

# Ending the threat of HIV in Papua New Guinea.

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# Milestones of HIV in PNG!

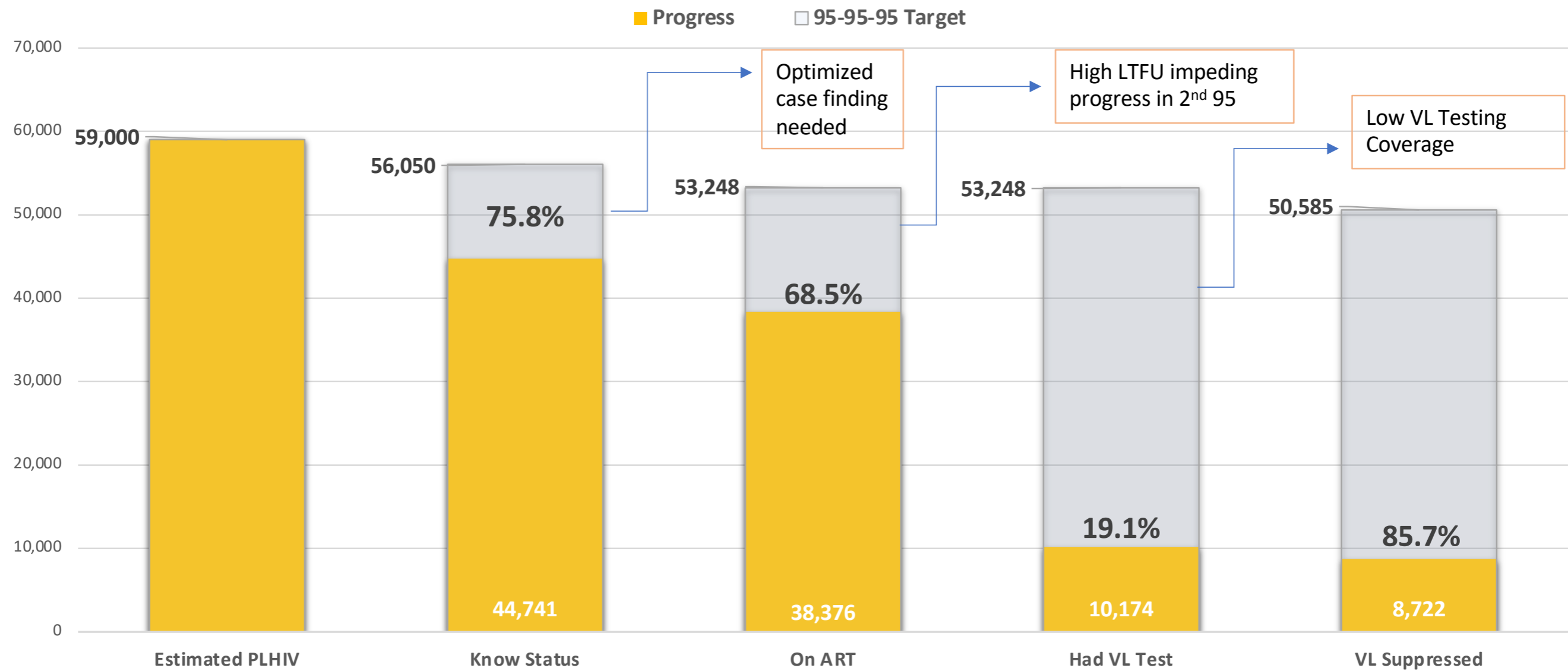
- 1987 - First Case of HIV diagnosed in PNG.
  - 1997 - National Aids Counsel Secretariat established by act of Parliament.
  - 2005 – Antiretroviral Treatment first introduced into PNG.
  - 2017 – First national HIV Drug Resistance Survey which showed that PNG had high rates of HIV drug resistance (5<sup>th</sup> Highest according WHO 2020 HIV drug resistance report)
  - 2019 – PNG introduced optimum ART regimen (Tenofovir/Lamivudine/Dolutegravir – TLD once daily pill)
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- We are all in this together.
  - We have come a long Way.
  - We have a long way to go.
  - We need to accelerate.

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## 2021 HIV statistics of concern for PNG

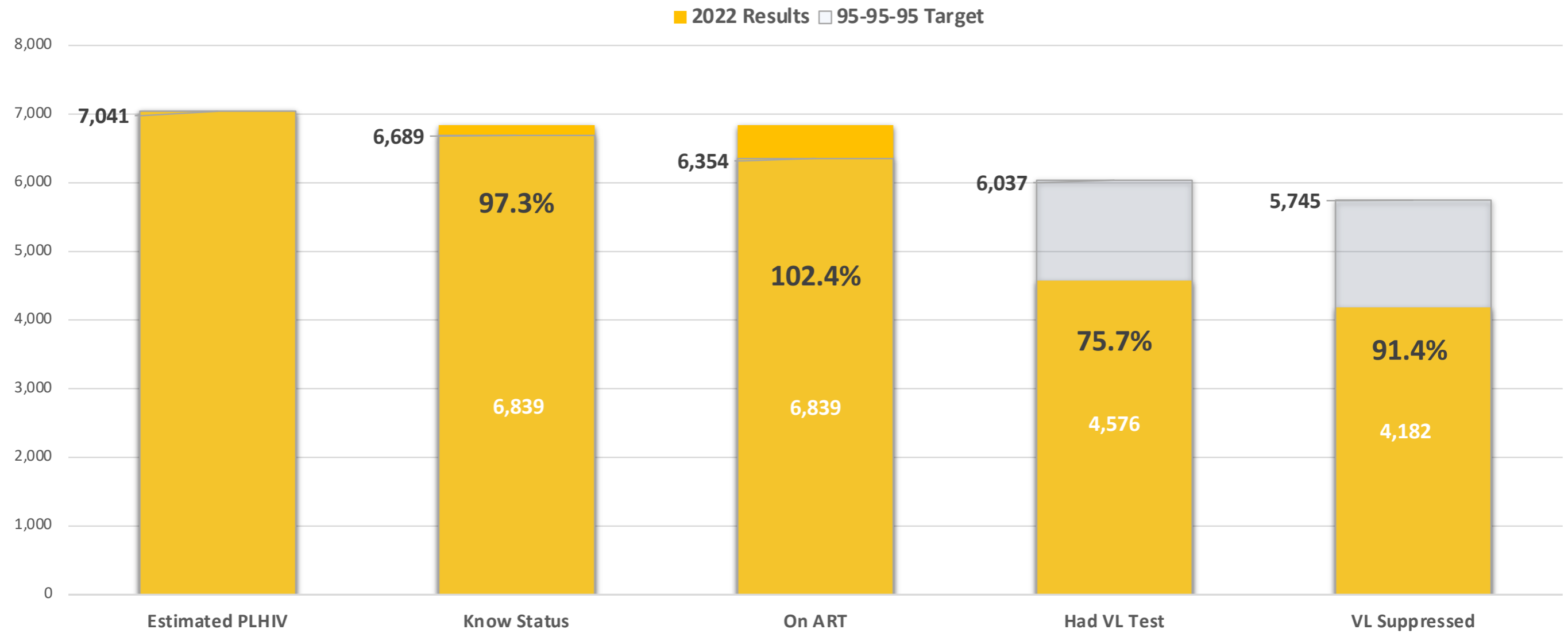
- ↑ 3800 new infections. (45% increase since 2010)
- ↑ 59000 Total PLHIV
- ↑ HIV Vertical Transmission – 36%
- 16% HIV Testing at ANC

# National 95-95-95 Progress, 2021 Estimates



Source: National Spectrum Estimates, 2021, VL data – HPDB September 2022

# National Capital District 95-95-95 Progress, September 2022



# Opportunities across the Cascade.

## HIV Testing:

- We need to focus on optimizing case finding – partner testing.
- We need to increase HIV testing of more importance is in ANC and TB clinics.
- Advocacy for HIV testing and increased provision of HIV testing.
- How can I advocate to help increase HIV testing.

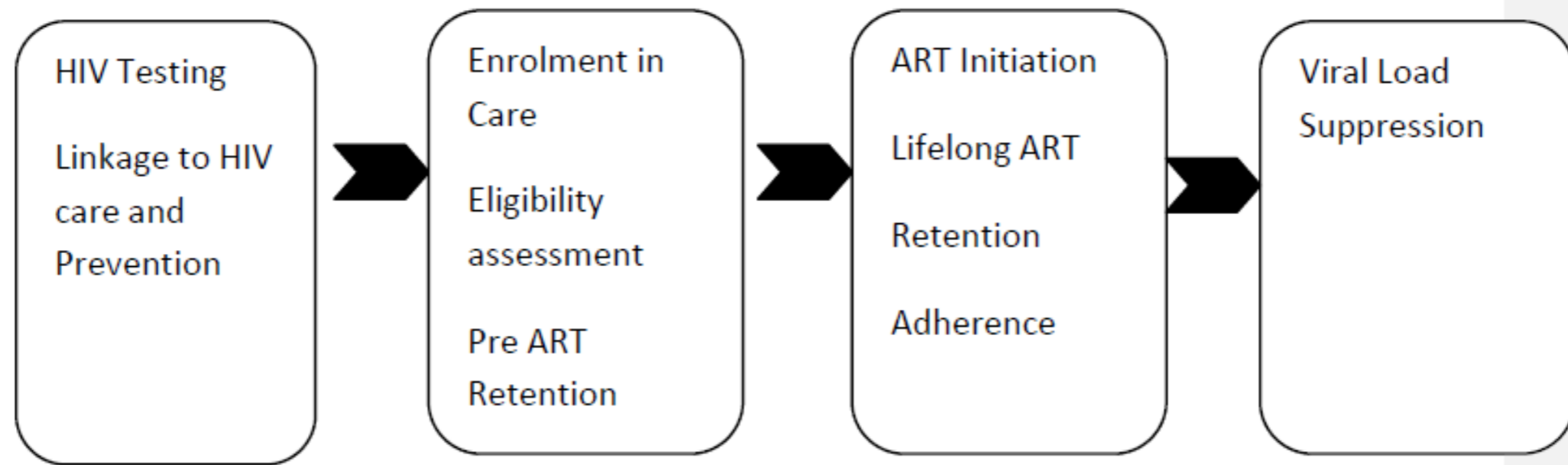
## HIV Treatment:

- Need to improve treatment continuity.
- Strengthen programs that reduce the number of people dropping out of Care and interrupting treatment.
- We commenced 53,248 PLHIV on ART, currently we have only 38,376 on ART, what happened to the 14,872 PLHIV who are Lost to follow up?
- How can I help improve treatment continuity?

## HIV viral load testing:

- We need to improve viral load testing coverage.
- U=U messaging (Undetectable = Untransmittable), ie, if your viral load is undetectable after 12 months of continuous treatment, and you remain adherent to treatment, you will not transmit HIV.
- Achieving viral suppression has 2 important outcomes
  - Prevents Transmission of HIV and patient has good clinical outcome.
  - Prevents HIV drug resistance
- How can I amplify the U=U messaging?

# HIV Prevention Care and Treatment Continuum



- The goal of antiretroviral therapy (ART) is to achieve virological suppression – U=U

# Enablers

## Improved functional information systems.

- Improved HIV data information systems will help
  - Monitor the HIV epidemic
  - Improve ART procurement and distribution
  - Advocate for resource allocation.

## Strengthen CLM

- Strengthen Community-Led monitoring to provide opportunity for users of services to be involved in improving services and generate demand for services amongst the communities. Right now KPAC – made of 7 groups is leading CLM activities.
- How can I help support CLM?

## Improved Economy

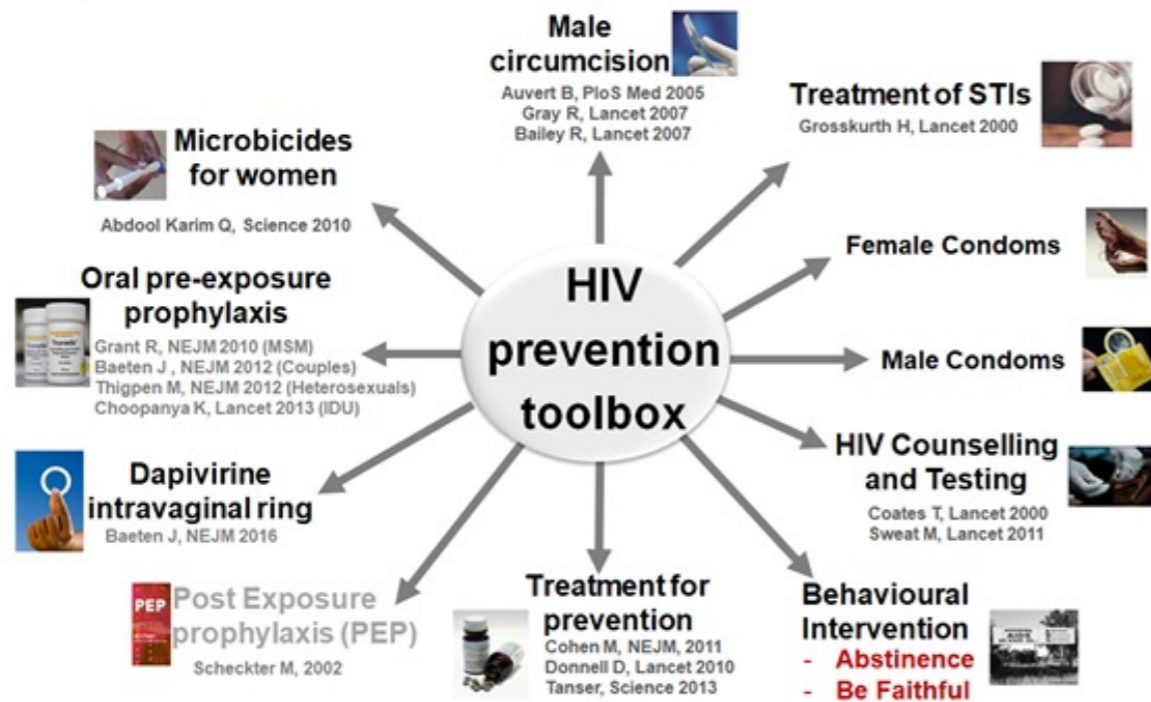
- Improved Economy with increased allocation of resources to address the HIV situation in PNG.
  - Improved HIV services including Human resources.
- Increase in employment opportunities.
- Improved livelihood of citizens.

## Normalize HIV

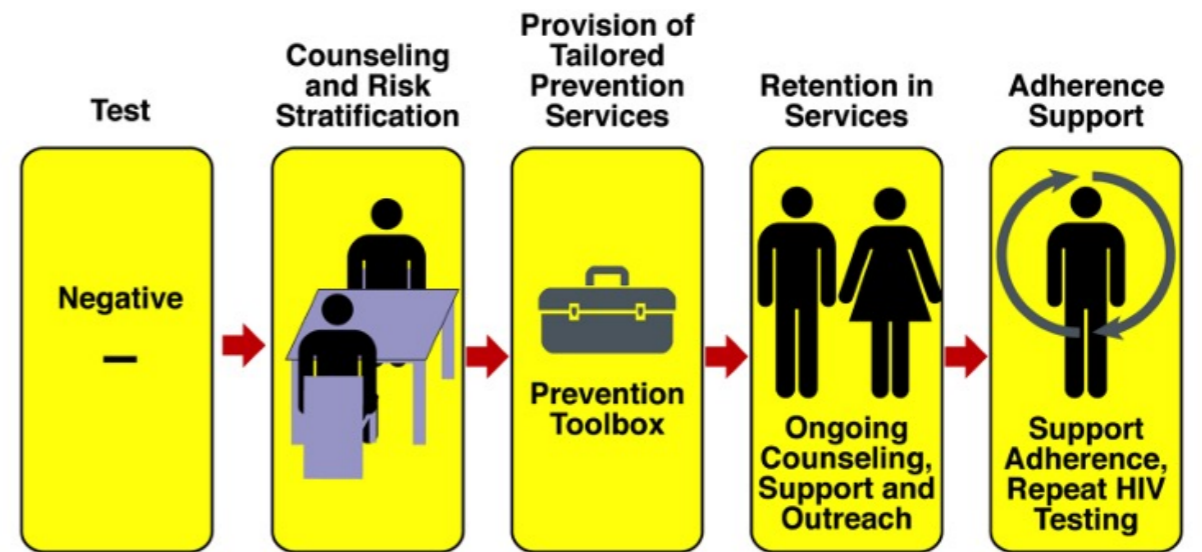
- Reducing stigma and discrimination is critical to achieving HIV epidemic control.



# Prevention toolbox



## HIV Prevention Continuum



Adapted from: ML McNairy and WM El-Sadr, *Clin Infect Dis* 59: S12-S15, 2014.

AS Fauci/NIAID

# Strategic Documents

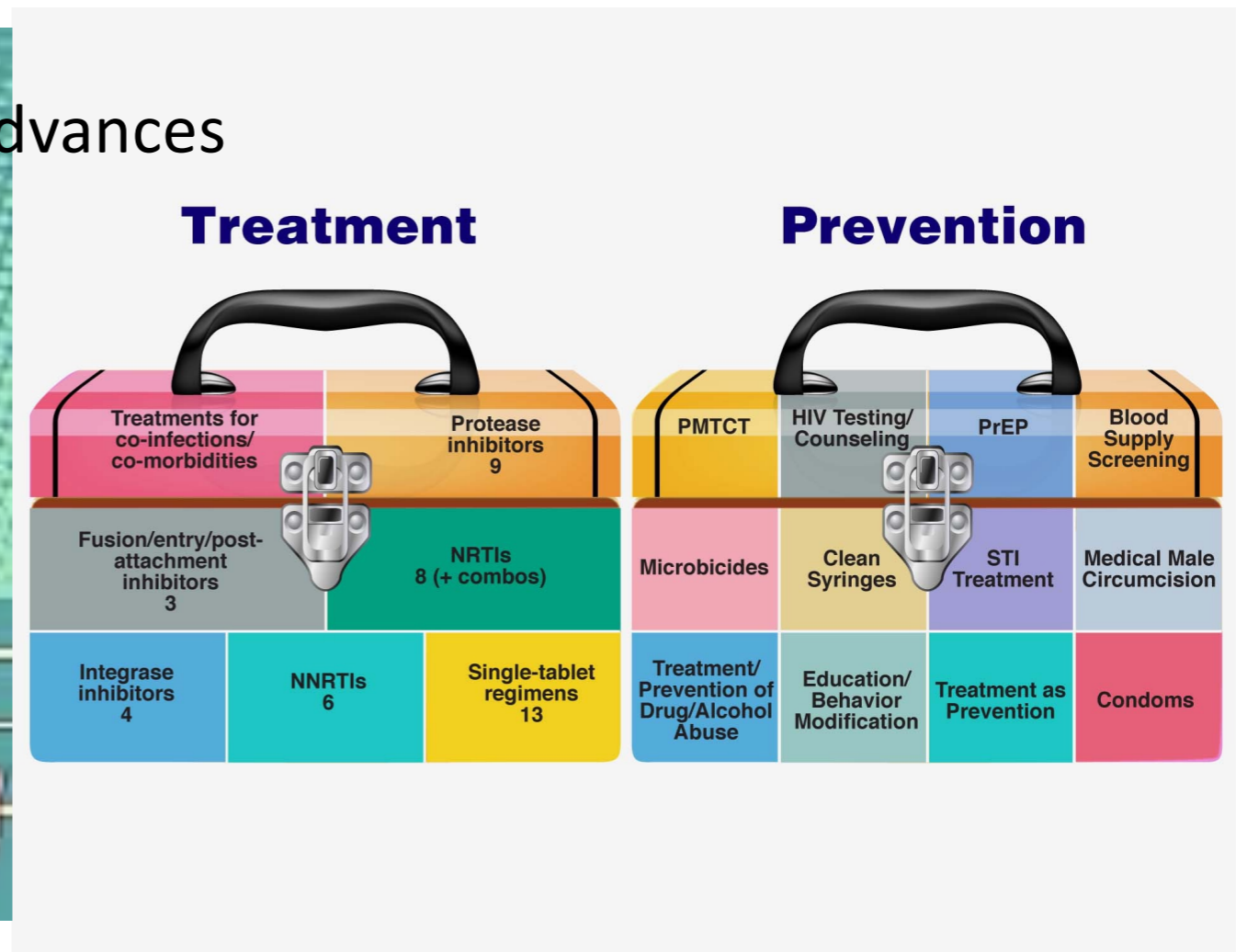
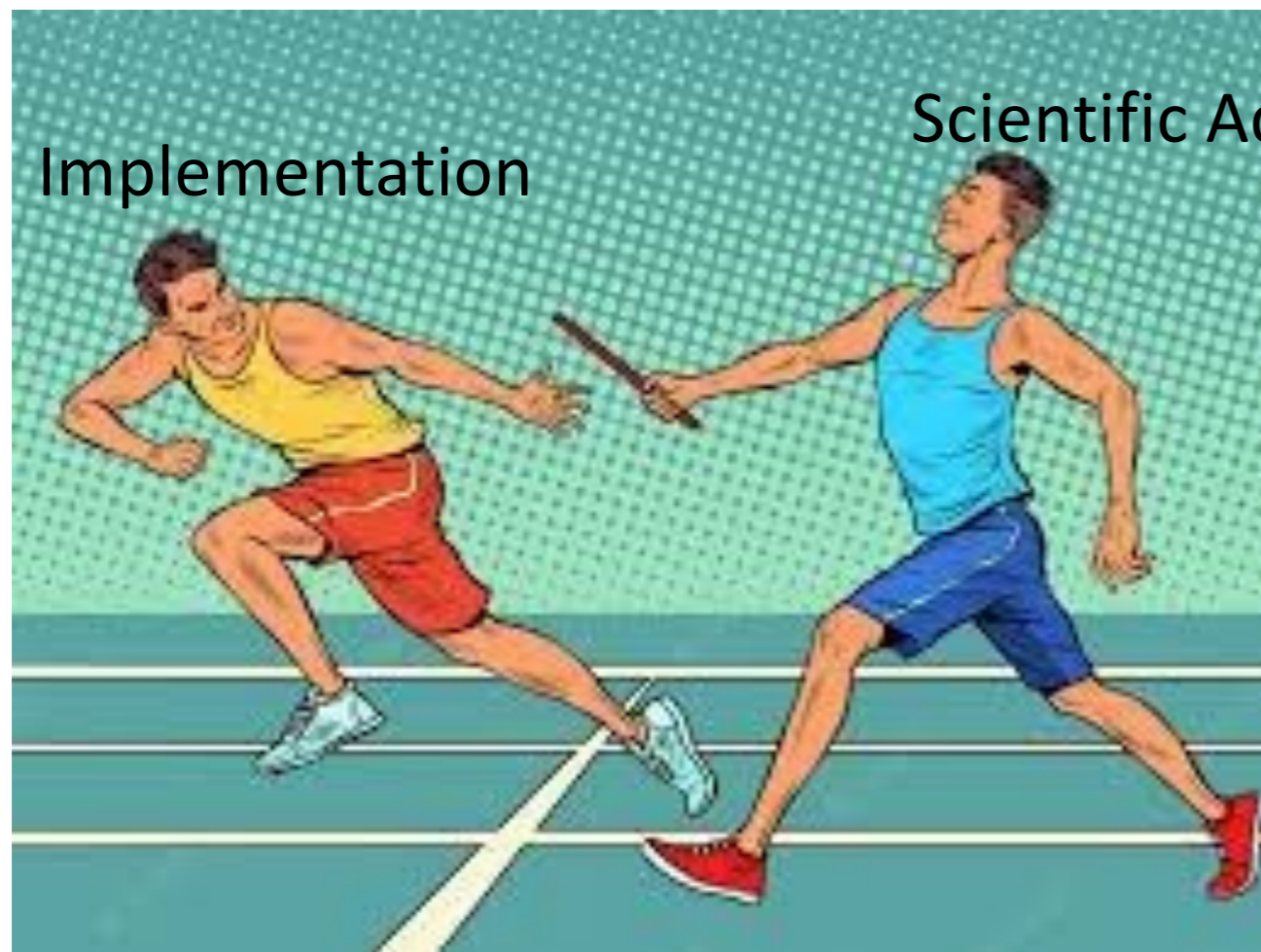
National Health Plan 2021-2030

National HIV/STI Strategy 2023-2027

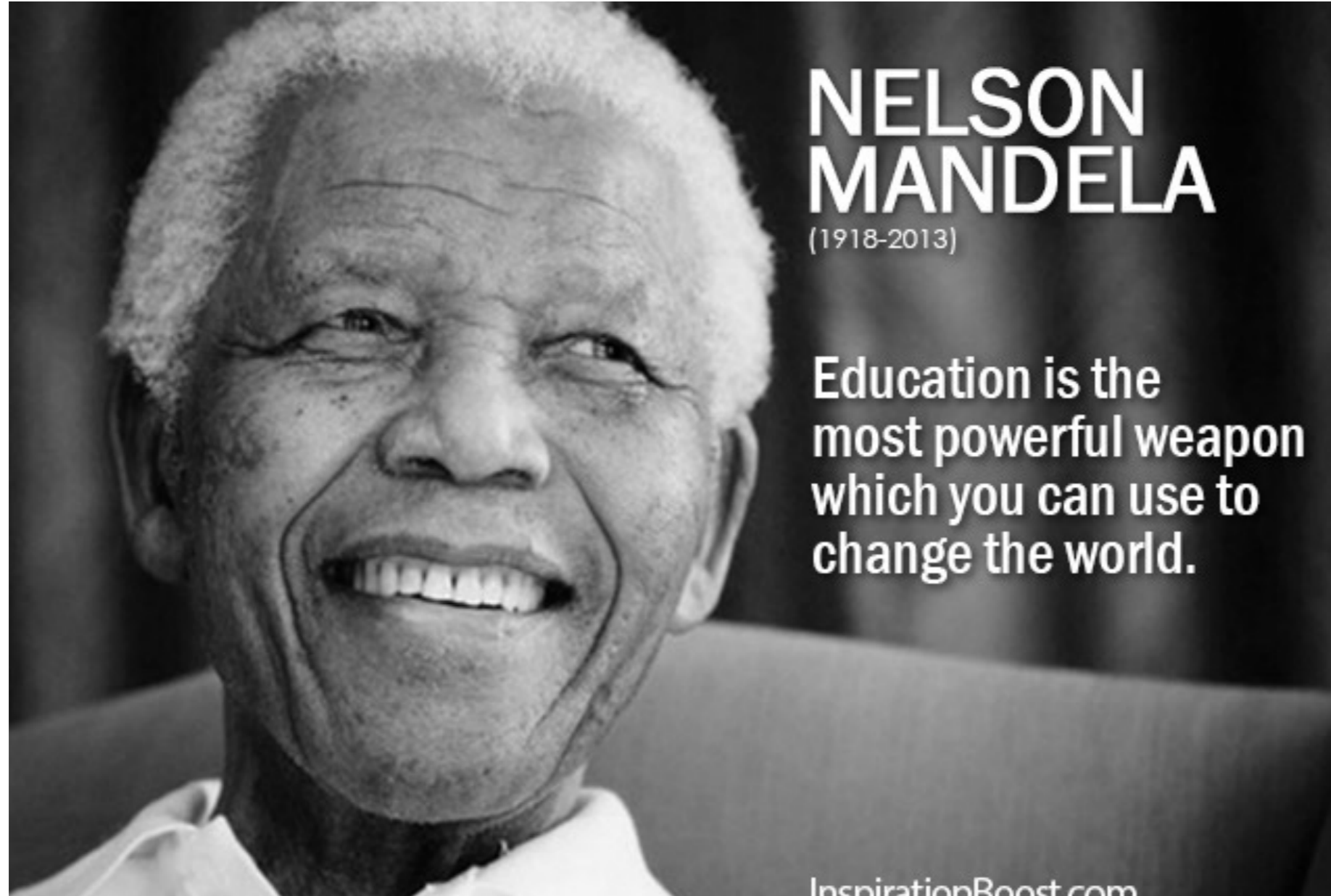
Elimination of Mother to Child transmission of HIV/Syphilis/Hepatitis B.

Viral Load testing road map.

# Do we have what it takes to win the race?



## We can do this!



Thank you  
for listening!