



Sexual Happiness and implications for Sexual Health among European MSM

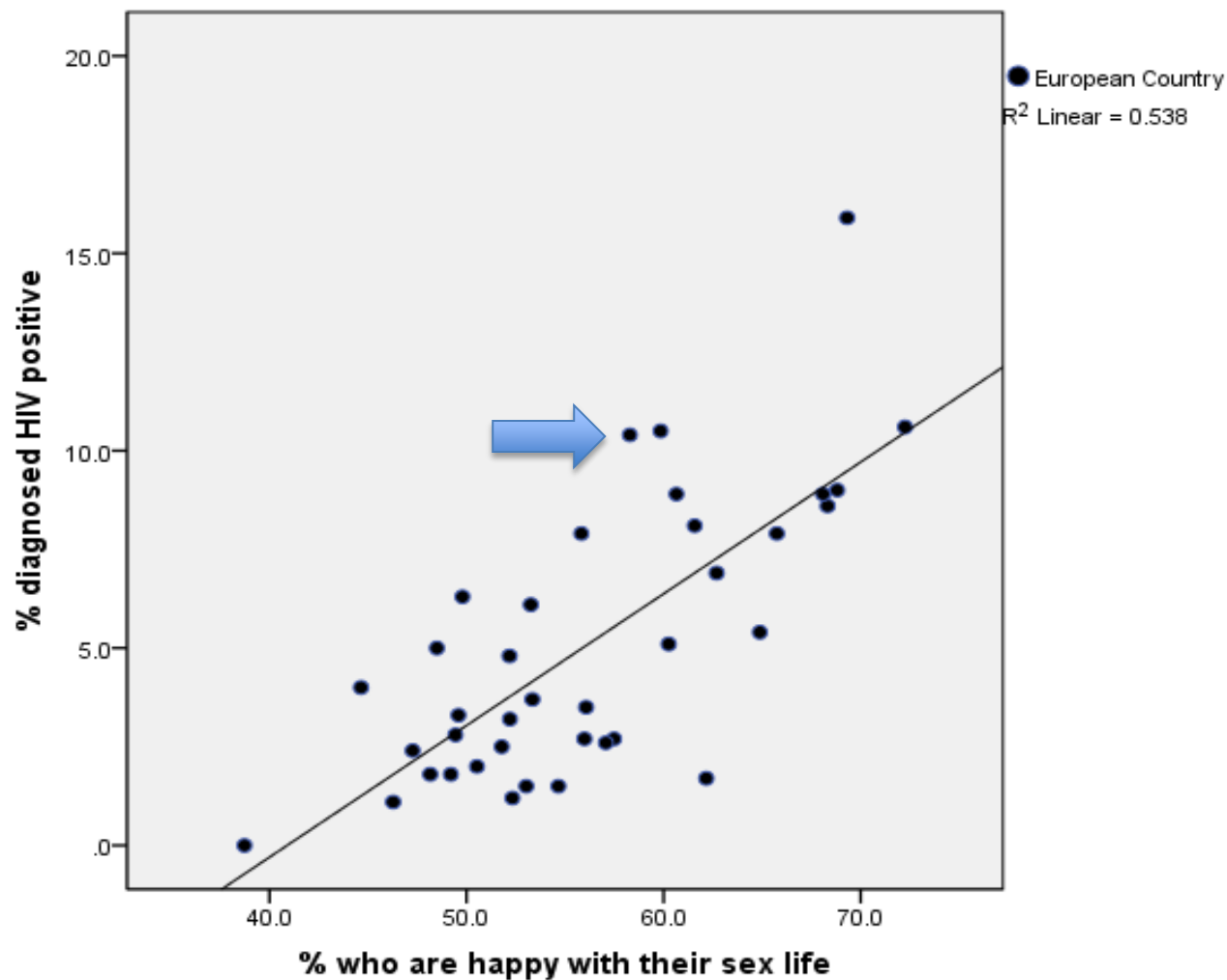
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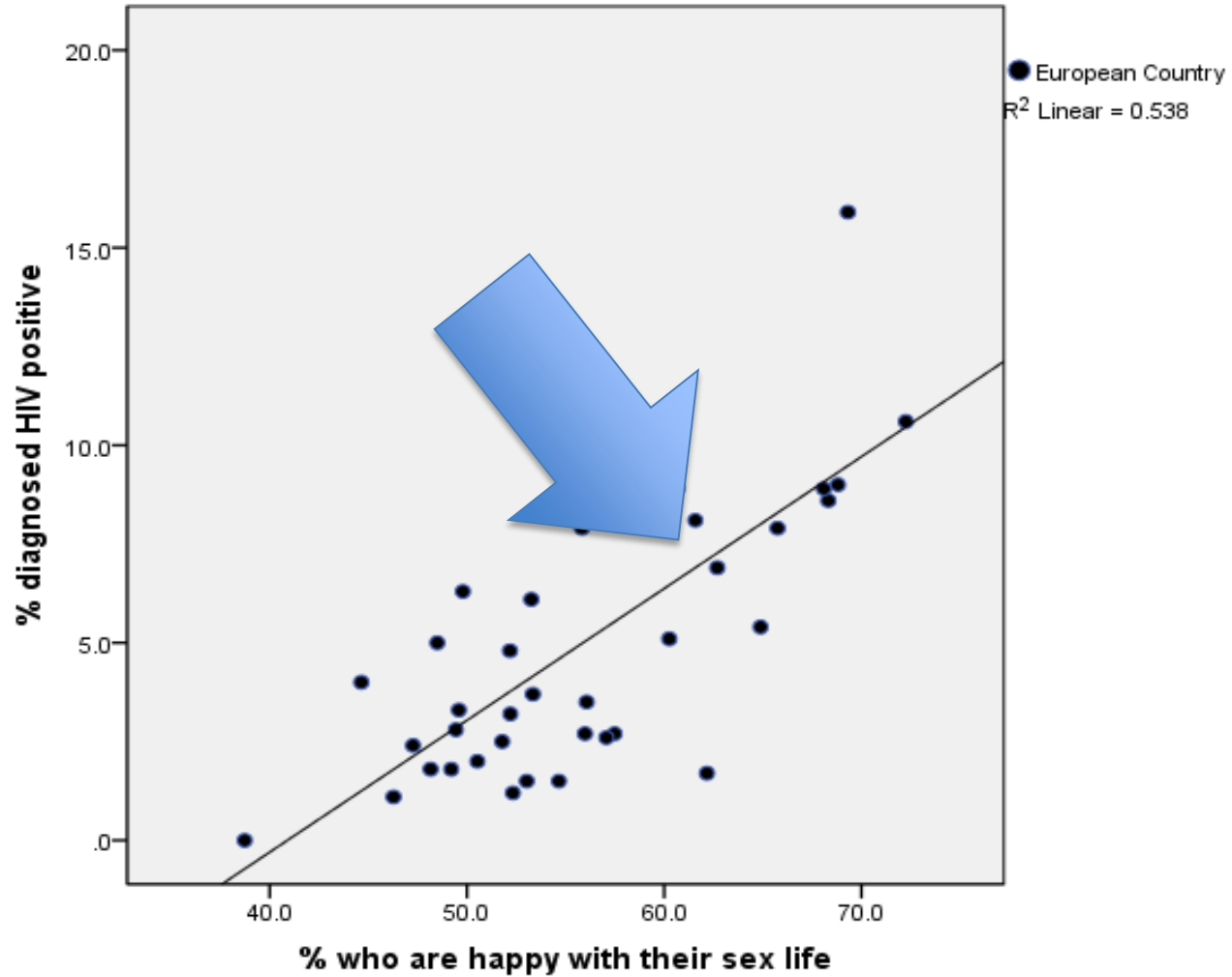
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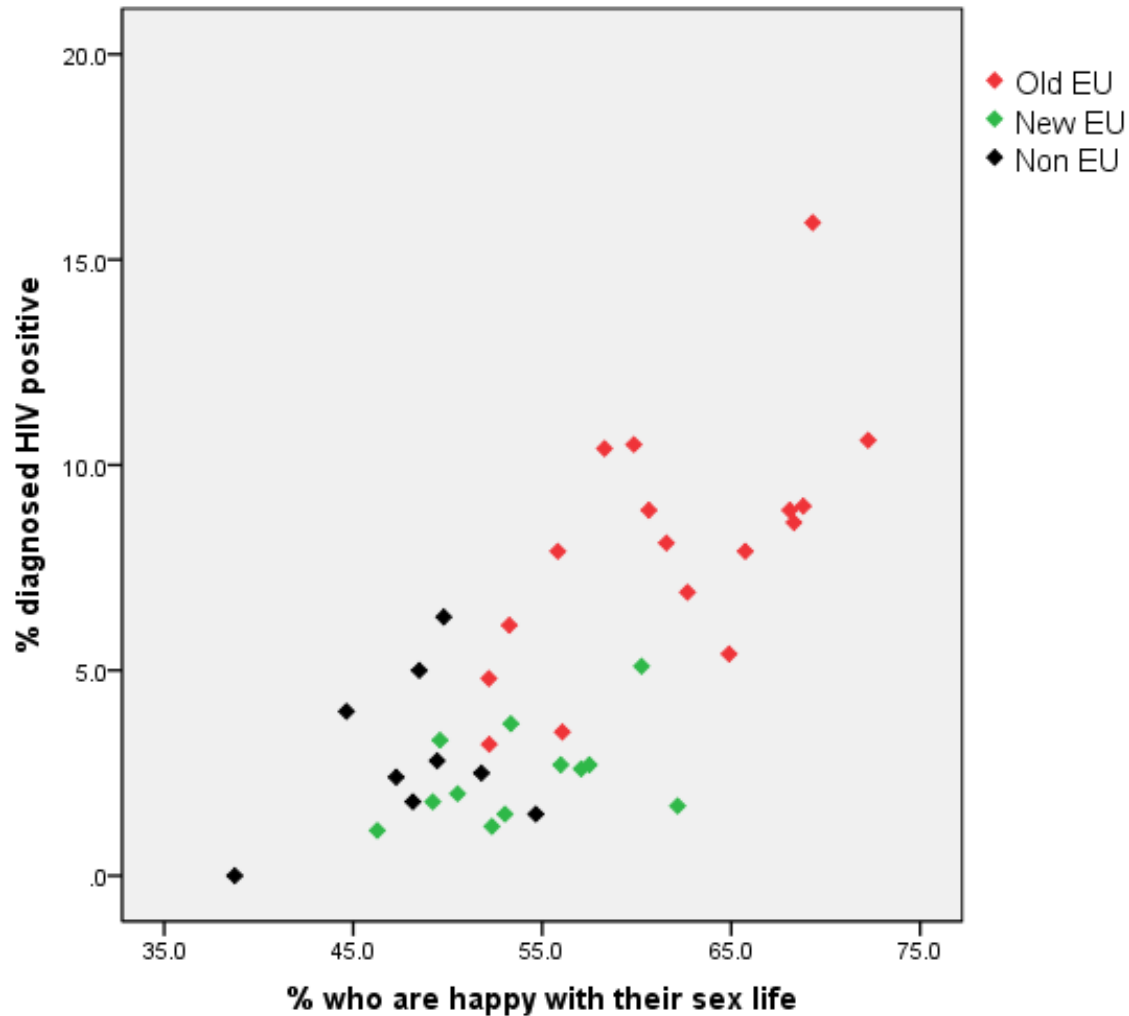
38 European countries: Proportion happy with their sex life, by proportion tested HIV positive [EMIS Community Report 1]



We need to pus this arrow down AND to the right...



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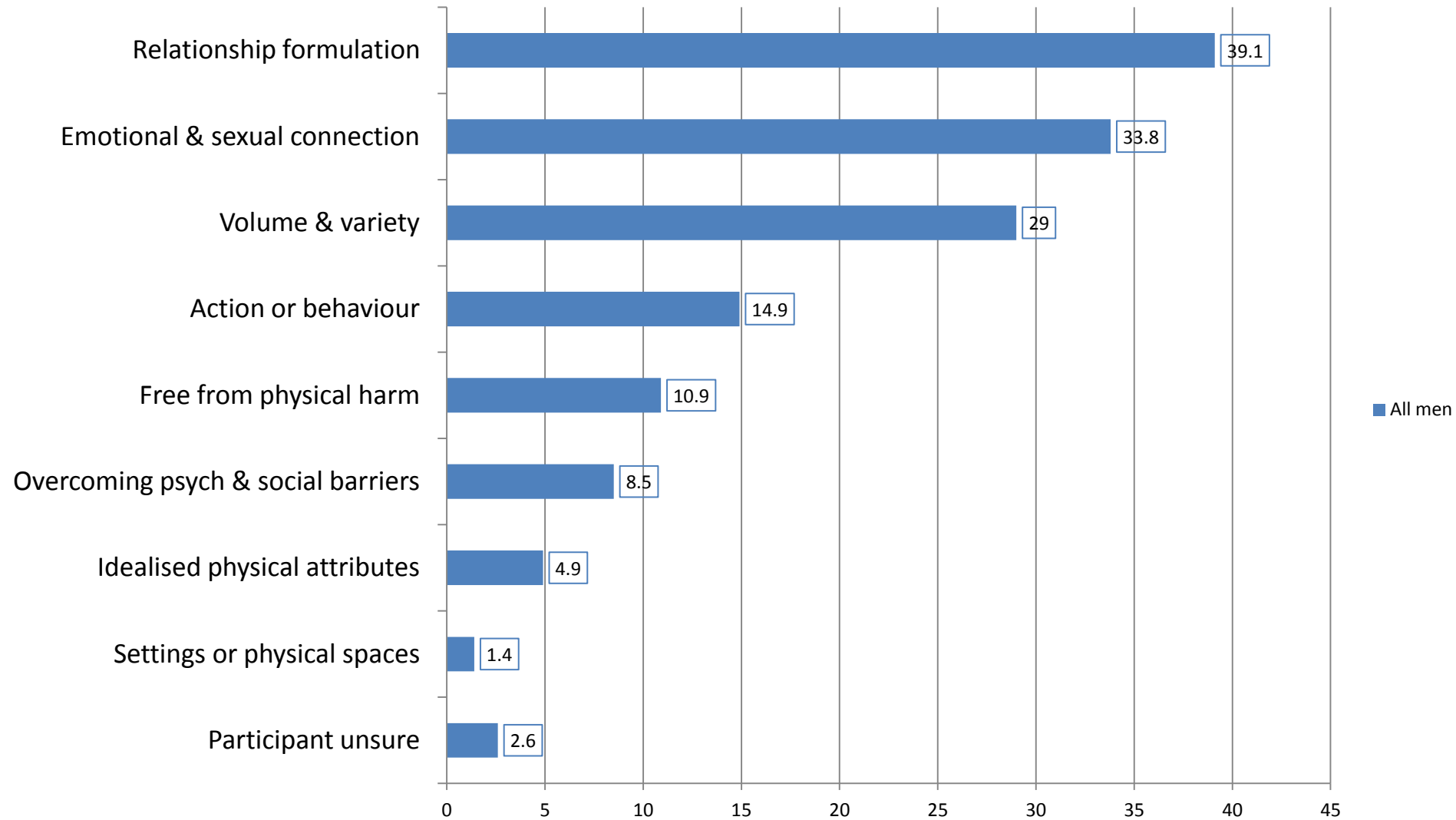
EMIS Survey

- Gay men's sexual health needs assessment
- Summer 2010
- 184,000 responses in total
- Sexual behaviour, knowledge, risk behaviours, drug use etc
- *“What is your idea of the best sex life?”*
- 12,924 men provided an answer in English



Theme	What's it all about?
1. Connection	Intimacy, trust, love, commitment.
2. Free from physical harm	Free from STI's, physical & sexual assault, consent
3. Overcoming barriers	Guilt free, confident, stress-free, free from stigma
4. Relationships	Monogamous, open, polygamous, fuck buddy
5. Volume & Variety	How often, how many, experimental, adventurous
6. Physical attributes	Cock size, bears etc, good looking, non effeminate
7. Action or behaviour	Position, groups, dom & sub, kinky, anonymous
8. Setting	Location, country, outdoors, sauna.

Idea of best sex life – All men





“Being in love in a committed relationship”

“Regular sex in a steady, loving relationship”

**RELATIONSHIP
FORMULATION**

“Regular sex with your boyfriend combined with an open relationship and a date with a sex buddy every week or so”

“With a life partner. It’s not about sex it’s about making love”



“One with a person I’m in love with”

“Two people who connect with each other on all levels”

EMOTIONAL OR SEXUAL CONNECTION

“Sex not just to fulfil desires or lust but to please one another with love, passion and care”

“Strong sexual chemistry with a steady partner”



“Having it 2-3 times a week”

“When you can have sex as much as you want, when you want, with a partner who is really into it. And they are not afraid to experiment”

**VOLUME &
VARIETY**

“Frequently with lots of different men”

“Just having it would be nice!”



“Sex with no STIs and HIV”

“One free of HIV in which all fantasies can be explored”

**FREE FROM
HARM**

“One that has the consent of all the people involved”

“Being able to have casual, unprotected sex with as many partners as possible without the fear of infection ... I would love to experience getting fucked without protection”



“Being comfortable enough in your own skin to know that who you’re with loves you for who you are”

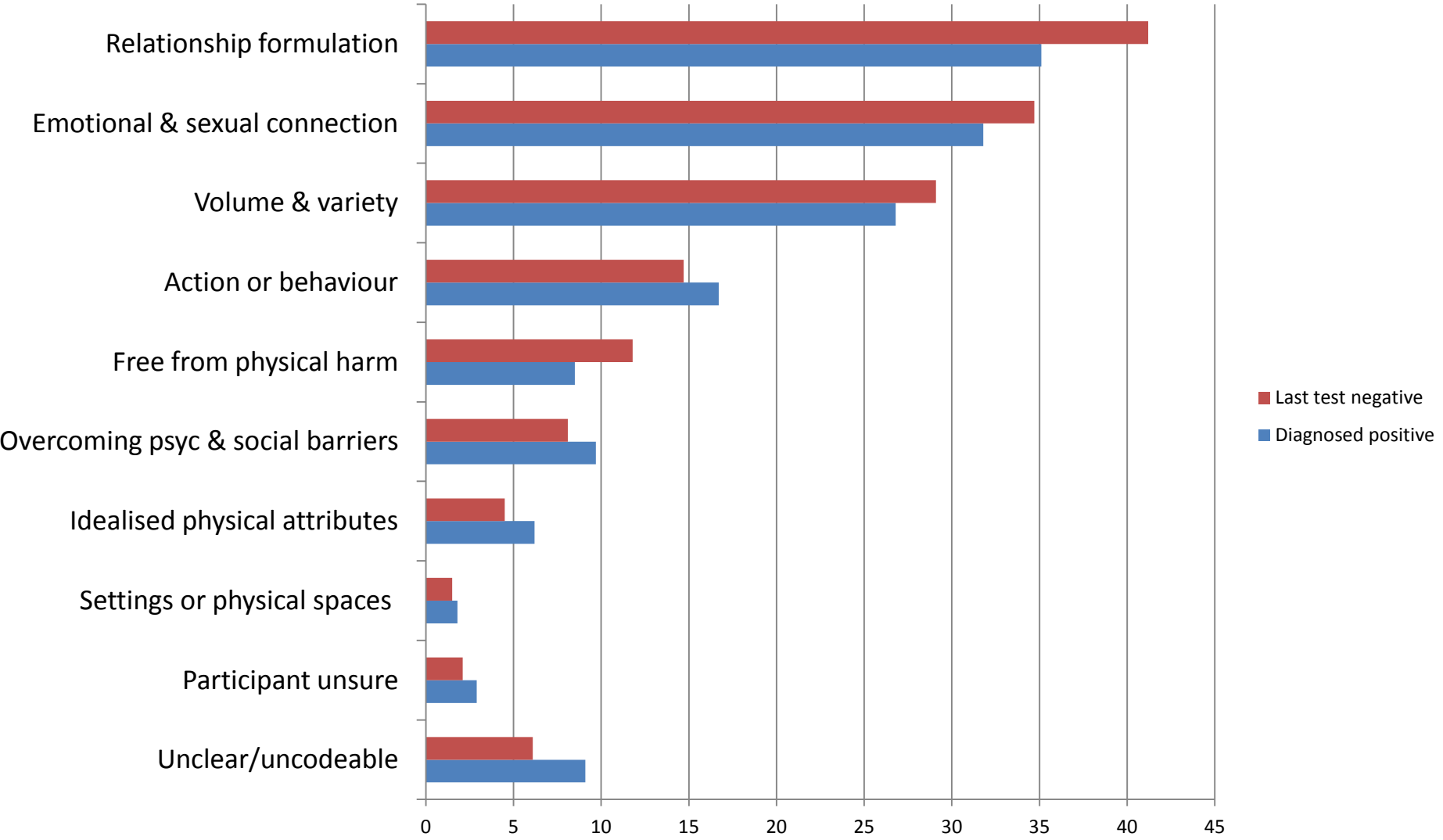
“When we are all treated the same regardless of HIV status”

**OVERCOMING
BARRIERS**

“If I could be more open and relaxed”

“Open bisexuality without fear of consequences of disclosure”

Idea of best sex life – By HIV status





Variation by age

- Younger men (20s) more likely to idealise emotional and sexual connection than older men (50s)
- Older men less likely to mention freedom from physical harm than younger men
- Men in 20s and early 30s most likely to idealise relationship
- Less likely to idealise volume and variety as age progresses

Issues to consider

- Gay men's desires for the best sex are diverse
- Connection and relationships are highly valued
- To what extent is it possible to facilitate what gay men want?
- We need to take account of what men value
- Working towards the '*Best sex with the least harm*'

Acknowledgements

Study coordination

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More information @
www.emis-project.eu

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Harm J. Hospers (Maastricht University, NL)

Ulrich Marcus (Robert Koch Institute, Berlin, DE)

Massimo Mirandola (Regional Centre for Health Promotion , Verona, IT)

David Reid (Sigma Research, London, UK)

Peter Weatherburn (Sigma Research, London, UK)

Special thanks to:

Gary Hammond
Paul Steinberg

EMIS Collaborating Partners: **AT:** Aids-Hilfe Wien; **BE:** Institute of Tropical Medicine, Facultés Universitaires Saint-Louis, Ex Aequo, Sensoa, Arc-en-ciel; **BG:** National Centre of Infectious and Parasitic Diseases, Queer Bulgaria Foundation; **BY:** Vstrecha; **CH:** Institut universitaire de médecine sociale et préventive, Aids-Hilfe Schweiz; **CY:** Research Unit in Behaviour & Social Issues; **CZ:** Charles University (Institute of Sexology), Ceska spolecnost AIDS pomoc; **DE:** Berlin Social Science Research Center (WZB), Deutsche AIDS-Hilfe; Federal Centre for Health Education (BZgA); **DK:** Statens Serum Institut, Department of Epidemiology, stopaids; **ES:** National Centre of Epidemiology, stopsida, Ministry of Health and Social Politics; **EE:** National Institute for Health Development; **FI:** University of Tampere (Nursing Science), HIV-saatio/Aids-tukikeskus; **FR:** Institut de veille sanitaire (InVS), AIDeS, Act Up Paris, Sida Info Service, Le Kiosque, The Warning; **GR:** Positive Voice; **HR:** University of Zagreb (Humanities and Social Sciences); **HU:** Hungarian Civil Liberties Union (TASZ), Háttér; **IE:** Gay Men's Health Service, Health Services Executive; **IT:** University of Bologna, Arcigay, Istituto Superiore di Sanità; **LT:** Center for Communicable Diseases and AIDS; **LV:** The Infectiology Centre of Latvia; Mozaika; **MD:** GenderDoc-M; **MIK:** Equality for Gays and Lesbians (EGAL); **NL:** schorer; **NO:** Norwegian Knowledge Centre for the Health Services, The Norwegian Institute of Public Health; **PL:** National AIDS Centre, Lambda Warszawa; **PT:** GAT Portugal, University of Porto (Medical School), Institute of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine; **RO:** PSI Romania **RS:** Safe Pulse of Youth; **RU:** PSI Russia, La Sky; **SE:** Malmö University, Riksförbundet för homosexuella, bisexuella och transpersoners rättigheter (RFSL); **SI:** National Institute of Public Health, Legebitra, ŠKUC-Magnus; **SK:** OZ Odysseus; **TR:** Turkish Public Health Association, KAOS-GL, Istanbul LGBTT, Siyah Pembe Ucgen Izmir; **UA:** Gay Alliance, Nash Mir, LiGA Nikolaev; **UK:** City University, London, CHAPS (Terrence Higgins Trust); **EU:** ILGA-Europe, Aids Action Europe, European AIDS Treatment Group, GayRomeo, Manhunt and Manhunt Cares

EMIS Advisory Partners: Executive Agency for Health and Consumers (EAHC), European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC), WHO-Europe