Background
- An estimated total of 25,000 individuals are living with HIV in the Netherlands, 27% of whom are undiagnosed. In 2012, 43% of the newly diagnosed presented too late in care.
- General practitioners (GPs) play a central role as primary point of access to secondary healthcare and could play an important role in pro-active HIV testing for early case-finding.
- HIV testing strategies targeting populations at higher risk for HIV have been insufficient in reducing the number of undiagnosed in the Netherlands.
- Recently, two additional HIV testing strategies were introduced to promote an increase in HIV testing in health care settings.
  1. European (ECDC) guidelines recommend offering an HIV test to individuals with HIV indicator conditions.
  2. UK (NICE) guidelines recommend performing routine testing in primary care settings where HIV prevalence exceeds 0.2% among 15- to 59-year-olds.

Objectives
- To determine the prevalence of HIV in six general practices in the southeast district of Amsterdam, a multicultural low SES area.
- To identify the incidence of HIV indicator conditions in the five years prior to HIV diagnosis, using data from a general practice database.

Methods
- General practice database contains patient records from six general practices.
- A matched case-control (1:3) study was conducted. Data from 102 cases (HIV positive patients) and 299 controls (not known to have HIV) were included (n=401).
- Controls were matched for age, sex, practice, year the HIV cases received their diagnosis and years of information in the medical file available prior to HIV diagnosis.
- Exact univariate logistic regression was used, to identify HIV indicator conditions associated with the occurrence of HIV.

Results
- The average HIV prevalence in six general practices increased (0.4% to 0.9%) among 15- to 59-year-olds in the period 2002-2012 (Figure 1). The southeast district of Amsterdam qualifies as a high prevalence area where routine HIV testing is indicated, according to the UK guidelines.
- In the year prior to HIV diagnosis 81.3% had seen their GP, in contrast to 42.8% for controls.
- More than half (58.5%) of cases presented with one or more of the HIV indicator conditions in the five years prior to HIV diagnosis, compared to 7.4% for controls (Table 1).

Conclusions
- The incidence of HIV indicator conditions is substantially higher among HIV cases compared to controls in the five years prior to diagnosis. More than half (58.5%) of HIV cases had an HIV indicator condition in the five years prior to diagnosis.
- The southeast district of Amsterdam qualifies as a high prevalence area where routine testing is indicated, according to the UK guidelines.
- Further research is needed to explore whether these findings may yield alternative strategies for GPs to detect HIV as early as possible.