



Quarterly Update
2025-26 Q2

OCS PRODUCTIVITY

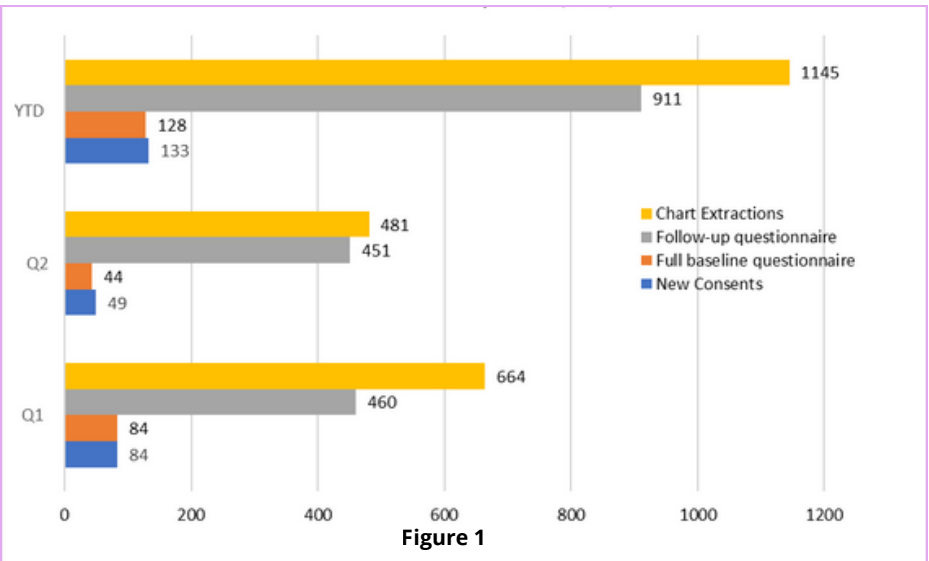
Q1 (April-June), Q2 (July- September) & Year to Date (YTD)

Data Collection Update

Between April and September 2025 (Figure 1), OCS sites have successfully completed:

- **133** new consents
- **911** follow-up surveys
- **128** baseline surveys
- **6** brief surveys
- **1,145** chart extractions

We extend our sincere thanks to participating sites, dedicated data collectors, and all OCS participants for their continued contributions.



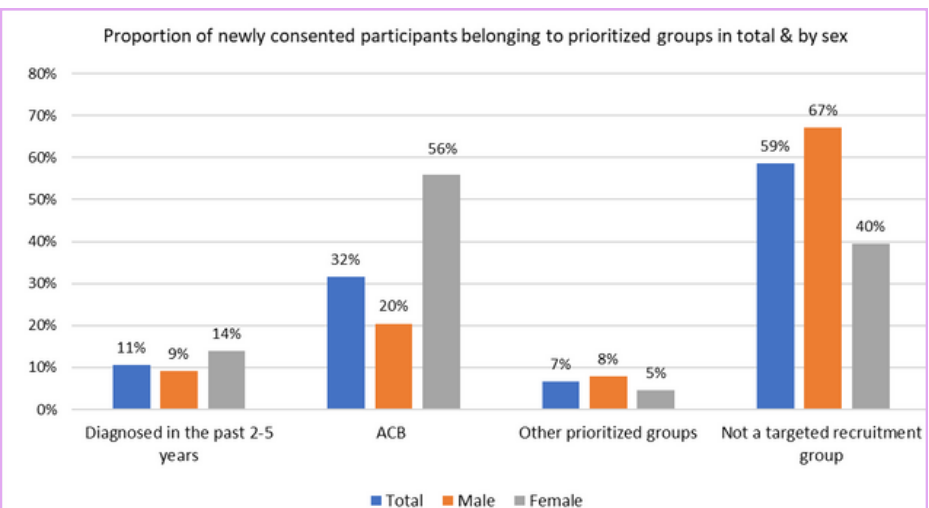
Recruitment Update

Our 2025-26 aim is recruit and consent 400 new participants. To date, we've achieved 33% of this target.

All sites have been asked to prioritize individuals diagnosed with HIV within the past 2-5 years and members of underrepresented groups, including people who use injection drugs (PWID), African, Caribbean and Black (ACB) males, and Indigenous Peoples.

So far in 2025:

- **32%** - self-identified as ACB
- **11%** - diagnosed within the past 2-5 years
- **7%** - other prioritized groups.



OCS sites have recruited and consented **133 new participants** into the study.

Of these, **84 (63%)** were consented in Q1 (April- June) and **49 (37%)** in Q2 (July - September). The median age of newly consented participants is **45 years** (IQR: 37-56).

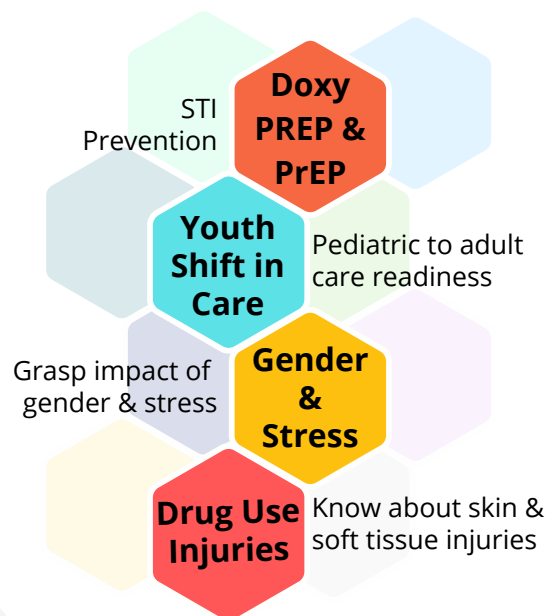
OCS 2026 Questionnaire Updates

The OCS team regularly collects feedback on the questionnaire from participants, data collectors, researchers and other partners.

In light of this year's feedback, as well as the emerging scientific evidence concerning HIV treatment and prevention, we've introduced **four new modules** into the **2026 Questionnaire**.

We've also made minor revisions in wording of some questions to improve readability and clarity. We send our gratitude to all those who shared their feedback and recommendations with us throughout the year.

The updated Questionnaire will be launched in **January 2026**.



OCS Seminar Series Launched!

The OCS Seminar series provides an alternative space for sharing research findings using OCS data. It aims to foster dialogue, strengthen relationships, inspire collaboration, and spur action on issues that matter to people living with HIV in Ontario.

Our audience includes site investigators, academics, clinicians, committee and community members, policy makers, and site research staff. Presenters are invited to take a **storytelling approach** – bringing data and analysis to life through **visualization** and **compelling narrative**.

Our inaugural session in September featured **Simran Mann**, a Master of Public Health student in Epidemiology at the University of Toronto. Simran completed a practicum in September with the OHTN and the MAP Centre for Urban Health Solutions at Unity Health Toronto, under the supervision of Dr. Ann Burchell.

Simran presented findings from her practicum research using OCS data, focusing on patterns of **AIDS Service Organization (ASO) usage among people living with HIV in Ontario, Canada**. One key takeaway from her presentation was that while ASO services may be available, they aren't always usable or accessible in practice -- service utilization and engagement vary by age, race, income, gender and sexual identity, and time of diagnosis.

✦ Upcoming Seminar Schedule:

Occurs monthly on Mondays from noon to 1pm, our next three upcoming sessions are scheduled for: **November 24th, December 8th, and January 10th**.

Stay tuned for the invitation!

OCS Team Updates

As we welcome a new data collector, Kyla Chepelsky, at Health Sciences North (Sudbury), we wish good luck to our outgoing data collector, Adeola Latona from Toronto General Hospital for her future endeavours.

We thank all OCS site staff for their dedication and commitment to the work.

The Ontario HIV Treatment Network Cohort Study (OCS) is an ongoing research study that collects clinical, social and behavioural information about people living with HIV (PHA) in Ontario. Participation in the study is voluntary, and all personally identifying information of study participants is removed to ensure confidentiality. The OCS was established to improve our understanding of HIV and inform HIV prevention, care and treatment strategies for people living with HIV and groups at risk of HIV infection. For more information about the OCS, please visit ohtncohortstudy.ca or email ocs@ohtn.on.ca.