

# POST-EXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS NON-COMPLETION AND NON-CONDOM USE IN FRANCE, 2004-2017

**GANTNER Pierre<sup>1</sup>, ALLAVENA Clotilde<sup>2</sup>, DUVIVIER Claudine<sup>3</sup>, CABIE André<sup>4</sup>, REYNES Jacques<sup>5</sup>, MAKINSON Alain<sup>5</sup>, RAVAUX Isabelle<sup>6</sup>, COTTE Laurent<sup>7</sup>, REY David<sup>8</sup>, for the Dat’AIDS Study Group.**

1 Virology laboratory, Hôpitaux Universitaires de Strasbourg, Strasbourg, France; Strasbourg University, INSERM, UMR-S U1109, F-67000 Strasbourg, France. 2 Infectious Diseases Department, Hôpital Hôtel-Dieu, Nantes, France. 3 AP-HP-Necker Hospital, Infectious Diseases Department, Necker-Pasteur Infectiology Center, Paris, France; Medical Center of Pasteur Institut, Necker-Pasteur Infectiology Center, Paris, France; Paris Descartes University, Sorbonne Paris Cité, EA7327, Paris, France. ; IHU Imagine, F-75015 Paris, France. 4 Infectious Diseases Department, CHU de Fort-de-France, Martinique, France. 5 Infectious Diseases Department, Inserm U1175, CHU Montpellier, Montpellier, France. 6 AP-HM, IHU-Méditerranée Infection, Aix Marseille University, Marseille, France. 7 Maladies Infectieuses et Tropicales, Hôpital de la Croix Rousse, Lyon, France. 8 Le Trait d’Union, HIV-infection care center, Hôpitaux Universitaires de Strasbourg, France.

Corresponding author: Pierre Gantner, Laboratoire de Virologie, 3, rue Koeberlé, 67000 Strasbourg, France. [pierre.gantner@icloud.com](mailto:pierre.gantner@icloud.com)

## Background

**Introduction:** Post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) completion remains a major challenge in the preventive care for HIV-exposed individuals and involves a unique occasion of sexual counseling. Identifying risks of not fulfilling PEP course and concomitant condom use may improve clinical practice.

**Objectives:** Our main objective is to identify predictors of PEP completion among individuals demanding PEP. Secondary objectives are to: (i) determine predictors of condom usage in individuals sexually exposed to HIV, and (ii) describe PEP regimen use and their evolution over time.

## Methods

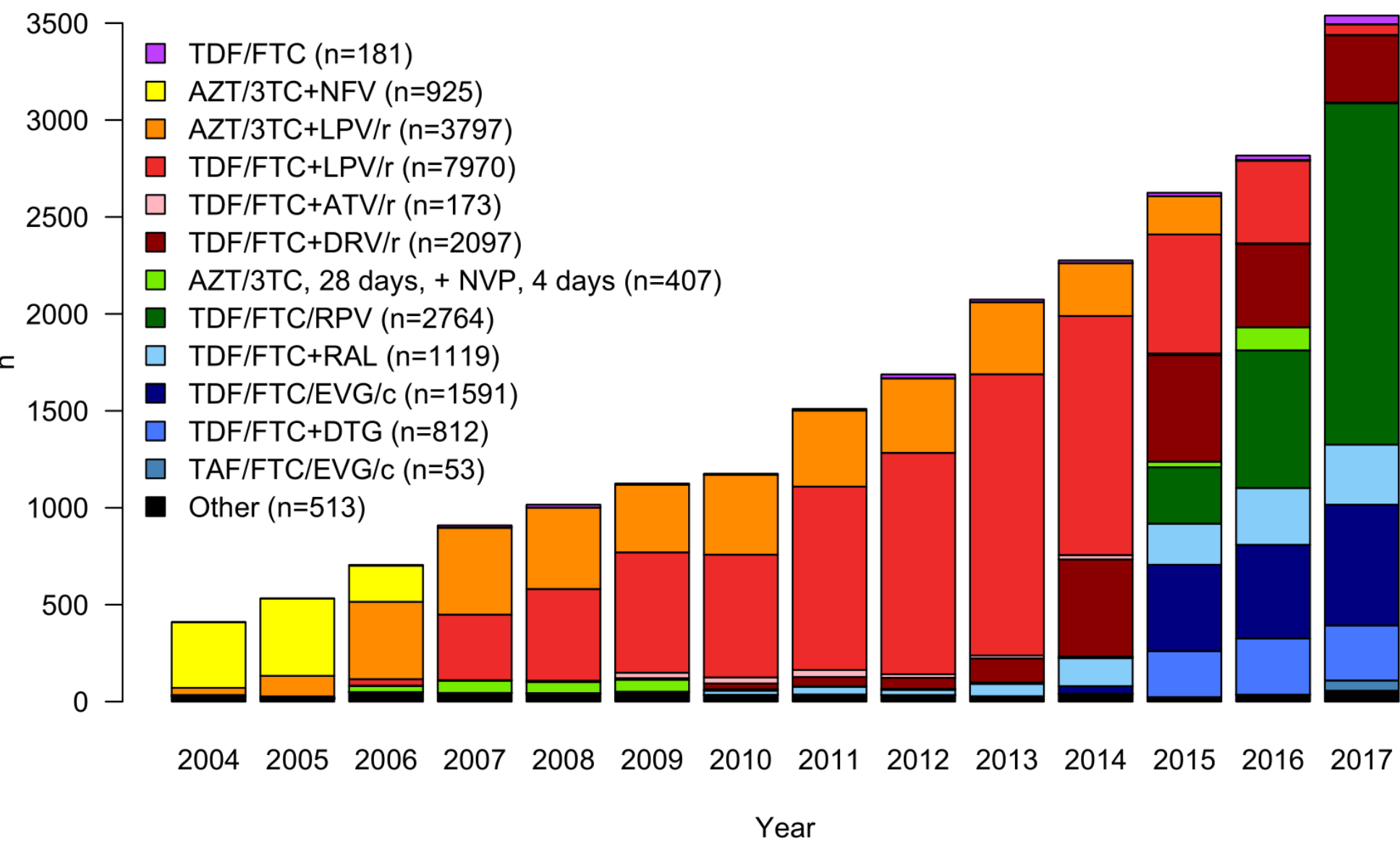
**Study settings and design:** Retrospective review of electronic medical records (that included a specific form) from the Dat’AIDS cohort of individuals evaluated for PEP after sexual or occupational exposures to HIV between January 2004 and December 2017. The Dat’AIDS cohort gathered data from 22 French HIV-infection care centers involved in PEP prescription.

**Statistical analysis:** We assessed clinically relevant predictors (Odd-ratios [OR]) and their probabilities (Pr) of both PEP completion and condom use in a Bayesian multivariable analysis.

### Trends in PEP regimen use from 2004 to 2017

Overall, 22 402 individuals (46%) effectively received PEP: twelve different PEP regimens were prescribed to at least 50 individuals, with TDF/FTC being the preferred backbone (75%). The third drug varied with time: PI/r was progressively replaced by a NNRTI or an INSTI since 2015 (*see Figure*).

**Figure legend:**  
ATV/r, Atazanavir/ritonavir; AZT, Zidovudine; DRV/r, Darunavir/ritonavir; DTG, Dolutegravir; EVG/c, Elvitegravir/cobicistat; FTC, Emtricitabine; LPV/r, Lopinavir/ritonavir; NFV, Nelfinavir; NVP, Nevirapine; RAL, Raltegravir; RPV, Rilpivirine; TAF, Tenofovir alafenamide; TDF, Tenofovir disoproxi fumarate; 3TC, Lamivudine.



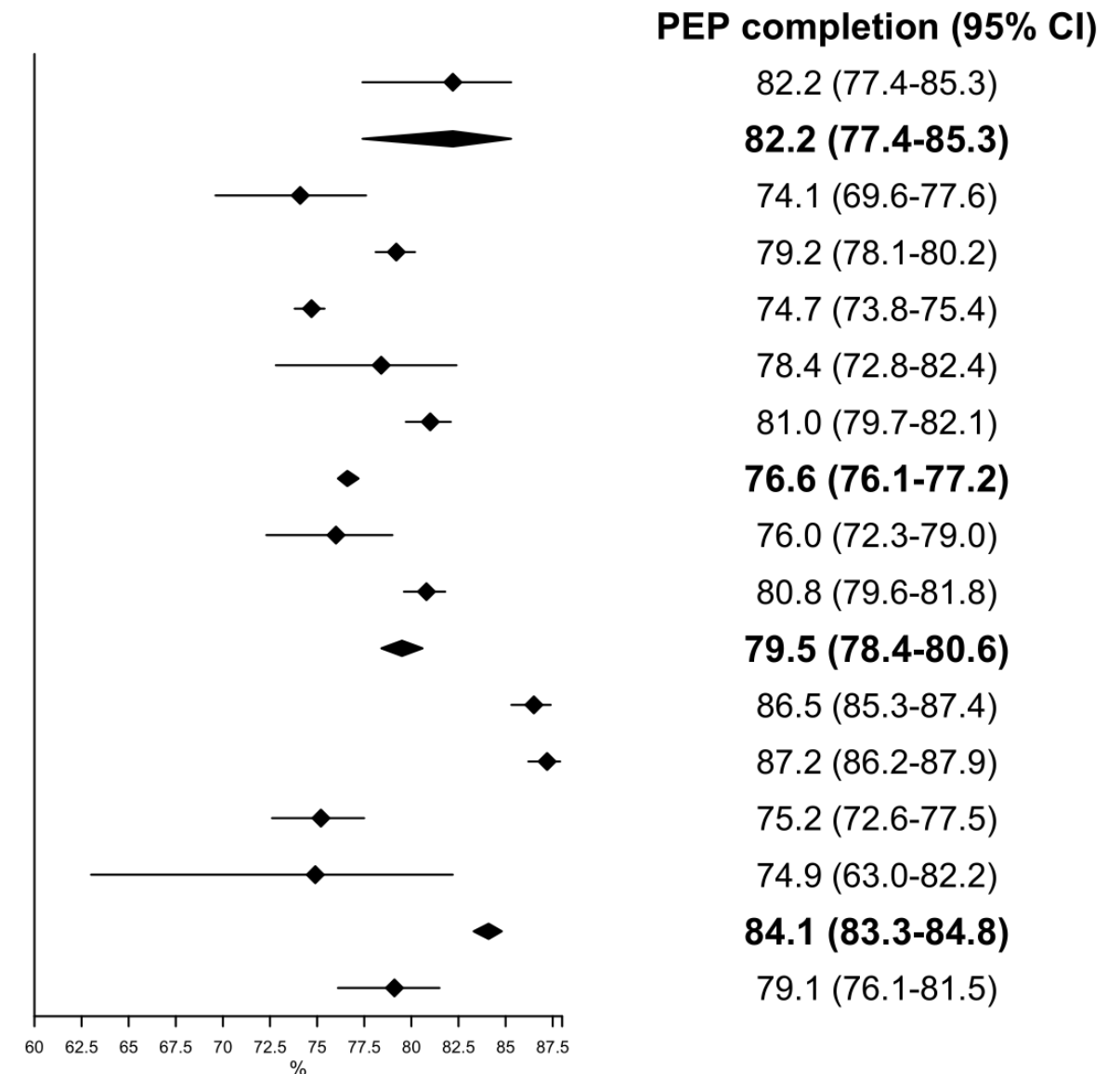
### Completion rates were not associated with PEP regimen

PEP regimen was not statistically associated with PEP adherence; however, a downward trend in PEP completion rates could be noted for some regimen (*see Figure*).

**Figure legend:**  
ATV/r, Atazanavir/ritonavir; AZT, Zidovudine; DRV/r, Darunavir/ritonavir; DTG, Dolutegravir; EVG/c, Elvitegravir/cobicistat; FTC, Emtricitabine; LPV/r, Lopinavir/ritonavir; NFV, Nelfinavir; NVP, Nevirapine; RAL, Raltegravir; RPV, Rilpivirine; TAF, Tenofovir alafenamide; TDF, Tenofovir disoproxil fumarate; 3TC, Lamivudine; NRTI, nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor; NNRTI, non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor; IP, protease inhibitor; INSTI, integrase strand transfer inhibitor.

#### PEP regimen

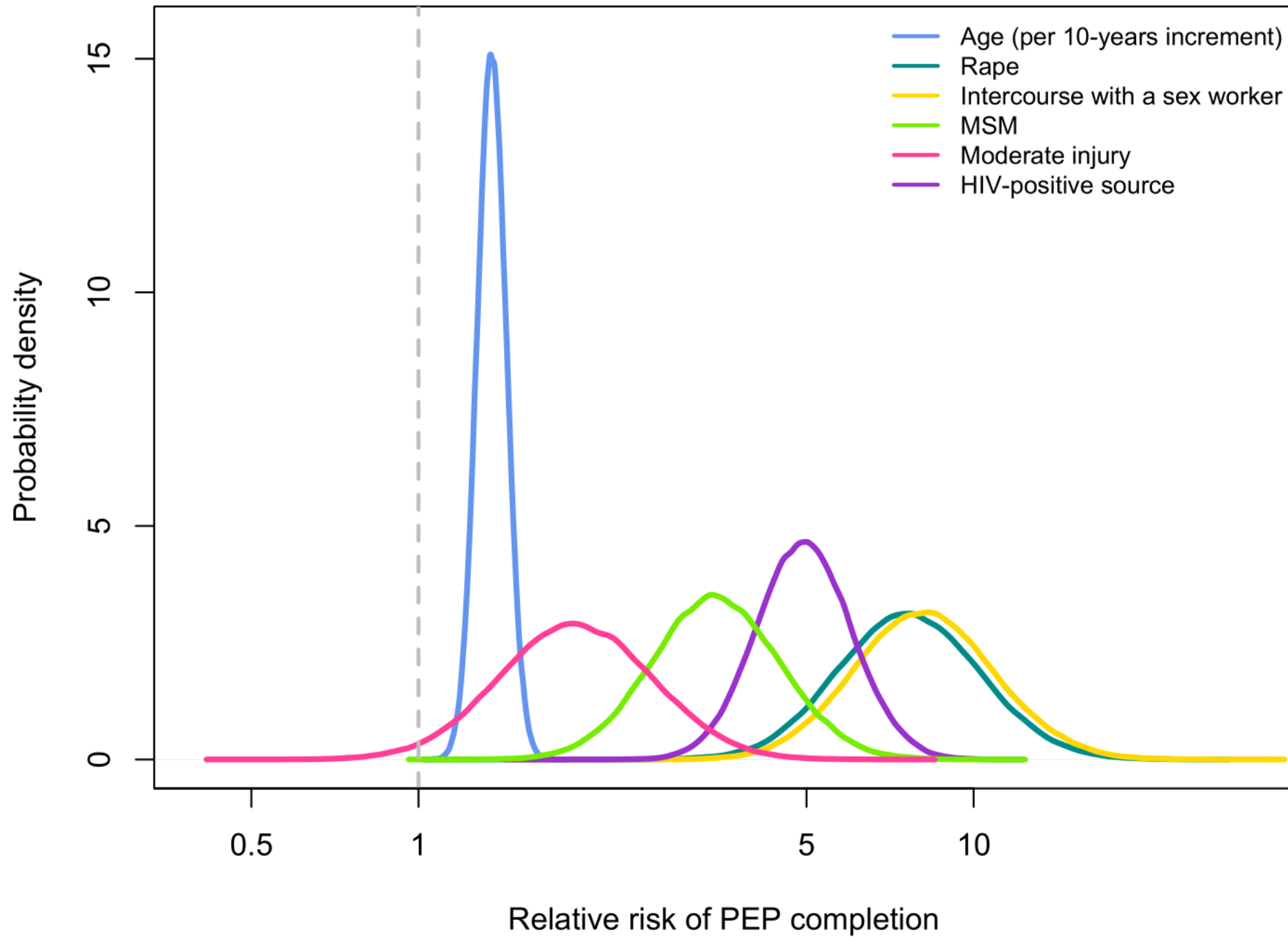
TDF/FTC (n=181)  
**2 NRTIs (n=181)**  
AZT/3TC+NFV (n=925)  
AZT/3TC+LPV/r (n=3797)  
TDF/FTC+LPV/r (n=7970)  
TDF/FTC+ATV/r (n=173)  
TDF/FTC+DRV/r (n=2097)  
**IP + 2 NRTIs (n=14962)**  
AZT/3TC, 28 days, + NVP, 4 days (n=407)  
TDF/FTC/RPV (n=2764)  
**NNRTI + 2 NRTIs (n=3171)**  
TDF/FTC+RAL (n=1119)  
TDF/FTC/EVG/c (n=1591)  
TDF/FTC+DTG (n=812)  
TAF/FTC/EVG/c (n=53)  
**INSTI + 2 NRTIs (n=3575)**  
Other (n=513)



### Predictors of PEP completion

Overall, **20% of individuals discontinued their PEP regimen within 20 days.**

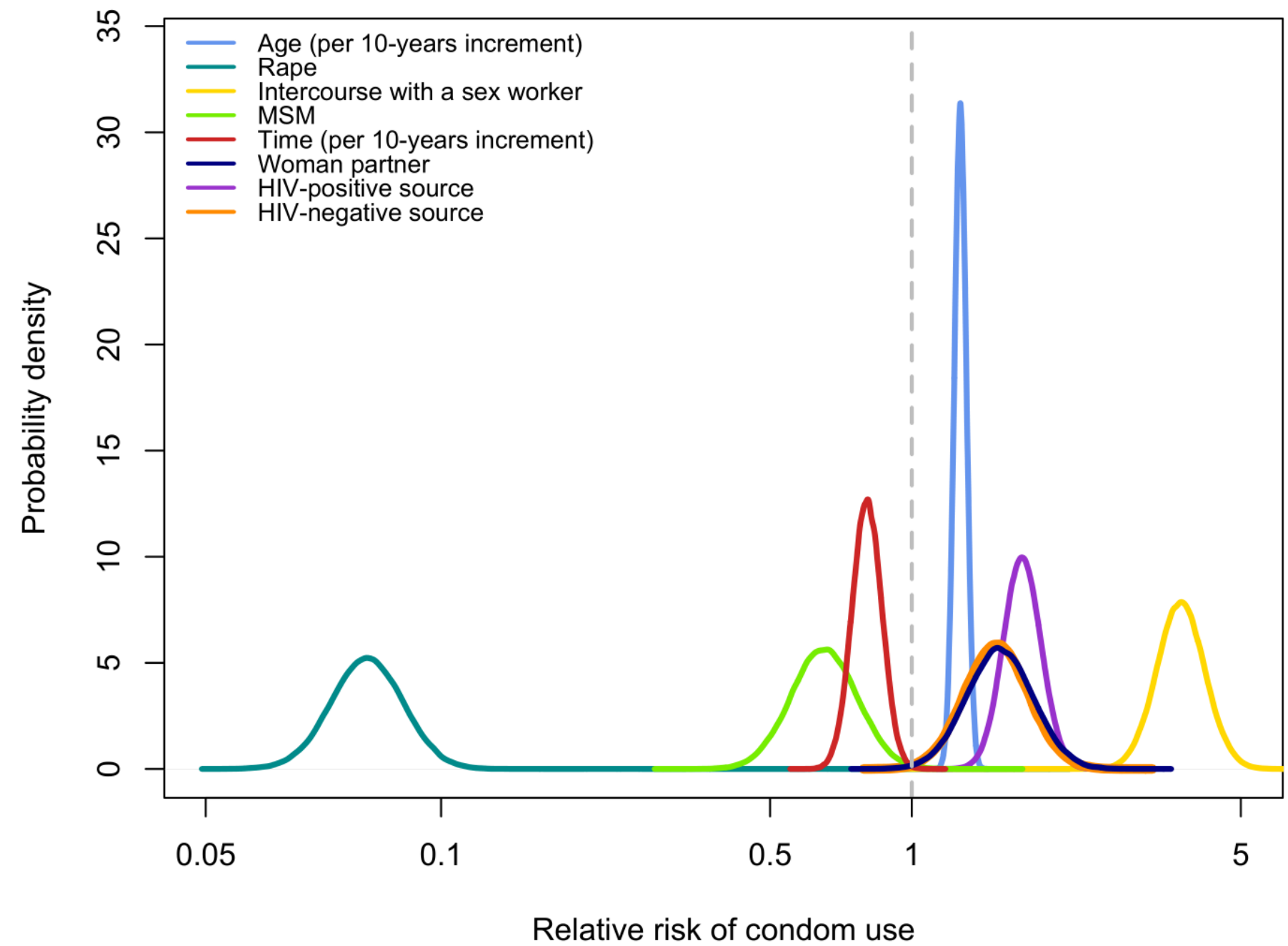
Factors associated with PEP completion included: Age, MSM, intercourse with a sex worker, rape, moderate depth of occupational injury and known HIV-infected source patient (*see Figure showing the distribution of the relative risk of PEP completion for each predictor*). PEP early discontinuation was attributed to: individuals’ own choice (65%), adverse events (26%) and other causes (9%). Discontinuations due to adverse events could not be attributed to a specific drug or PEP regimen.



### Predictors of condom use

Among the 29 060 sexual exposures (36% MSM and 64% heterosexual), condom-less sex was reported in 48% cases.

Condom use decreased with the year of exposure, MSM and rape. Condom use increased with age, in the case of an intercourse with a sex worker, or a woman partner, and knowledge of the serological status of the partner, whether positive or negative (*see Figure showing the distribution of the relative risk of condom use for each predictor*). These predictors were similar to those related to PEP adherence and were related to HIV risk perceptions.



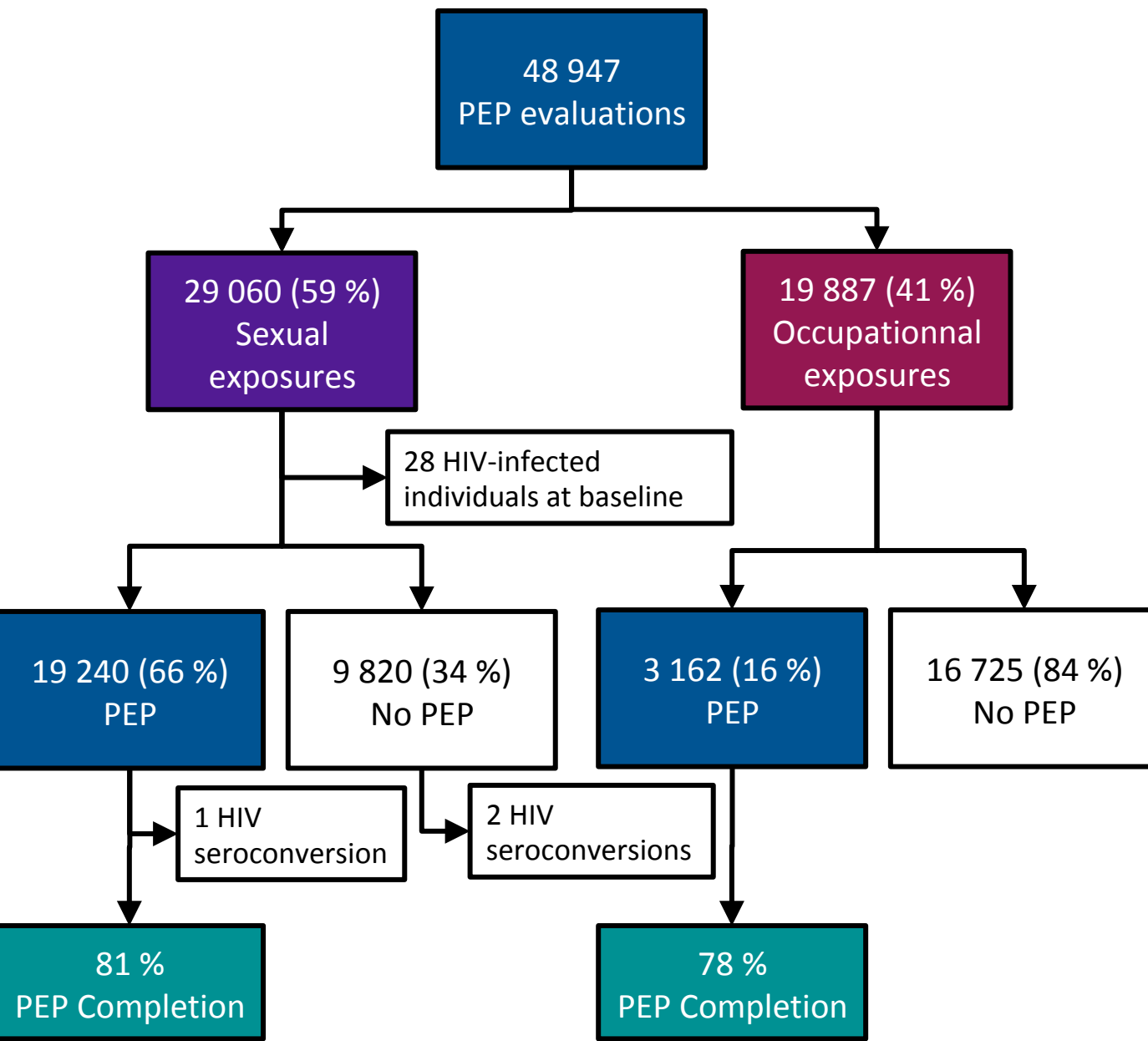
## Conclusions

We showed that some groups of individuals at risk of contracting HIV infection had not completed the whole PEP course mainly due to decreased perceived risk or also to a lack of appropriate counseling. Of note, these group factors were intermingled with determinants of high-risk sexual behaviors. As these individuals were mostly young adults, understanding their underlying HIV risk perceptions changes is critical for implementing targeted counseling as an integral component of PEP care. We suggest that targeted interventions and their impact on adherence should be studied further to improve PEP care efficiency.

## Results

### Study Flowchart

During the study period, 48 947 exposures to HIV were analyzed, of which 29 060 were sexual exposures (59%) and 19 887 were occupational exposures (41%). These exposures are related to 45 459 individuals, of whom 6% (n=2 687) had multiple exposures during the fourteen-year study period.



### Patients’ characteristics

| Group                         | Occupational exposure | Sexual exposure | Total      |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|------------|
| n (%) or median (IQR)         | 19 887                | 29 060          | 48 947     |
| Male                          | 6 252 (31%)           | 20 045 (69%)    | 26 297     |
| Median age, years             | 31 (25-40)            | 29 (24-38)      | 30 (24-39) |
| First PEP evaluation          |                       |                 |            |
| Emergency department          | 3 261 (18%)           | 10 082 (35%)    | 13 347     |
| HIV infection care center     | 14 969 (82%)          | 18 978 (65%)    | 33 947     |
| Source’s HIV status           |                       |                 |            |
| Negative                      | 3 438 (17%)           | 1 035 (3%)      | 4 474      |
| Positive                      | 2 360 (12%)           | 3 370 (12%)     | 5 730      |
| Unknown                       | 14 087 (71%)          | 24 655 (85%)    | 38 743     |
| Could be tested               | 3 769 (27%)           | 710 (3%)        | 4 479      |
| Tested HIV-positive           | 43 (1%)               | 27 (4%)         | 70         |
| PEP prescription              | 3 162 (16%)           | 19 240 (66%)    | 22 402     |
| Heterosexual female           | NA                    | 9 015 (31%)     | 9 015      |
| Heterosexual male             | NA                    | 9 688 (33%)     | 9 688      |
| MSM                           | NA                    | 10 357 (36%)    | 10 357     |
| Reported condom use           | NA                    | 14 100 (52%)    | 14 100     |
| Intercourse with a sex worker | NA                    | 3 085 (11%)     | 3 085      |
| Rape                          | NA                    | 3 007 (10%)     | 3 007      |
| Injury type                   |                       |                 |            |
| Prick                         | 10 795 (62%)          | NA              | 10 795     |
| Cut                           | 2 670 (15%)           | NA              | 2 670      |
| Splash                        | 3 908 (23%)           | NA              | 3 908      |
| Depth of injury               |                       |                 |            |
| Superficial                   | 11 845 (62%)          | NA              | 11 845     |
| Moderate                      | 6 355 (34%)           | NA              | 6 355      |
| Deep                          | 764 (4%)              | NA              | 764        |

IQR, Interquartile Range; MSM, Men who have Sex with Men; PEP, Post-Exposure Prophylaxis.