

Self tests: Tips from a Community-Based Perspective

*„When you can't handle your own
success”*

**Magdalena Ankiersztein-
Bartczak, PhD**



Magdalena Ankiersztej-Bartczak, PhD

- Sociologist, pedagogue, sex educator
- President of the Board of the Foundation for Social Education,
- FES Projects Coordinator,
- Member of IAS, EACS (WAVE, YING), PTNAIDS – group of experts Polish HIV guidelines
- Member of the European AIDS Treatment Group
- Cooperation with ECDC, University of Copenhagen



Foundation for Social Education – 2002, Areas of activity:



HIV and other sexually
transmitted diseases:
education, testing,
support, advocacy,
research

Support, therapy,
education

Harm reduction



HIV and AIDS Programme

- **2 Voluntary Counseling and Testing Points (VTC)**
 - HIV test (3rd and 4th generation, screening & diagnostic)
 - HCV (screening testing)
 - Syphilis (screening testing)
- **Mobile Unit (counseling and testing)**
 - HIV, HCV, Syphilis (screening testing)
- **Academy of Positive Life**
- **Research**
- **Advocacy**
- **Social Campaigns**



A close-up, artistic photograph of a glowing lightbulb. The bulb is illuminated from within, creating a warm, golden-yellow glow that transitions into cooler blue and purple tones towards the edges. The filament is visible, and the glass of the bulb is highly reflective, showing highlights and shadows. The background is dark and out of focus, with some bokeh light spots.

From innovation to inclusion.

Timeline Testing services in FES

January 2003

- First VCT by FES

August 2017

- Mobile Harm Reduction Service

Jan 2018

- Integrate testing: HIV, HepC, syphilis and outreach testing

April 2020

- Self testing pilot programme (Sars-Cov2)

February 2022

- War migrants and access for testing in FES, integrate TB screening

HOME TESTING

Barrier reduction mechanism: Allowing the test to be ordered at home eliminates psychological and practical barriers, such as shame, fear of being evaluated, or lack of time to visit a stationary point.

- Why does it work?
- **A home is a safe space where people can take the test at their own pace, without social pressure.**
 - **Reducing the feeling of danger and stigma – testing becomes a private activity, not a public challenge.**



HIV Self-Testing in Poland – A Journey Led by FES

2020 First free HIV self-tests introduced during COVID lockdown. Hotline launched.

2021–2022 Partnership with Podwale Siedem & 'Ty to tu' – nationwide distribution.

2023 EU CORE project: professional online self-testing platform launched.

zamów test na hiv.pl



Nasi partnerzy

Materiał stworzony przy wsparciu finansowym ze strony WHO.

durex®



GILEAD

GSK



janssen

PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES
of Johnson & Johnson



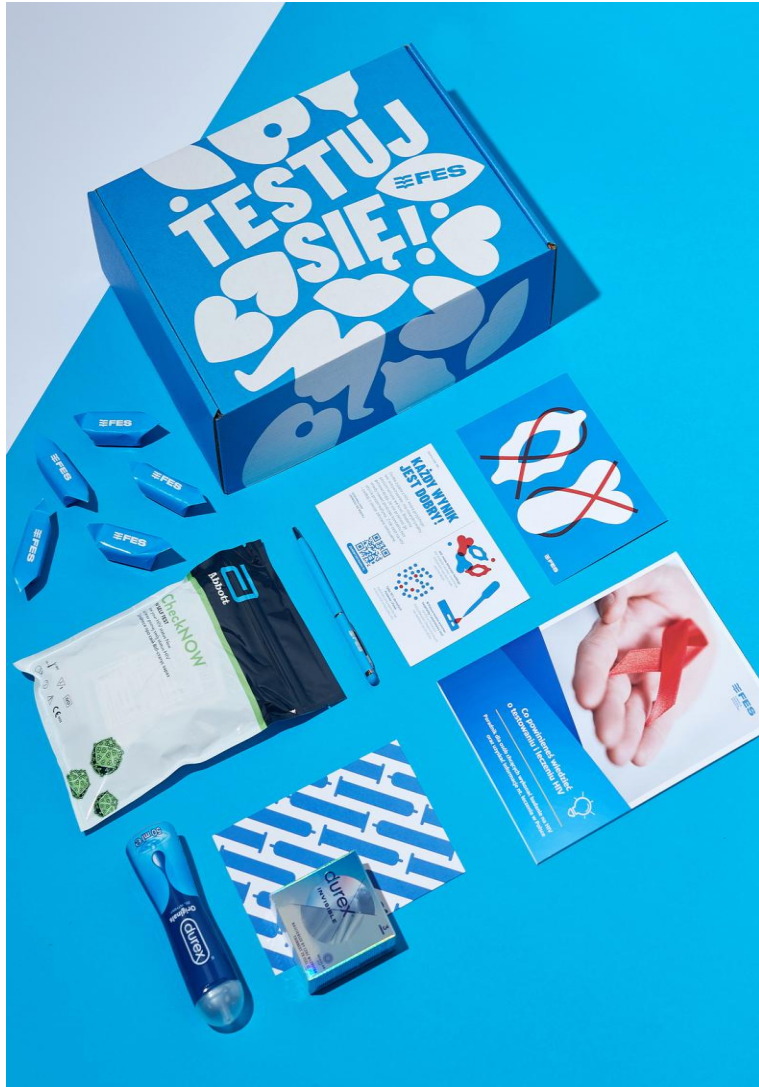
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HIV Self-Testing in Poland – A Journey Led by FES

2024 WHO donates 10,000 self-tests. All distributed in 6 months (March-August 2024).

2025 Ongoing with Durex support: 6,000 new tests; demand still growing.

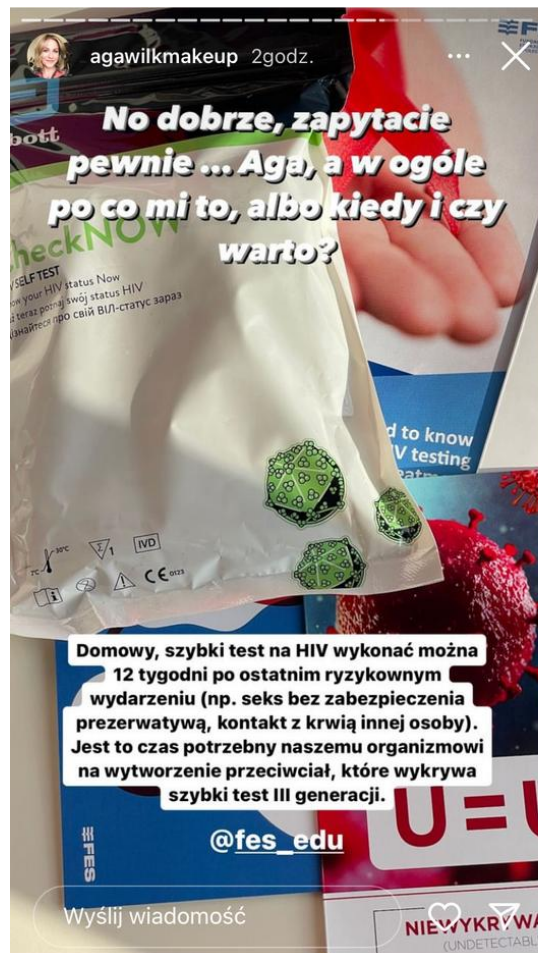
How we promote home testing: creative distribution



SAMPLE PUBLICATIONS



MATEUSZ TYSZKIEWICZ



AGA WILK



BART STASZEWSKI



MAREK OGIEŃ



LES.BE.TOGETHER



PIDZEJ

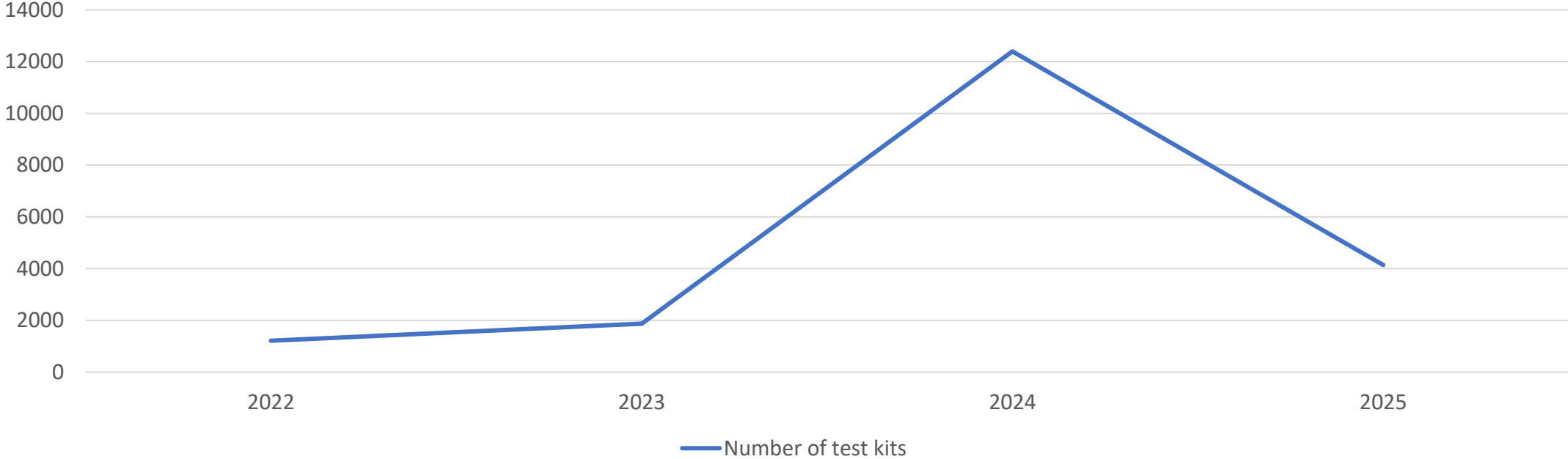


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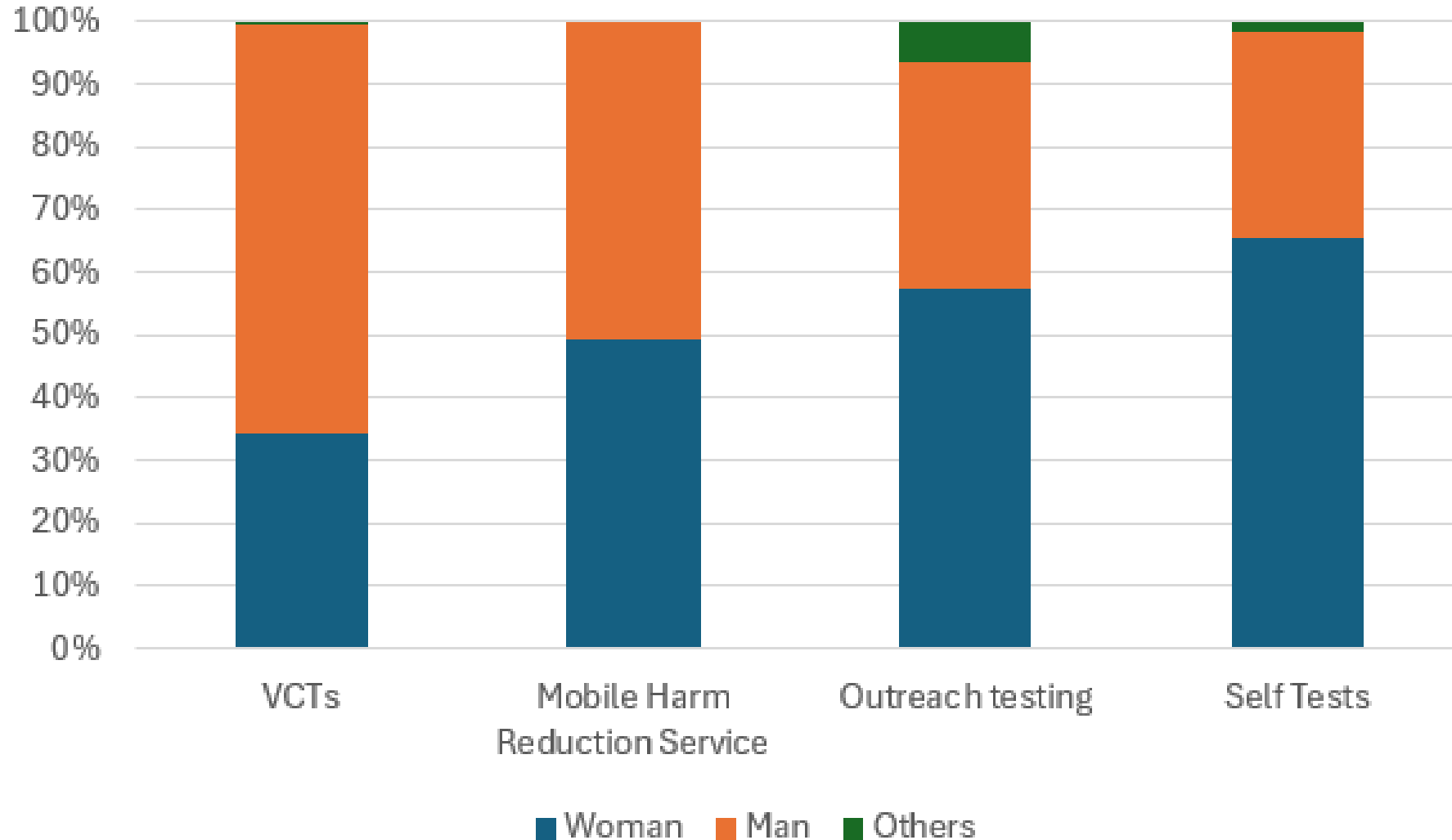


DWIE MILE

Number of send HIV test kits

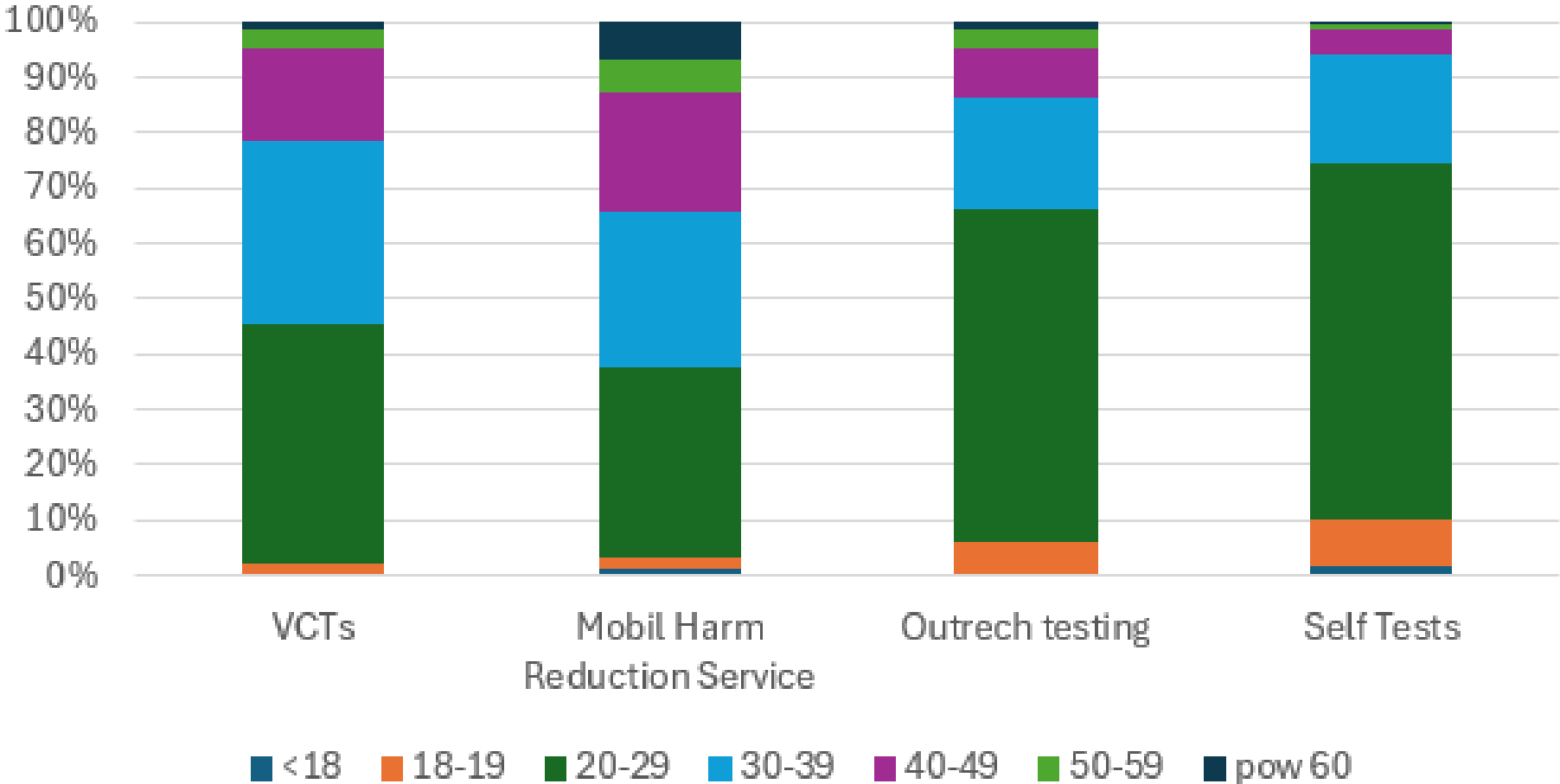


Why expand forms of testing – gender – no published data FES



Why it is worth expanding forms of testing – age – no published data FES

FES Clients: age structure 2024





-
- And



- And we need money?



**FUNDACJA
EDUKACJI
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Contakt

Foundation for Social Education

www.fes.edu.pl

FB FundacjaEdukacjiSpołecznej

Intagram: fes_edu

mail: m.Bartczak@fes.edu.pl