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SOUTH AFRICAN COMMUNITY EPIDEMIOLOGY NETWORK ON DRUG USE

Treatment Demand Data • Service Quality Measures (SQM)
• Community-Based Harm Reduction Services

SYMPOSIUM

Philasande Madosi

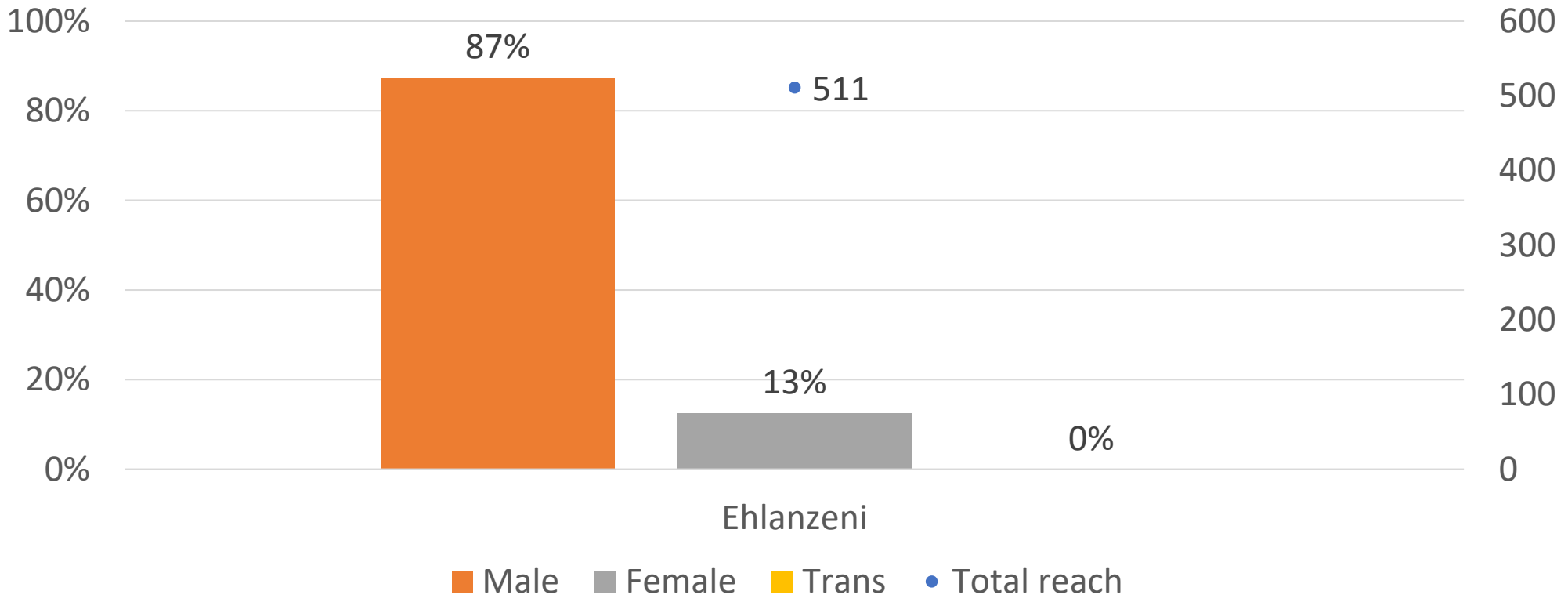
Community-based harm reduction services: Mpumalanga

[26 Oct 2026] Phase 2026a [Jan – Jun 2026]

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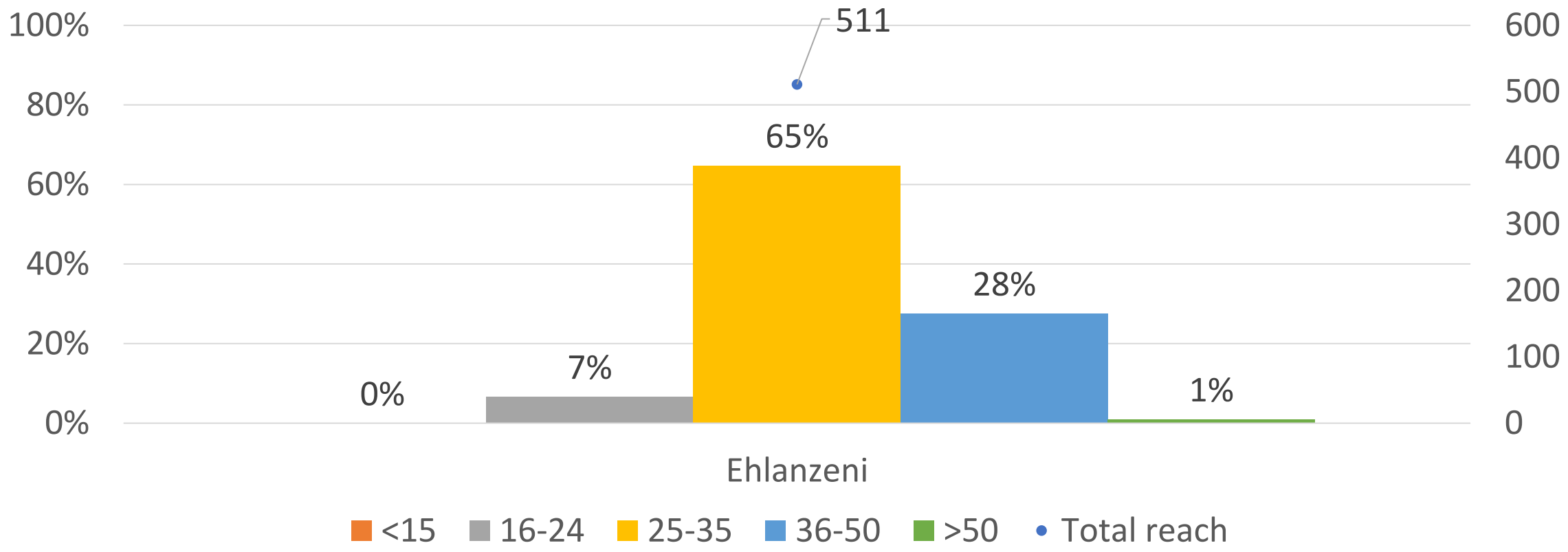
Needle & syringe reach, by gender

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Needle & syringe reach, by age

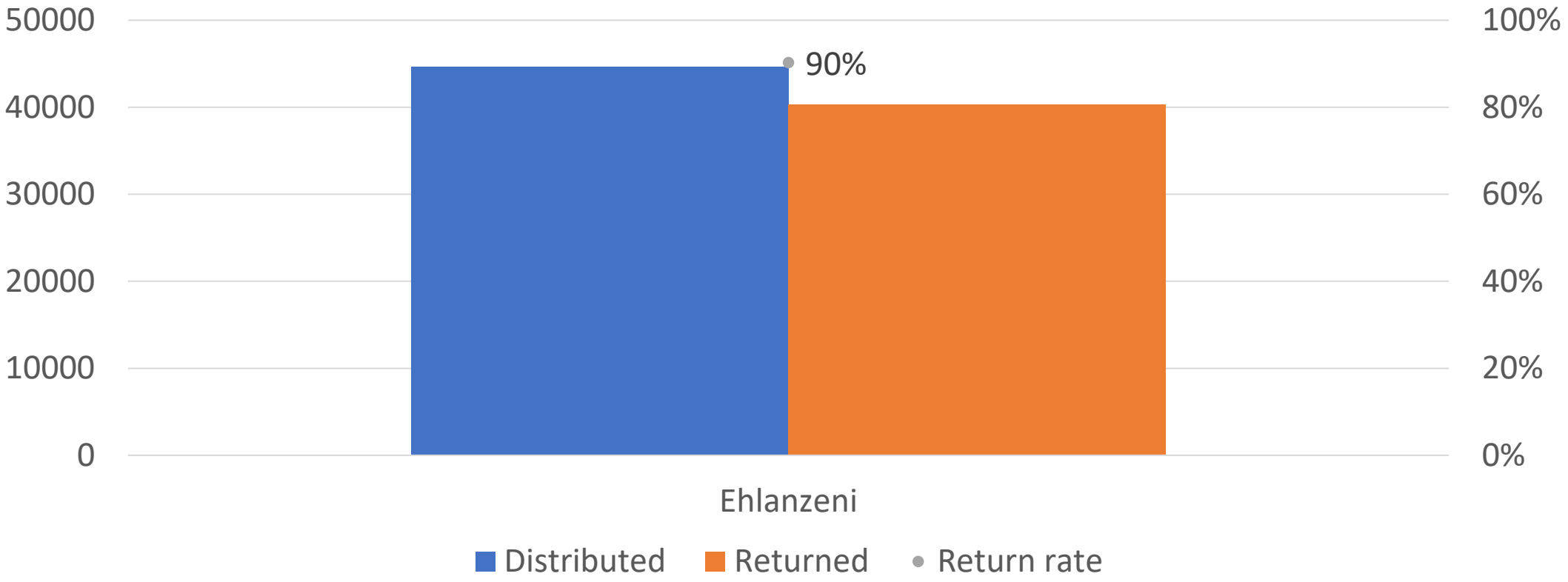
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Needle & syringe distribution & return

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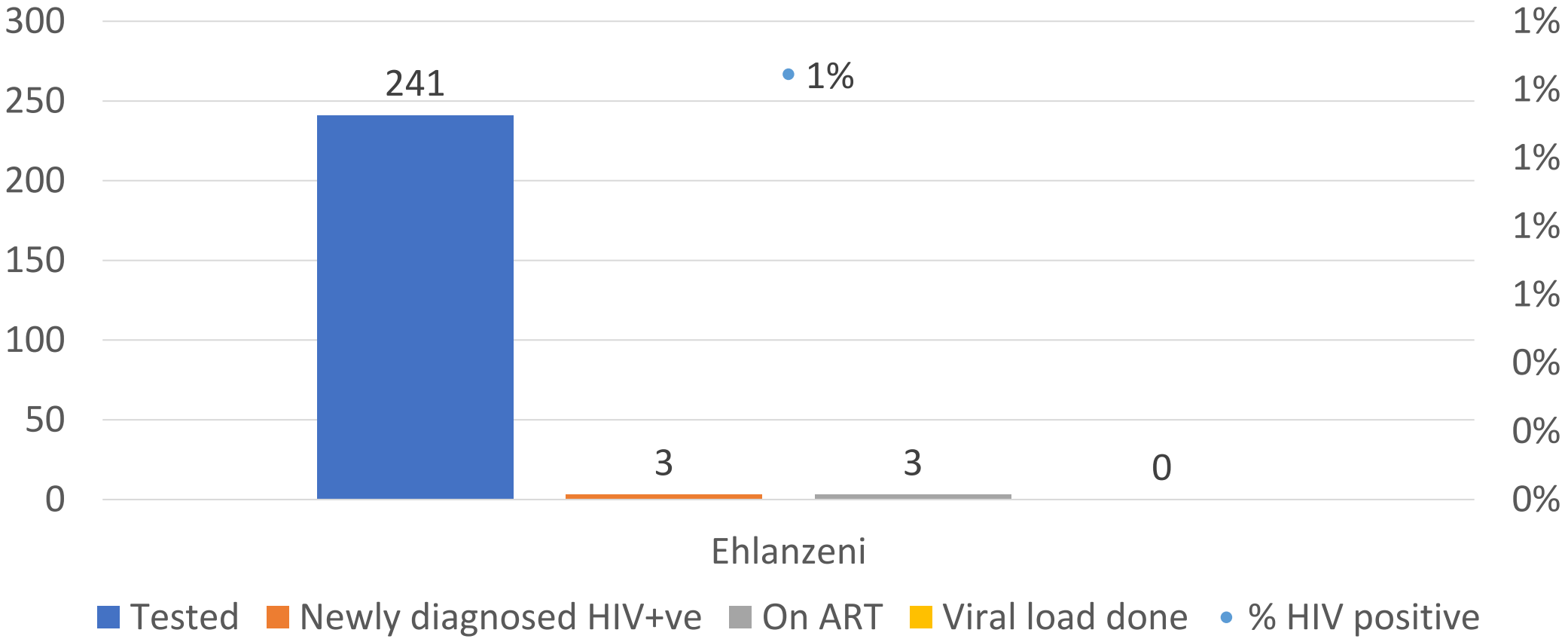


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HIV testing & treatment cascade

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No viral load testing done – clients transitioned to DOH facilities

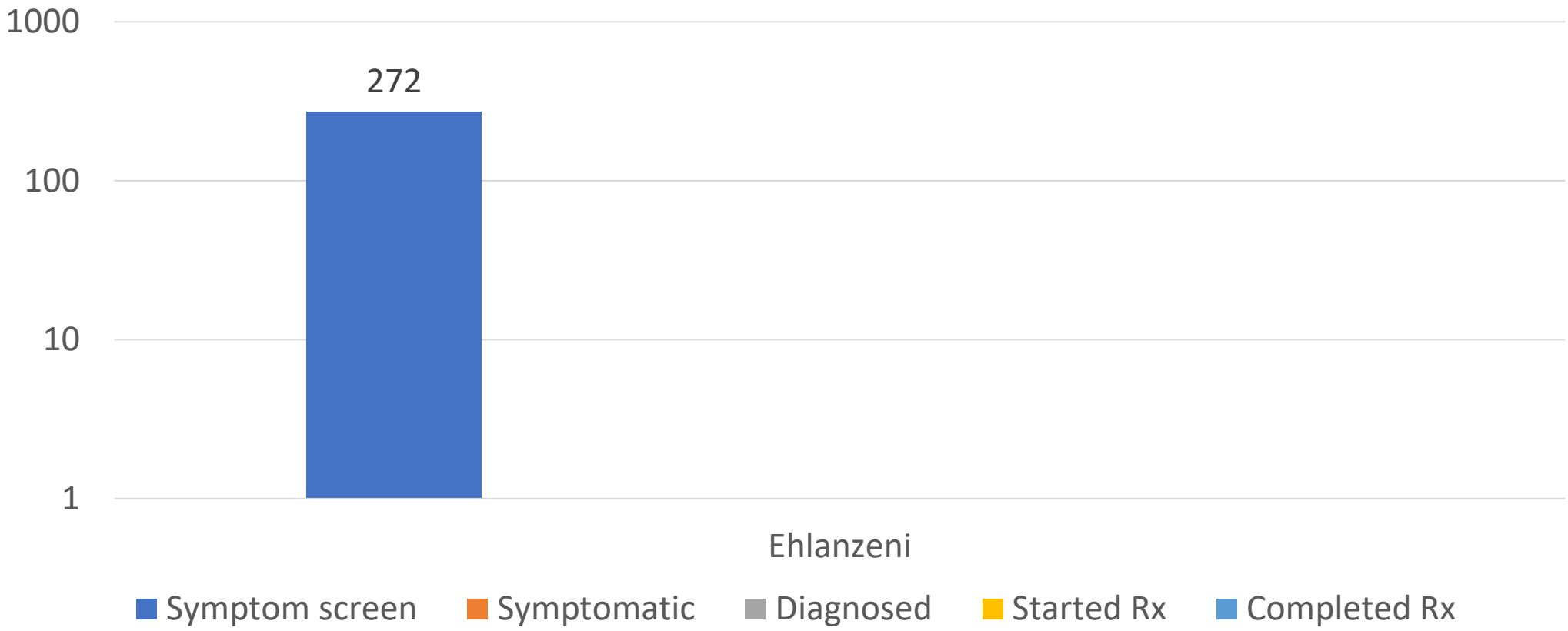


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TB testing & treatment cascade

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No symptomatic cases identified from the 272 screened

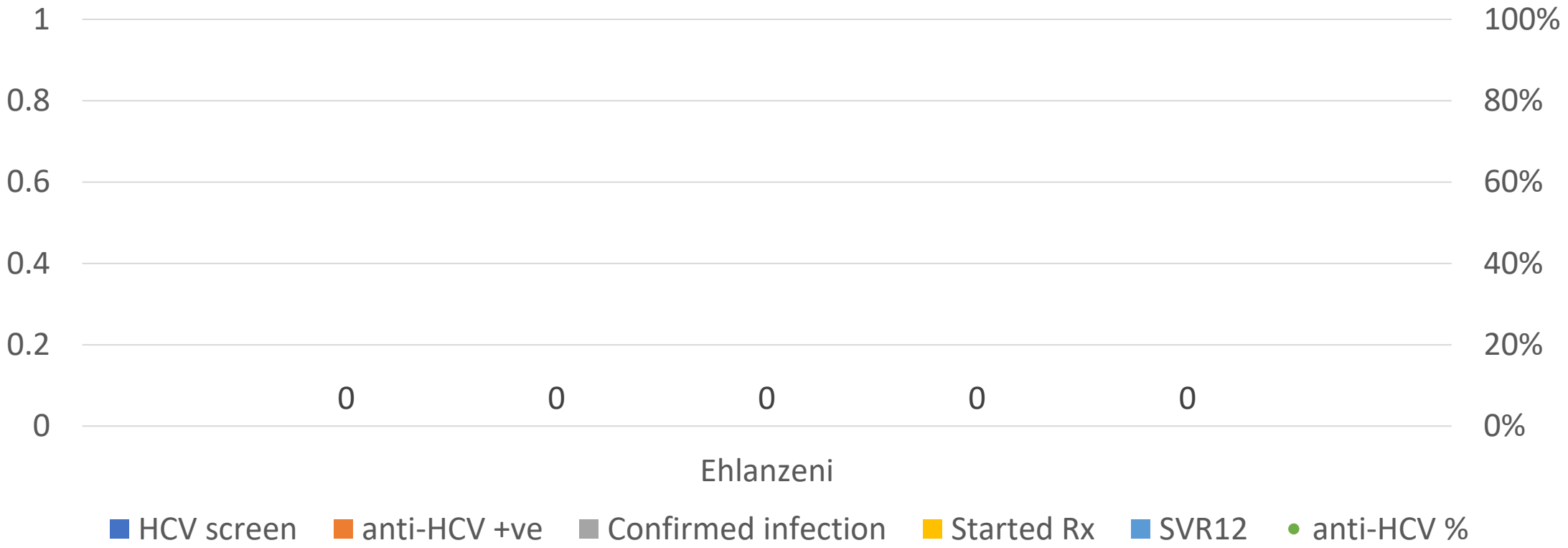


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HCV testing & treatment cascade

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No HCV screening or treatment done due to funding reductions

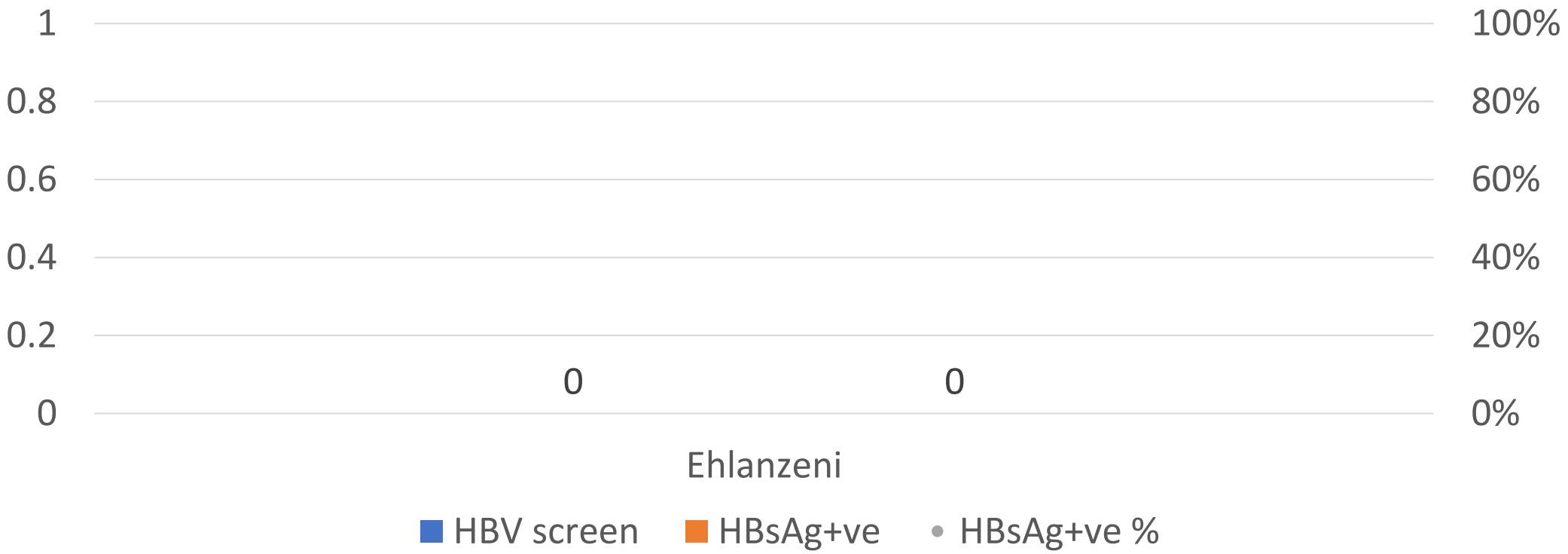


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HBV testing

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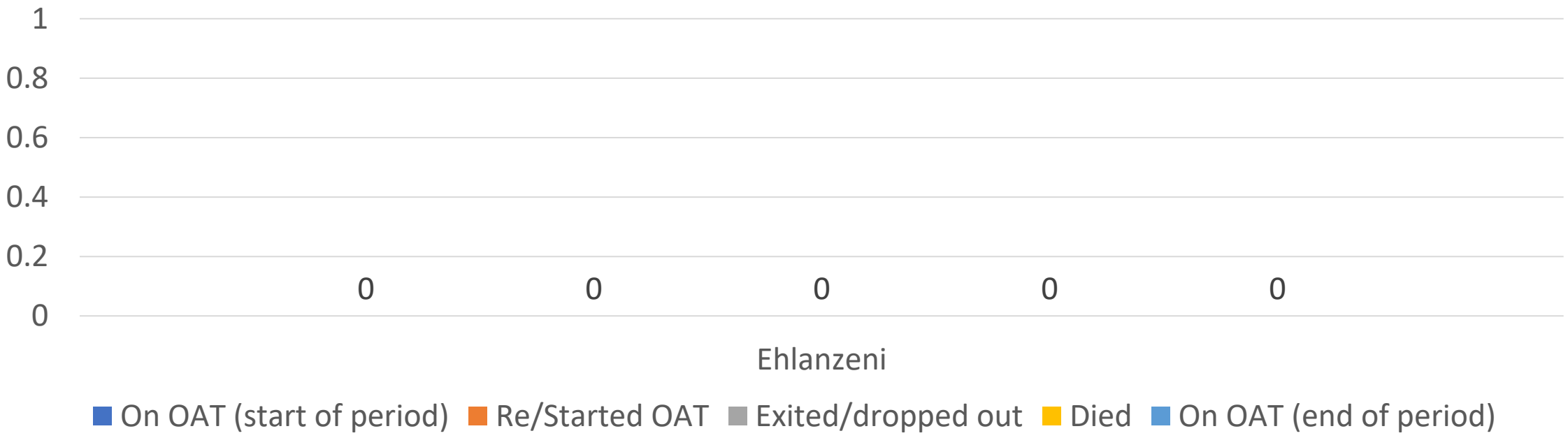
No HBV screening done due to funding reductions



Opioid agonist therapy

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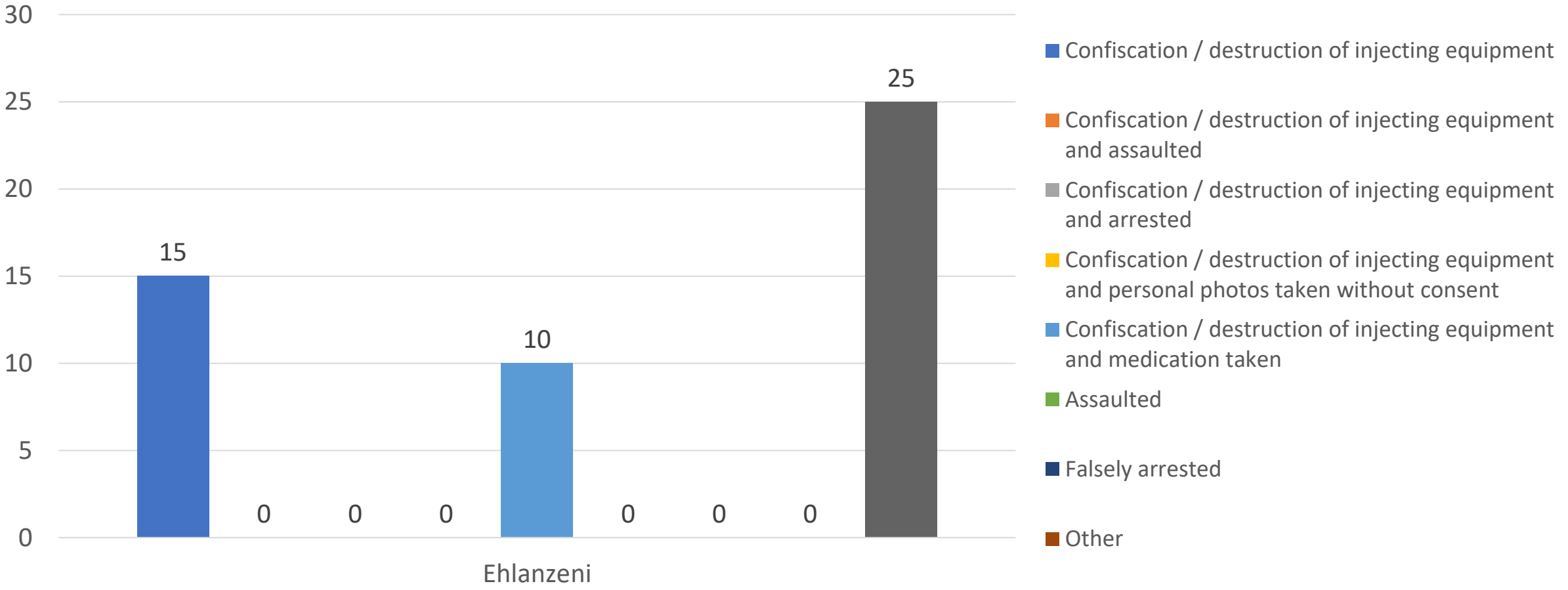
No clients on OAT due to service being stopped as a result of withdrawal of donor funding



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Human rights violations

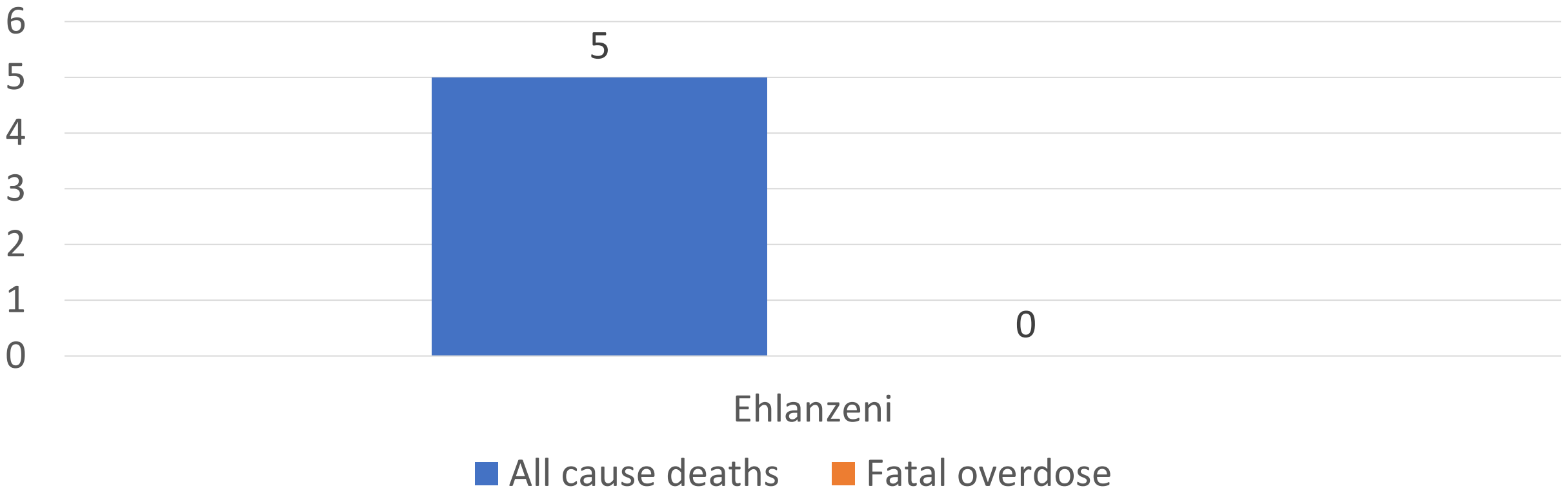
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Mortality & overdose

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Issues, challenges & issues to note



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- Services scaled down vs Jul – Dec ’25: reach 511 (from 1,196), needles & syringes distributed down 71%, HIV tests down 66%
- Stop of support from PEPFAR/CDC for NSP and OAT services – without govt. intervention, these services will not continue, with gains in health experienced by many likely to be lost
- No clients reported on OAT (201 on OAT at end of Jul – Dec ’25) and no exits or deaths recorded – continuity of care after transition to DOH facilities needs confirming
- No HCV or HBV screening or treatment reported, despite the high HCV burden seen last period (98% of 210 screened anti-HCV positive)
- No viral load monitoring; only 3 new HIV diagnoses, so positivity (1.2%) is not comparable with last period (8.2%)
- 5 all-cause deaths reported (all male), up from none – causes not captured
- 25 human rights violations reported, 10 involving confiscation of equipment and medication taken

Successes

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- All 3 people newly diagnosed with HIV were linked to ART (100%)

- Fewer human rights violations reported: 25, down from 162 in Jul – Dec ’25, with no assaults or arrests reported
- No fatal overdoses reported
- Outreach, HIV testing (241) and TB screening (272) continued with a stable client profile: 87% male, 65% aged 25–35

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