

Missed HIV Clinic Visits among Youth Living with HIV in Alabama

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Background

- Youth living with HIV (YLWH) accounts for about one-fifth of new infections in the United States. ¹
- Unique developmental, psychosocial, behavioral, and infrastructural factors affect this vulnerable population. ²
- More research is needed for YLWH regarding missed HIV clinic visits.

Study Aims:

- Identify the association between HIV treatment outcomes with missed visits among YLWH.
- Identify the risk factors of missed visits for YLWH.
- Compare the Risk factors of YLWH to PLWH.

Methods

- Data: UAB Family Clinic of Children's of Alabama.
- Study period: 3/1/2020-8/31/2021
- Eligibility criteria:
 - Have visits recorded in the CAREWare system during the study period.
 - Have more than one laboratory record during the study period.
 - Age from 16 to 24 in the index visit (first visit during the study period) for the YLWH; All clients will be included for risk factors of PLWH.
- Measures:
 - The missed visit was identified by:
 - Any no-show visit without rescheduling or notice;
 - Any rescheduled visit for >30 days.
 - Treatment outcome was evaluated by:
 - CD4 drop>50.
 - Viral suppression (VL<200) in the last record.
 - Viral load increment.
- Statistical Analysis:
 - Chi-square test for Aim1;
 - Logistic regression for Aim2 and 3;
 - All analyses were performed with SAS 9.4.

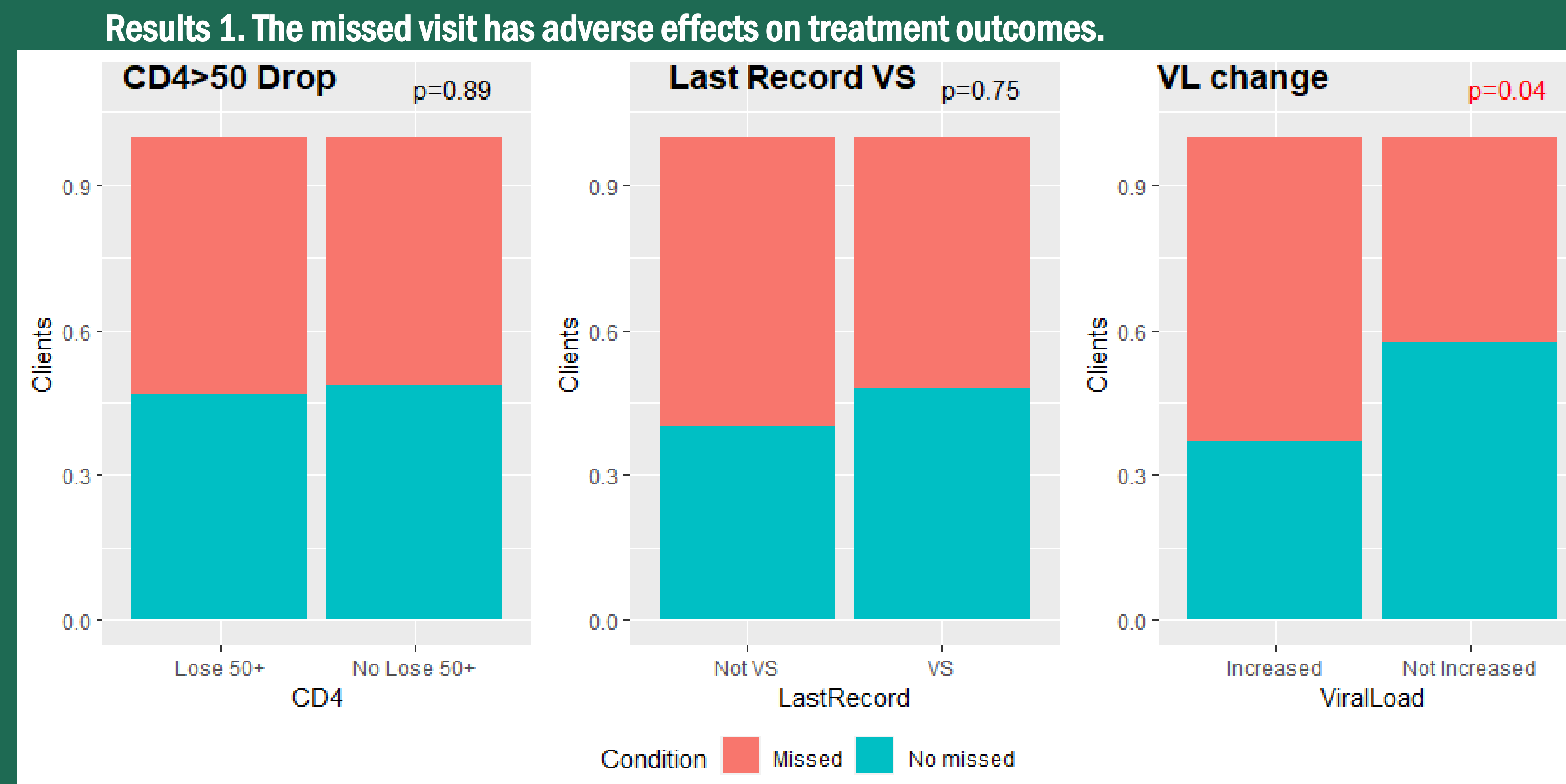


Figure 1. Comparison between YLWH with and without missed visits in treatment outcomes.

Results 2. Gender and Viral suppression in index visit were significantly associated with missed visits.

Effect	OR	95% CI	p-val
Age			0.32
	1.09	(0.92, 1.28)	
Gender			0.03
Male vs Female	3.35	(1.10, 10.20)	
Race			0.71
African-American vs White	1.42	(0.46, 4.40)	
More than one race vs White	2.25	(0.29, 17.76)	
HIV Transmission mode			0.20
Heterosexual vs Perinatal	0.25	(0.04, 1.45)	
MSM vs Perinatal	1.10	(0.42, 2.93)	
Insurance type			0.64
Medicaid vs Private - Individual	0.66	(0.20, 2.17)	
Private - Employer vs Private - Individual	0.38	(0.10, 1.46)	
Other vs Private - Individual	0.94	(0.12, 7.52)	
No Insurance vs Private - Individual	1.09	(0.30, 4.01)	
Viral Suppression in index record			0.04
No vs Yes	2.44	(1.06, 5.58)	

Table 1. Risk factors associated with missed visits in YLWH (n=101)

Results 3. Differences between risk factors of YLWH and all PLWH.

Effect	OR	95% CI	P-val
Race			0.03
African-American vs White	2.45	(1.26, 4.74)	
Insurance type			0.01
Employer vs No Insurance	0.21	(0.07, 0.64)	
Viral Suppression in index record			0.01
No vs Yes	5.26	(2.17, 14.29)	

Discussion

- Missed visit is one valuable measure of retention in care for YLWH.
- Reducing the risk of missing HIV visits for YLWH would improve the retention in care and service quality.
- Interventions based on the profile of the risk group should be developed.
- A system tracking the visits attendance is necessary.

Limitation:

- The CAREWare had just been employed since March 2020.
- Limited data/variables.
- Not able to evaluate the effect of the COVID pandemic.
- Are YLWH able to determine behavior?

Conclusion

- Missed visit has adverse effects on treatment outcome for YLWH.
- Male YLWH and YLWH without previous viral suppression have higher risk of missing HIV clinic visits.
- The risk factors for YLWH are different from those for all PLWH.
- More research is needed for Missed visits in YLWH.

Acknowledgements

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References

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