

Toronto to Zero

Linkage, Retention and Adherence Task Group

March 8th, 2019



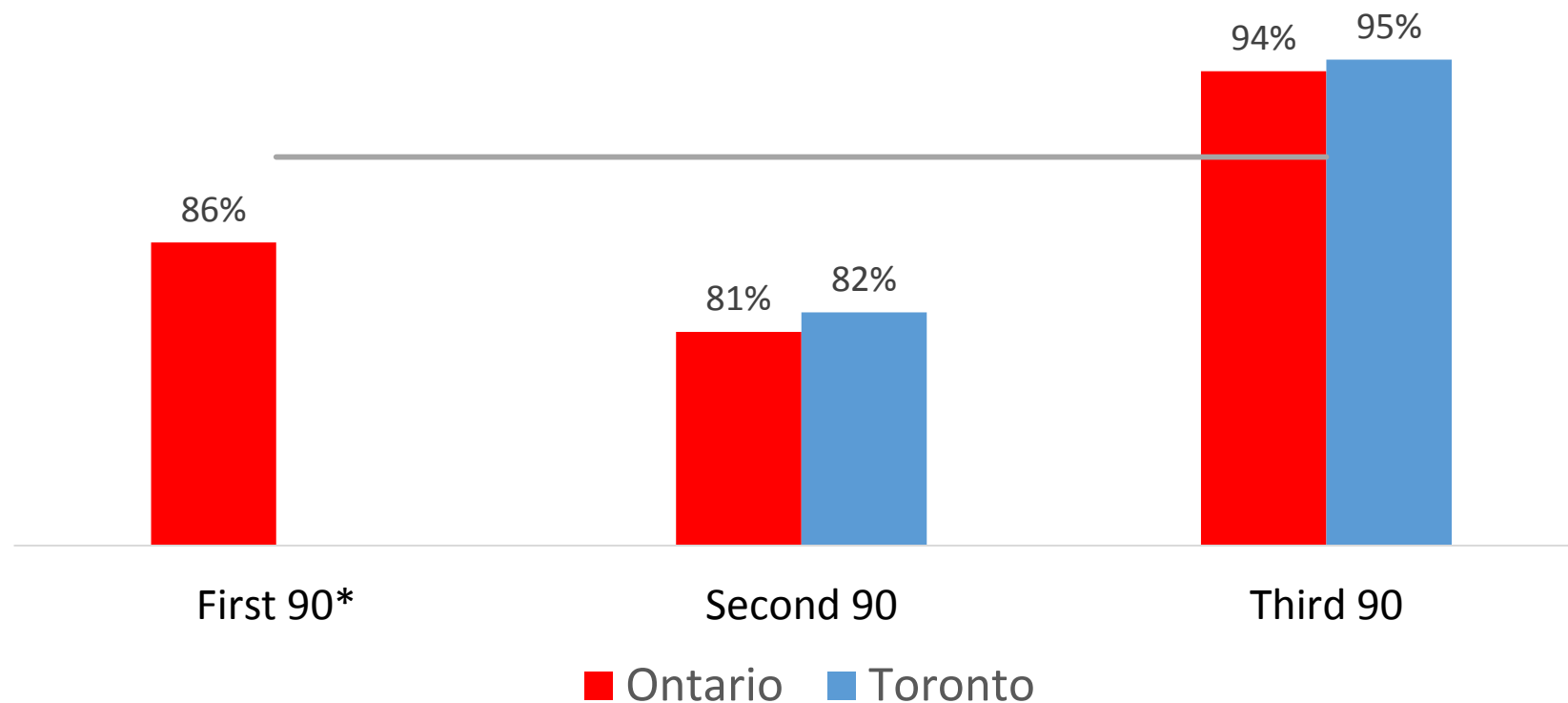
Background

- Linkage to care and initiation on effective treatment linked to improved long-term health outcomes
 - Emphasis now on more immediate linkage to care
- Social determinants of health factors negatively impact linkage and retention in care
- Defining gaps that exist in Toronto and providing support to improve care engagement

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Progress on Linkage and Retention



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Making the Links

- Hassle Free Clinic
- Aftercare program provides short-term counselling to people newly diagnosed with HIV
- Supports linkage to care as well as connections to social programs and practical support

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OHTN Linkage to Care Pilot

- Partnership between OHTN, Toronto Public Health
- Goal of providing linkage supports where they are limited
 - Specific focus on immigration clinics, ER
- Increasingly providing support with other
- Building capacity for linkage to care in new programs

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Circle of Care Peer Support Program

- PWA runs program in collaboration with affiliated women's programs at other agencies
- Women living with HIV act as peer mentors provide 1-on-1 support to other women
- Includes care accompaniment, advocacy, interpretation, service navigation and more

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Discussion

- ① Can you describe an ideal care experience for linkage to care? What would that look like?
- ① What type of opportunities would support people living with HIV and service providers to provide their input to this task group?