

# Session 2: Can the Status Neutral Approach Reduce Stigma?

## Is the Status Neutral Approach Affecting Stigma?

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# Status Neutral Approaches

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# What I have found

# Status-Neutral Approaches in Practice

## System-wide, status-neutral care for MSM in New York City

### Key Elements

- Funding to transform STD clinics into general sexual health clinics.
- Sex-positive HIV prevention campaign simultaneously aimed at people at risk of, and living with HIV.
- Workshops to help clinics incorporate PreP.
- Culturally affirmative programming for Black and Latino MSM.

### Outcomes:

- 22% decrease in new HIV diagnoses over three years.

# Status Neutral HIV Prevention and Care



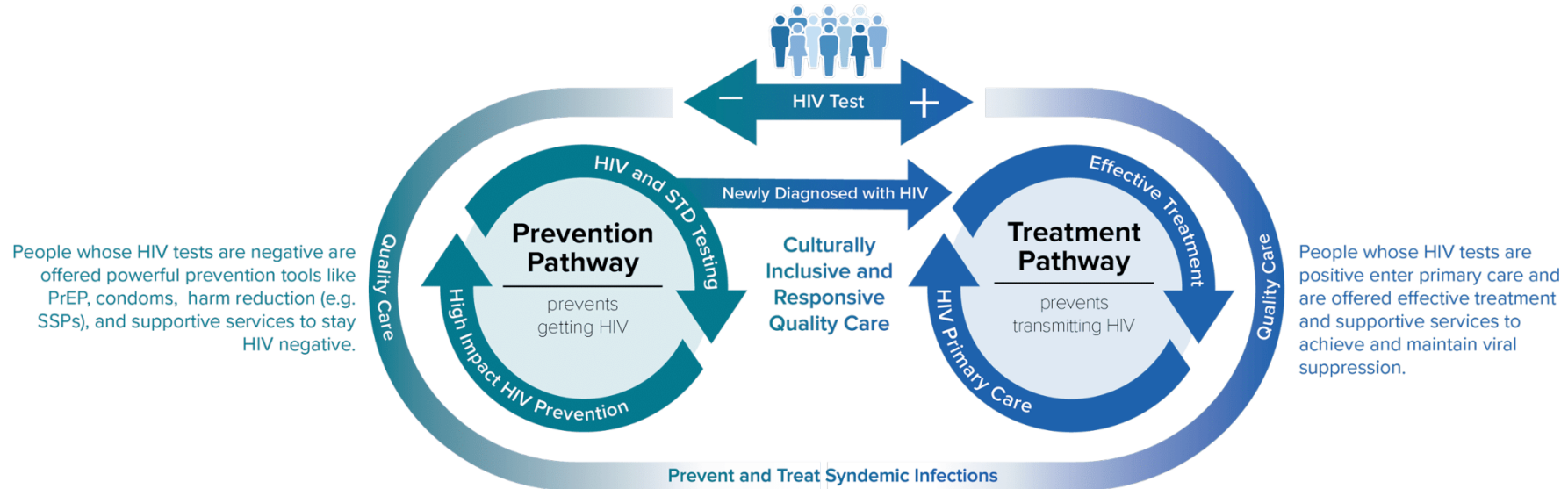
Status Neutral HIV Prevention and Care was first introduced by the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene as a comprehensive system of prevention that includes all people affected by HIV, regardless of their HIV status. With a status neutral approach, engaging and assessing the client's needs begins before an HIV test is conducted. Considered a 'whole person' approach to health care and service delivery, status neutral HIV prevention and care focuses on the needs of the person through provision of comprehensive services that meet people where they are regardless of their HIV status.

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# Status Neutral HIV Prevention and Care



Follow CDC guidelines to test people for HIV. Regardless of HIV status, quality care is the foundation of HIV prevention and effective treatment. Both pathways provide people with the tools they need to stay healthy and stop HIV.

# Status-Neutral Approaches in Practice

## Community-led, status neutral care for transgender women of colour in the United States

### Key Elements

- Designed with and delivered by communities
- Linkage to other transgender health interventions
- Linkage to social and financial support
- Trauma-informed

### Outcomes:

- Social cohesion within marginalised communities
- Many chose to share their HIV status
- Interventions explicitly addressed trauma
- Whole community (regardless of HIV status) benefits from support with finances, housing, mental health etc.

Garamel et al., (2022) *The ethical imperative to reduce HIV stigma through community-engaged, status-neutral interventions designed with and for transgender women of colour in the United States*. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/35818894/>.





What I feel



# Thank You

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