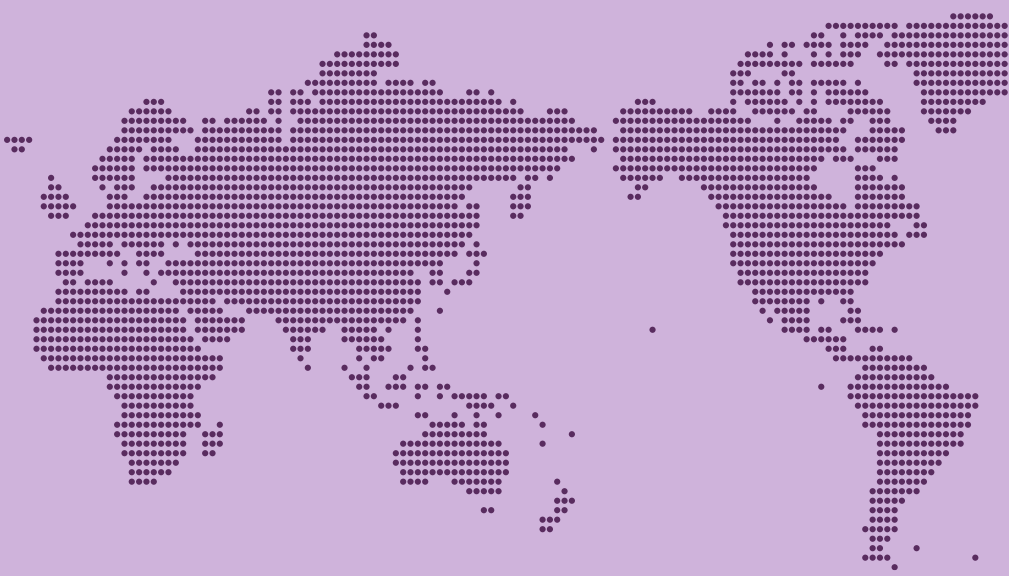


Attrition From Antiretroviral Treatment Among Adults In Mozambique, 2015-2019

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OVERVIEW

In Mozambique, there is paucity of evidence on the magnitude of patients' attrition among HIV patients on treatment. Factors associated with attrition are investigated in this study.

BACKGROUND

Mozambique has one of the largest HIV epidemics in Africa;

Although access to antiretroviral therapy (ART) has increased, 32% of PLHIV in Mozambique were not on ART by the end of 2020;

We estimated 12-months ART attrition rates and investigated socio-demographic and clinical characteristics associated with attrition in Mozambique.

METHODS

We used data of 15,634 adults HIV patients (> 15 years) who started ART between 2015-2019 from north (Niassa, Cabo Delgado and Nampula), center (Zambezia, Tete, Manica and Sofala), and south (Inhambane, Gaza, Maputo province and Maputo city) region of the country;

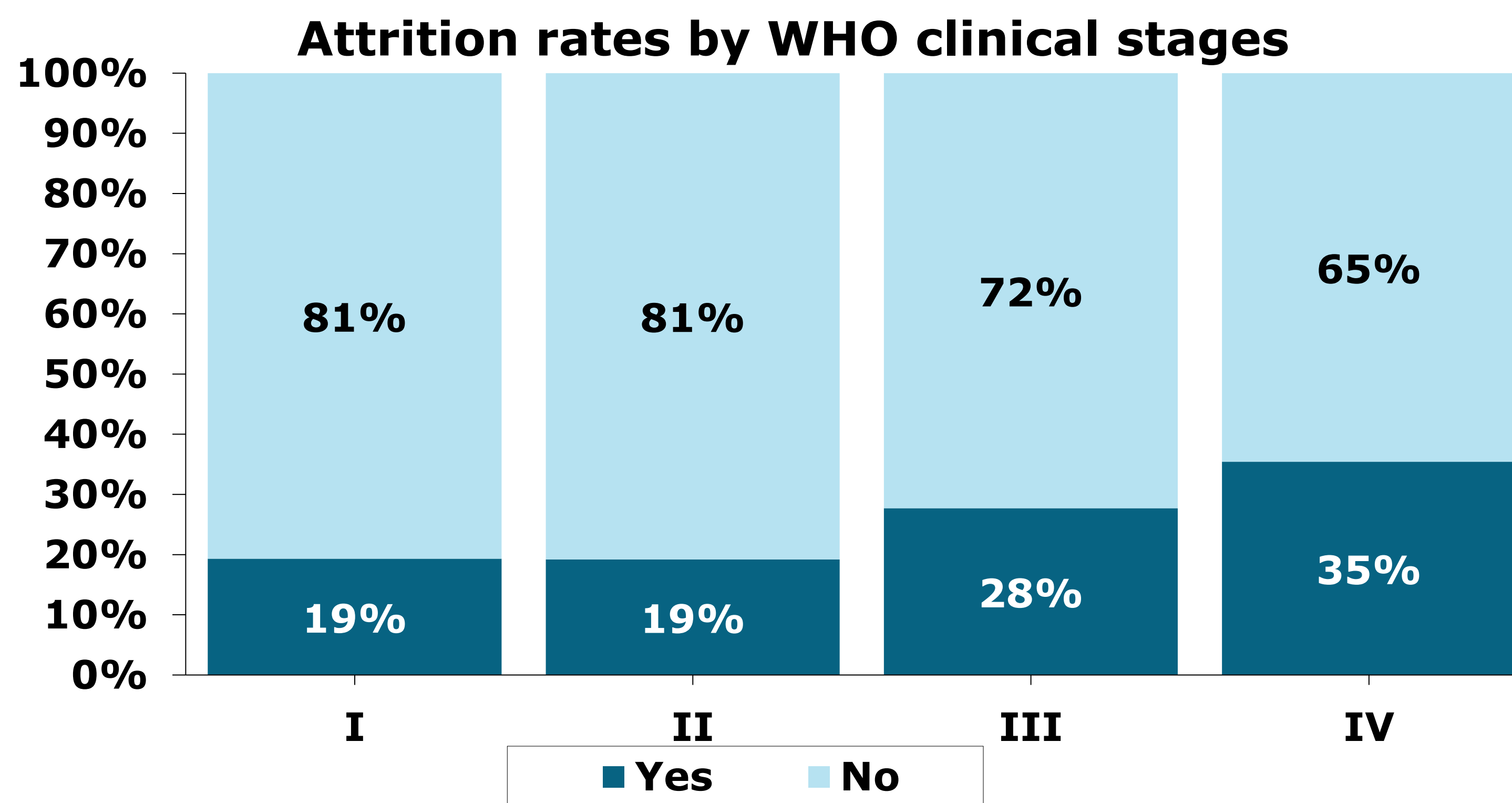
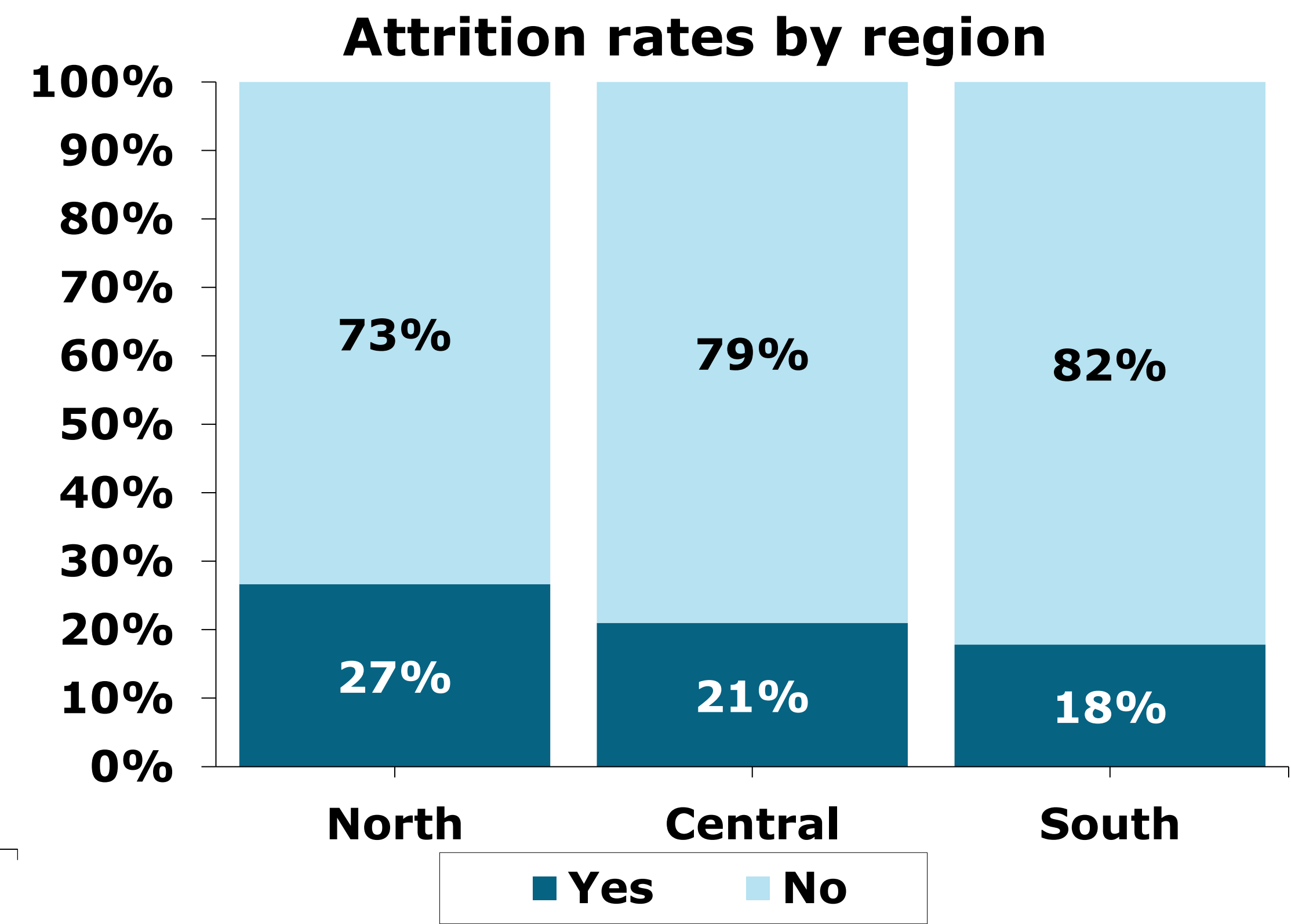
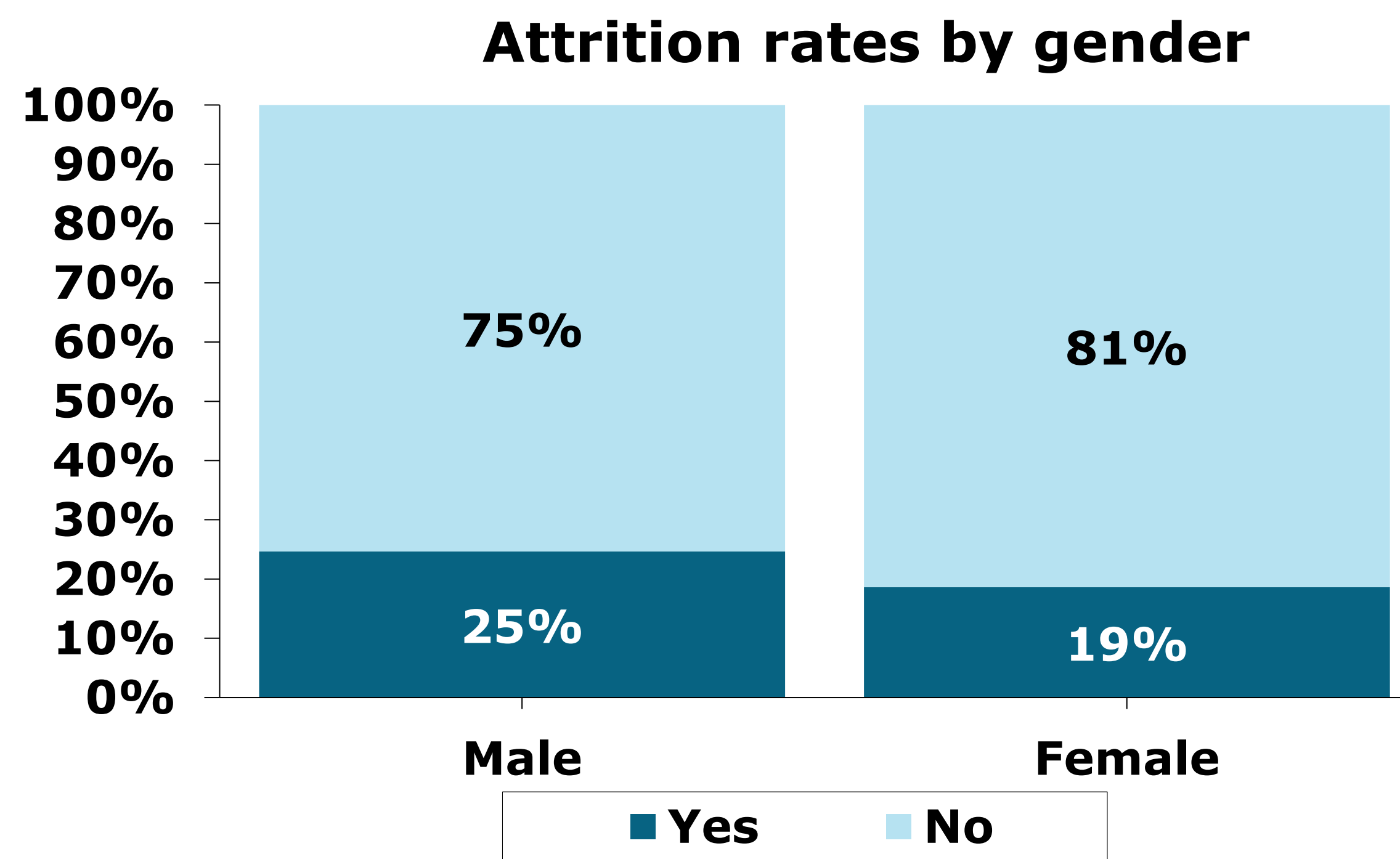
Attrition was defined as individuals who were either reported dead or lost to follow up (LTFU) (did not return to care for 90 days since their last clinical visit or drug pick up);

The following variables were used in the analyses: # of sexual partners, gender, region, marital status, education level, WHO stage, prior ART treatment, tobacco and alcohol consumption;

Descriptive and multivariate regression analyses were conducted to identify attrition rates and associated factors.

RESULTS

Yes - refers to attrition; No - refers to non-attrition



The overall attrition rate was 22.00% (95% CI: 21.35-22.65), composed of deaths, 5.00% (95% CI: 4.67-5.36), and LTFU 17.00% (95% CI: 16.42-17.60);

CONCLUSIONS

In this study, factors found to be associated with attrition include the following: male gender, WHO clinical stages III or IV, North region and more than one sexual partners;

Reinforcement of interventions which target male patients, PLHIV in early stage of the disease, and people with multiple sexual partners may be useful in Mozambique;

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Effect	Categories	Odds Ratio (SE)	[95% CI]
Intercept	-	0.28(0.24)	[0.05 - 1.53]
# of Partners	-	1.22(0.11)*	[1.02 - 1.44]
Gender	Female	Reference	Reference
	Male	1.53(0.13)*	[1.29 - 1.82]
Region	South	Reference	Reference
	Center	1.01(0.11)	[0.83 - 1.24]
	North	0.68(0.07)*	[0.56 - 0.83]
Marital Status	Divorced	Reference	Reference
	Married	0.62(0.51)	[0.12 - 3.09]
	Single	0.73(0.60)	[0.15 - 3.66]
	Widower	0.79(0.66)	[0.16 - 4.06]
Alcohol	No	Reference	Reference
	Yes	1.08(0.12)	[0.88 - 1.33]
Tobacco	No	Reference	Reference
	Yes	1.02(0.15)	[0.77 - 1.35]
WHO Stage	I	Reference	Reference
	II	0.86(0.13)	[0.63 - 1.16]
	III	1.56(0.16)*	[1.28 - 1.91]
	IV	2.09(0.36)*	[1.50 - 2.92]
Education level	None	Reference	Reference
	Primary	0.91(0.11)	[0.73 - 1.15]
	Secondary	0.72(0.09)*	[0.56 - 0.93]
	University	0.59(0.21)	[0.30 - 1.18]
Prior ART treatment	No	Reference	Reference
	Yes	1.42(0.34)	[0.88 - 2.28]

*P-value significant at an alpha level of 0.05 SE: Standard Error; CI: Confidence Interval

