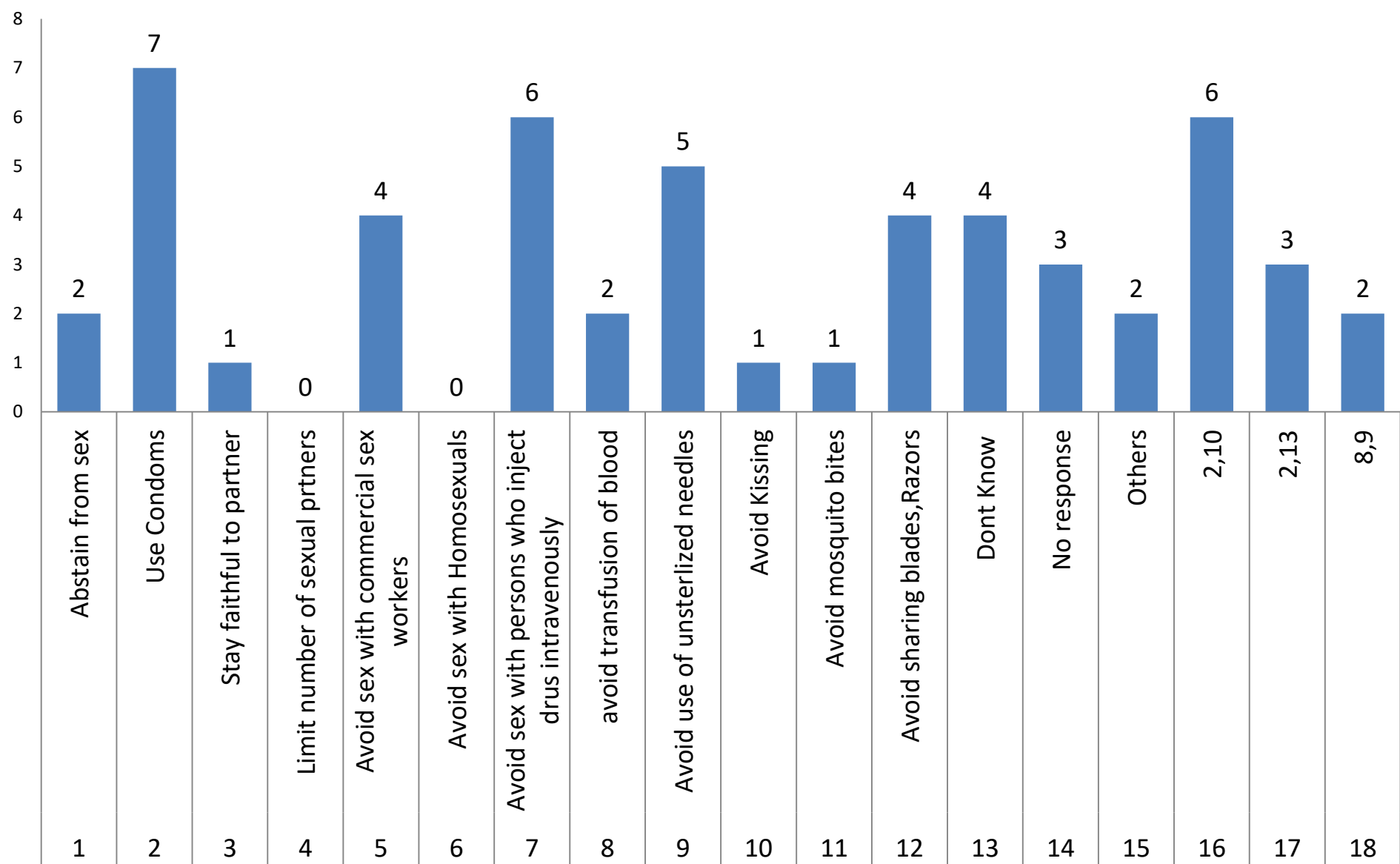


## Antiretroviral Drugs can cure HIV

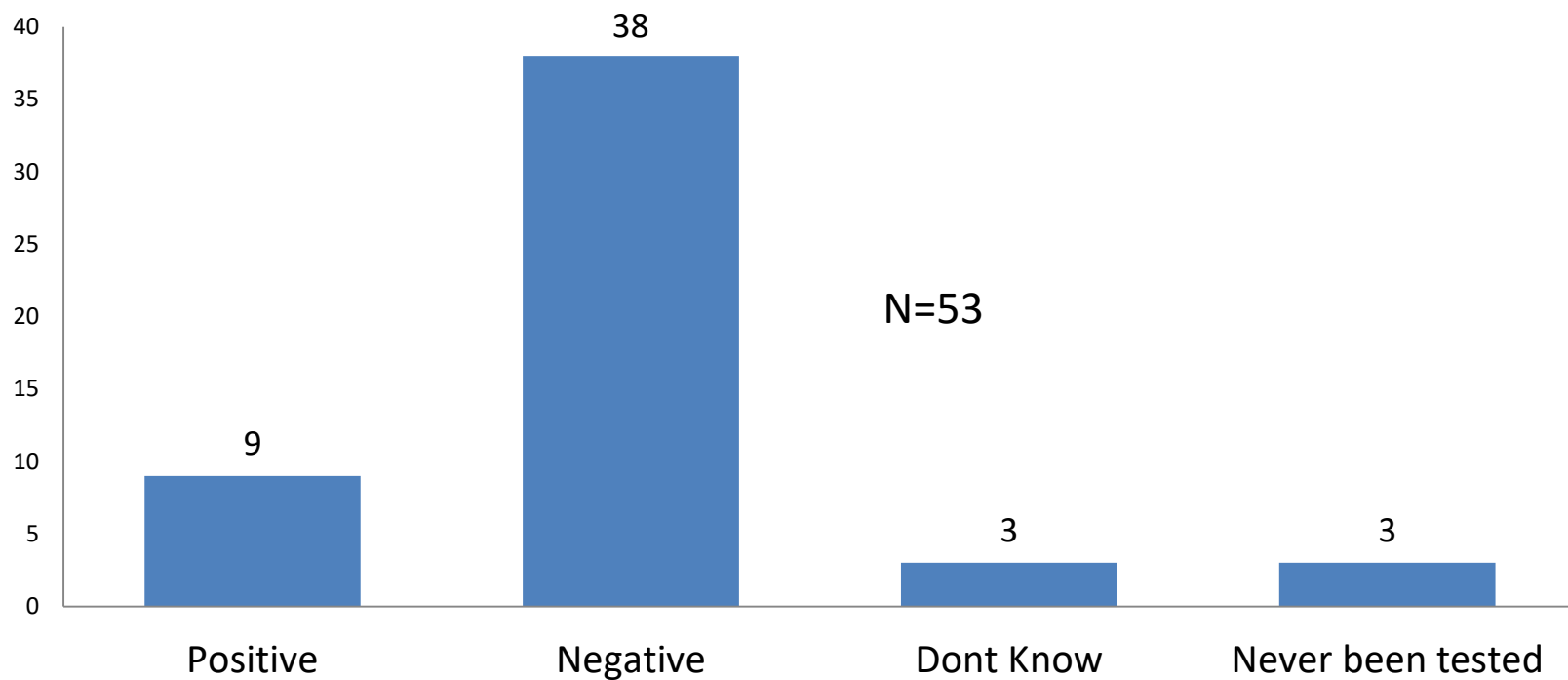
■ Agree ■ Disagree ■ No response ■ Dont know



# Knowledge about AIDS/HIV



# HIV Status of the Clients



Out of 9 positive cases : 6 are sexually active and have regular sexual partners as well as linked with commercial sex workers and they are not using condoms.

## **LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY**

Not able to interview all the clients enrolled in the OST centre because of the following reason:

- Active clients were less in number
- 
- Department didn't gave the permission to interview clients having major psychiatric problems.
- Some of the clients refused to become the part of the study.
- Timings of the client was different who daily come to take doses so it is difficult to interview them.
- Time constraint.
- Some of the NGOs were responsible to provide dose to the clients so it is difficult to trace them.

# CHALLENGES

- Most of the patients are road siders and its difficult to trace them and to motivate for regular follow-up.
- Many patient have to come from distant places and unable for regular follow up due to monetary and transport problems.
- Clients demands medicine in advance for 2-3 days.
- No or very less support from SACS.

# RECOMMENDATION

- Most of the patients are road siders and its difficult to trace them and to motivate for regular follow-up.
- Many patient have to come from distant places and unable for regular follow up due to monetary and transport problems.
- Compulsory testing for HIV testing ,So that the positive clients could be linked with ART Centres.
- More involvement of NGO Workers.
- Lab establishment for carrying out basic lab testing.
- Counselling should be focused on HIV and sexual Behaviour.

## **REFERENCES:**

- NACO report 2015
- Clinical Practice Guidelines for Treatment with Buprenorphine by NACO.
- Study on Opioid substitution therapy in manipur and nagaland, north-east india: operational research in action( [10.1186/1477-7517-7-29](#)).
- Armstrong G, Humtsoe C, Kermode M. BMC Public Health. 2011 Dec 29; 11 Suppl 6:S9. Epub 2011 Dec 2 study on HIV risk behaviours among injecting drug users in Northeast India following scale-up of a targeted HIV prevention programme.*
- Gowing L, Farrell M, Bornemann R, Sullivan L, Ali R: Substitution treatment of injecting opioid users for prevention of HIV infection. Cochrane Database Syst Rev. 2008, CD004145-[Google Scholar](#)*
- WHO, UNODC, UNAIDS: Technical guide for countries to set targets for universal access to HIV prevention, treatment and care for injecting drug users*