

HIV Stigma and Awareness of 2030 Elimination Targets Survey

Suzan Potts HIV CNS, Anna Obi HIV CNS,
Dr Wai Lin Htun HIV Consultant

Presented by Christopher Hodgson HIV CNS

Conflict of Interest

In relation to this presentation, I declare that I have no conflict of interest

Speakers are required by the Federation of the Royal Colleges of Physicians to disclose conflicts of interest at the beginning of their presentation, with sufficient time for the information to be read by the audience. They should disclose financial relationships with manufacturers of any commercial product and/or providers of commercial services used on or produced for patients relating to the 36 months prior to the event. These include speaker fees, research grants, fees for other educational activities such as training of health professionals and consultation fees. Where a speaker owns shares or stocks directly in a company producing products or services for healthcare this should also be declared. Finally, other conflicts of interest including expert functions in health care or healthcare guidance processes should be declared (eg if the professional is a member of a health board). The Federation considers it good practice to also make speakers' disclosures available in digital format(s) relating to the educational event.

Background

- HIV-related stigma remains a persistent and well-documented barrier to effective HIV prevention, testing, and long-term care.
- Despite major advances in the management of HIV, stigma continues to influence health-seeking behaviour and patient outcomes.

Background

- HIV-related stigma continues to affect testing uptake, confidentiality, and quality of life for people living with HIV (PLWH), despite major advances in treatment.
- Addressing stigma is central to the fourth 90 target and the objectives of the Fast-Track Cities initiative. In our Trust, we have signed the HIV Confident Charter to tackle HIV stigma and discrimination in workplaces.



Objectives

- To assess the knowledge of HIV-related stigma among the healthcare-associated population within our local hospital.
- To understand the awareness of HIV elimination targets, knowledge surrounding HIV and delivery of care among the healthcare-associated population.

HIV CONFIDENT

Our Trust has formally committed to the HIV Confident Charter



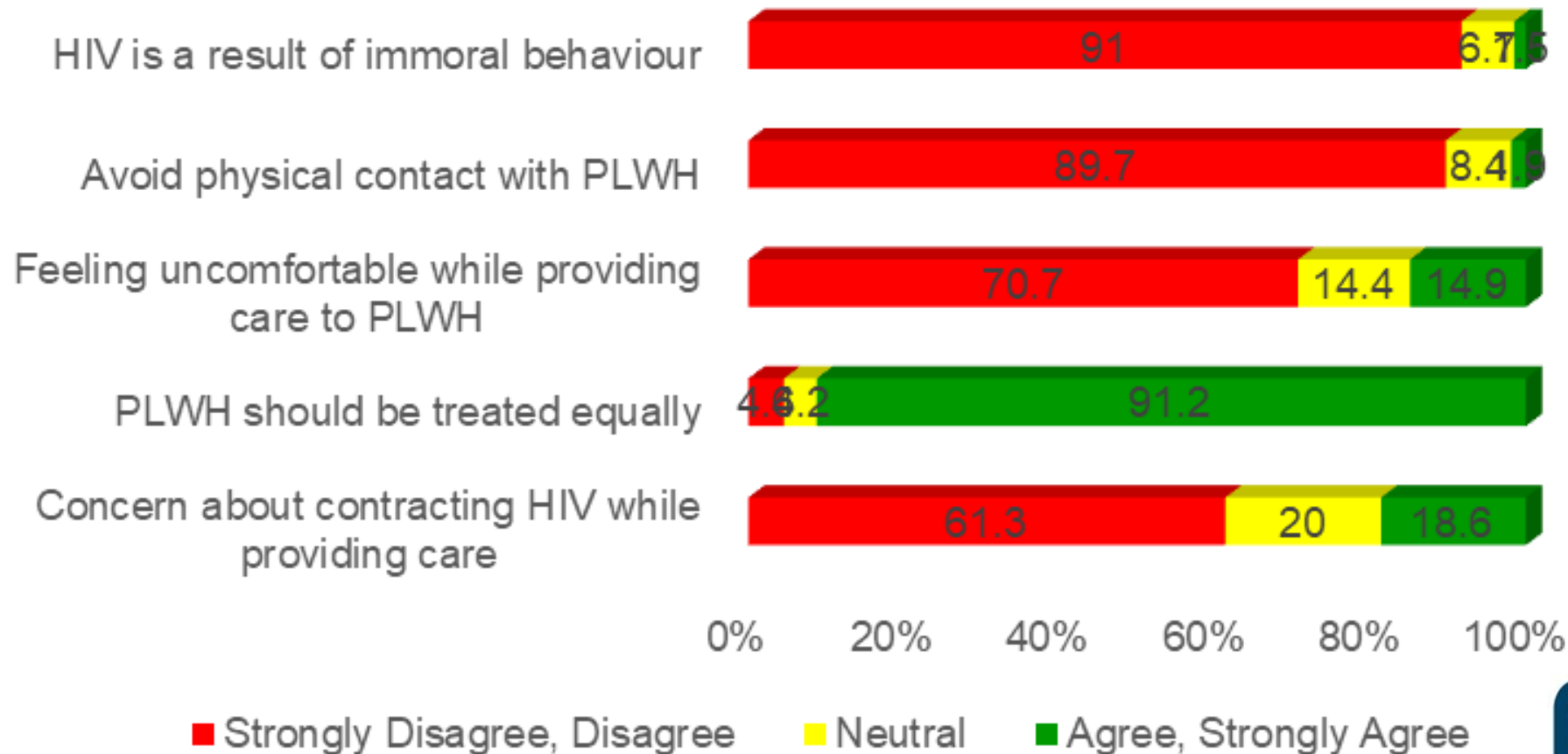
Methods

- An anonymous, opt-out survey was conducted using a structured questionnaire available in paper and electronic formats.
- Data was collected during World AIDS Day 2025 activities from a healthcare-associated population in Blackpool Victoria Hospital
- Responses were collated and analysed using Microsoft Excel.

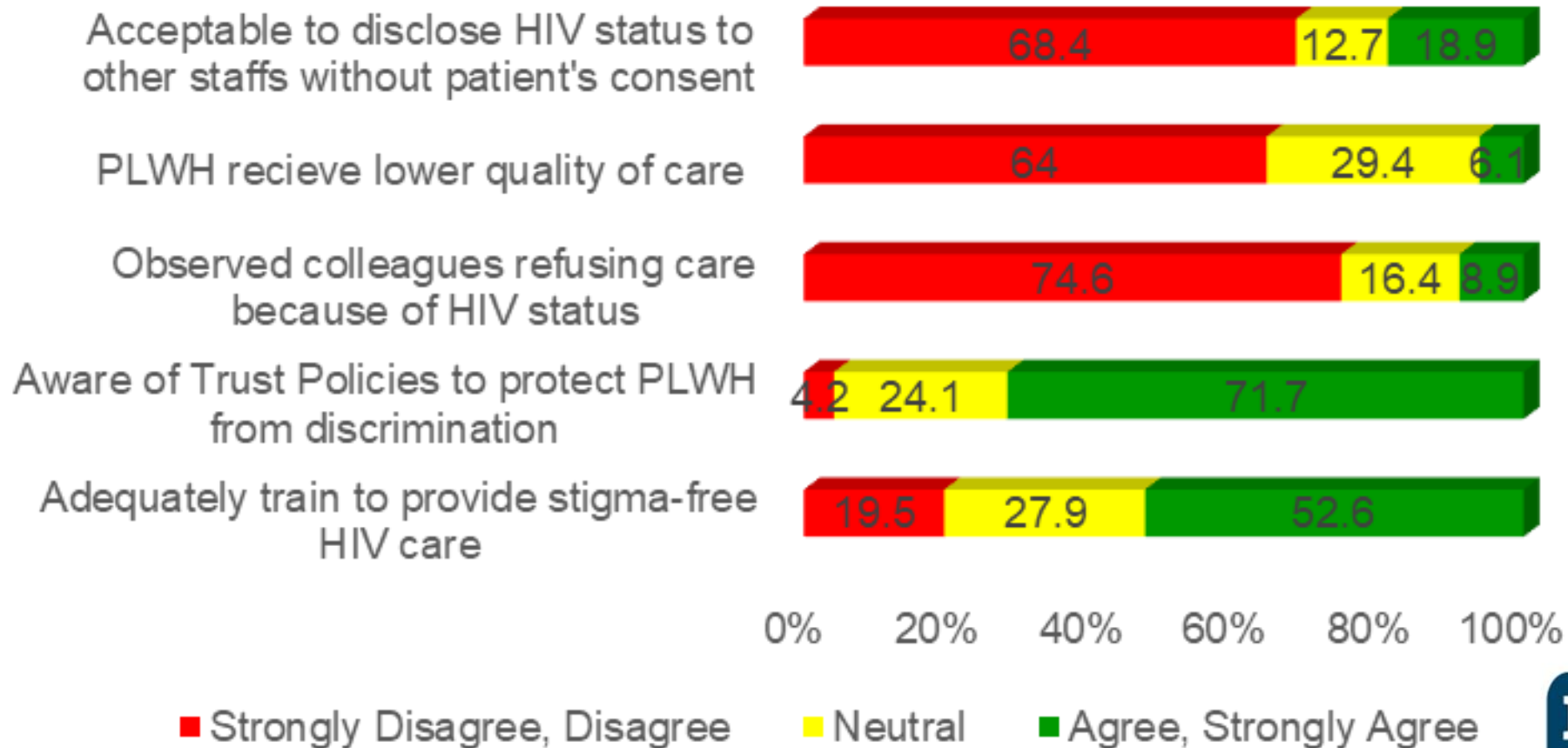
Results

- 218 responses were collected and analysed.
- 54% of respondents were aged 25-45 years,
- 65% were female, 35% male.
- 40% were nursing staff, and 18% were medical staff.
- Over half (57%) had worked in healthcare for more than 10 years.

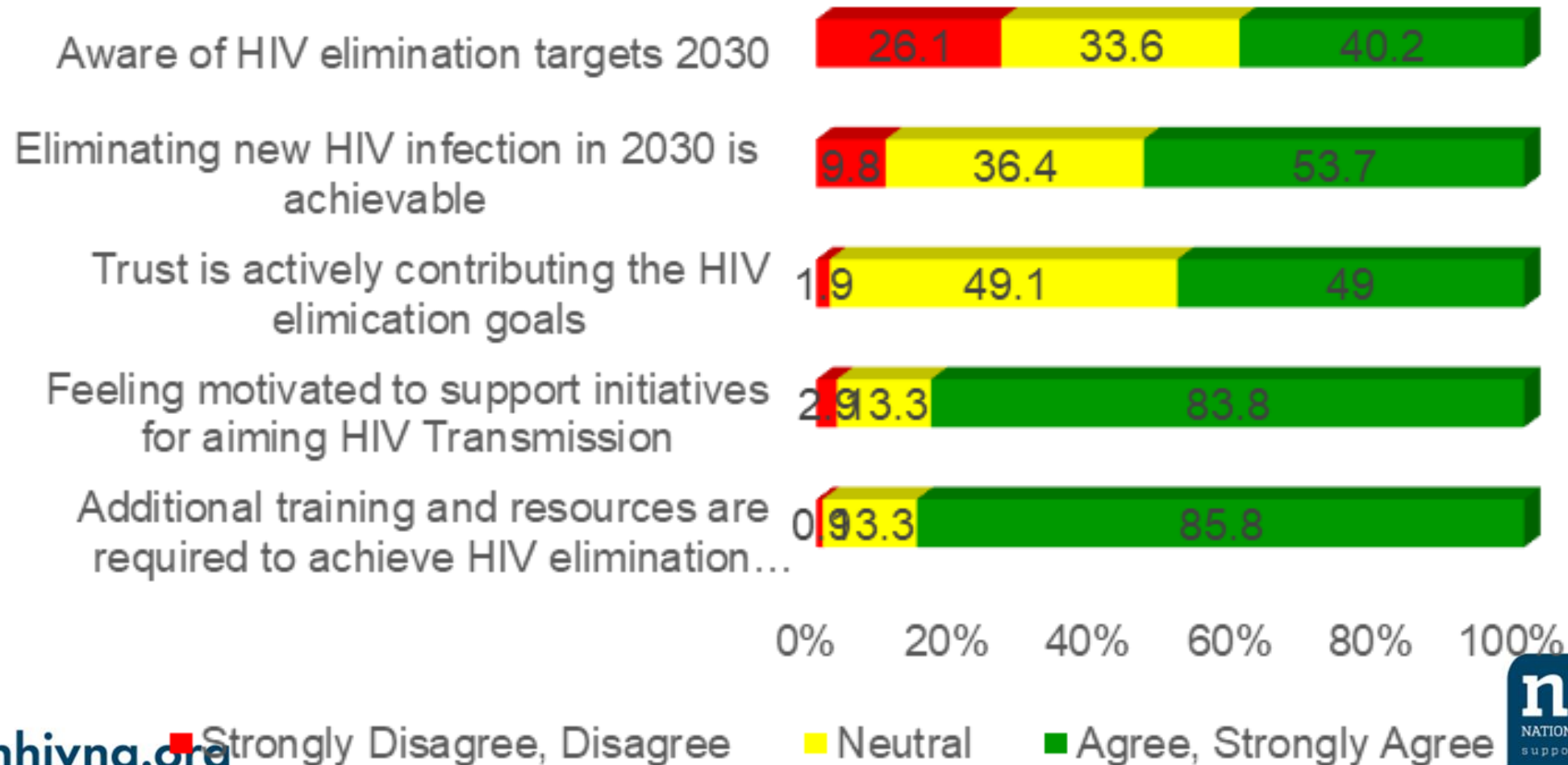
Proportion of respondents by attitude towards HIV stigma



Proportion of respondents on attitude of HIV care



Proportion of respondents on HIV elimination goals



Discussion



HIV-related stigma and gaps in knowledge persist within a healthcare-associated population.



The responses are based on the background HIV knowledge and experiences and standardized training such as learning package from HIV Confident Charter for all the staff members will be beneficial.



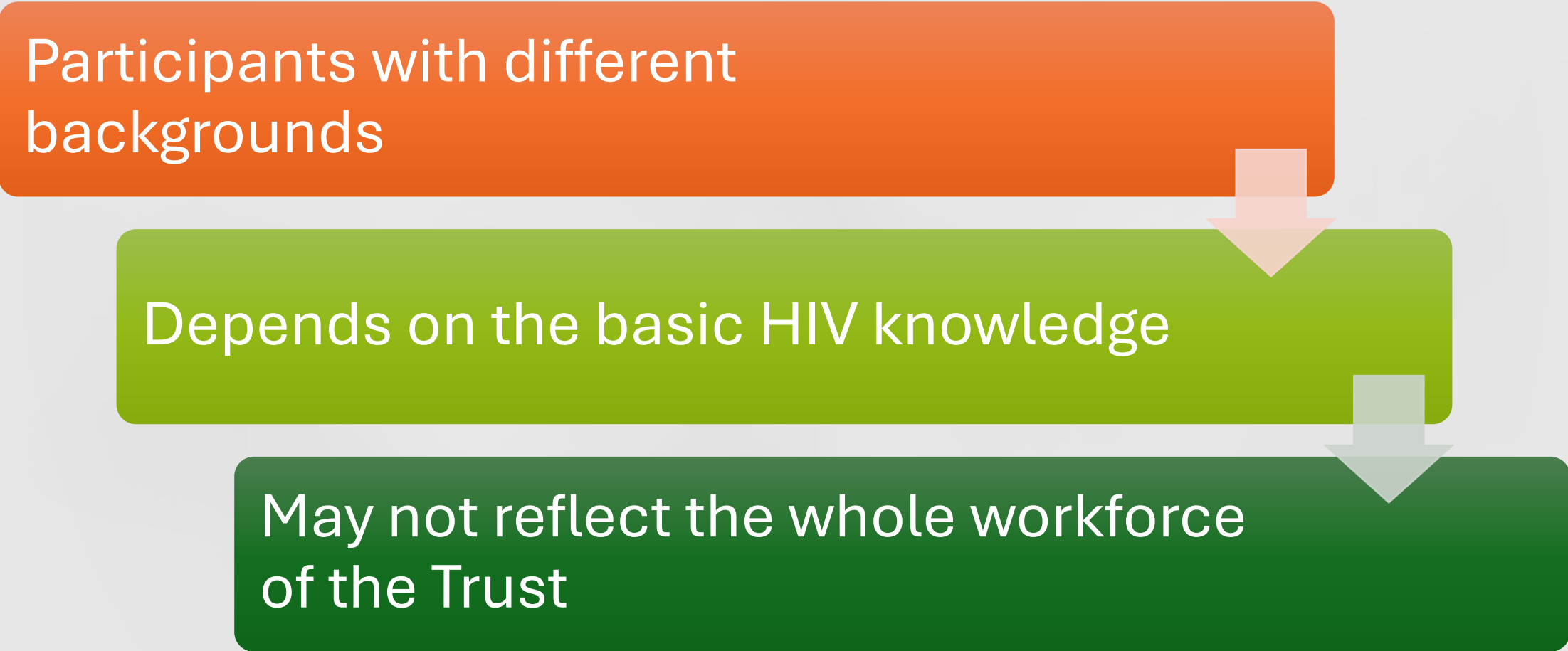
Age under 45, being medics and working experience in healthcare < 10 years are more likely to be associated with concern of contracting HIV while providing the care.



Nursing staff are more likely to be familiar with stigma-free HIV care and Trust policies to protect discrimination for PLWH.

Limitations

Participants with different backgrounds



```
graph TD; A[Participants with different backgrounds] --> B[Depends on the basic HIV knowledge]; B --> C[May not reflect the whole workforce of the Trust];
```

The diagram consists of three rounded rectangular boxes arranged vertically. The top box is orange and contains the text 'Participants with different backgrounds'. A light orange arrow points from the bottom right of this box to the top right of the middle box. The middle box is green and contains the text 'Depends on the basic HIV knowledge'. A light green arrow points from the bottom right of this box to the top right of the bottom box. The bottom box is dark green and contains the text 'May not reflect the whole workforce of the Trust'.

Depends on the basic HIV knowledge

May not reflect the whole workforce of the Trust

Recommendations



Strengthening of staff education on HIV stigma reduction and HIV elimination targets are required.



The responses to HIV related stigma from PLWH should include submitting incident report, targeted education and sharing resources in our Trust and our partner Trusts.



Expanding stigma-reduction training as a mandatory training for all the staff members is also a possible option to increase awareness of HIV related stigma among the healthcare-associated population.



To review confidentiality policies



To promote HIV elimination targets

Acknowledgement

