

# Ensuring quality in HIV point of care testing for recent infections in a surveillance program

**Presenting author:**

Dumile Sibanze

Ministry of Health, Government of the  
Kingdom of Eswatini, Mbabane, Eswatini

[dumilesibandze@yahoo.com](mailto:dumilesibandze@yahoo.com)



# Background

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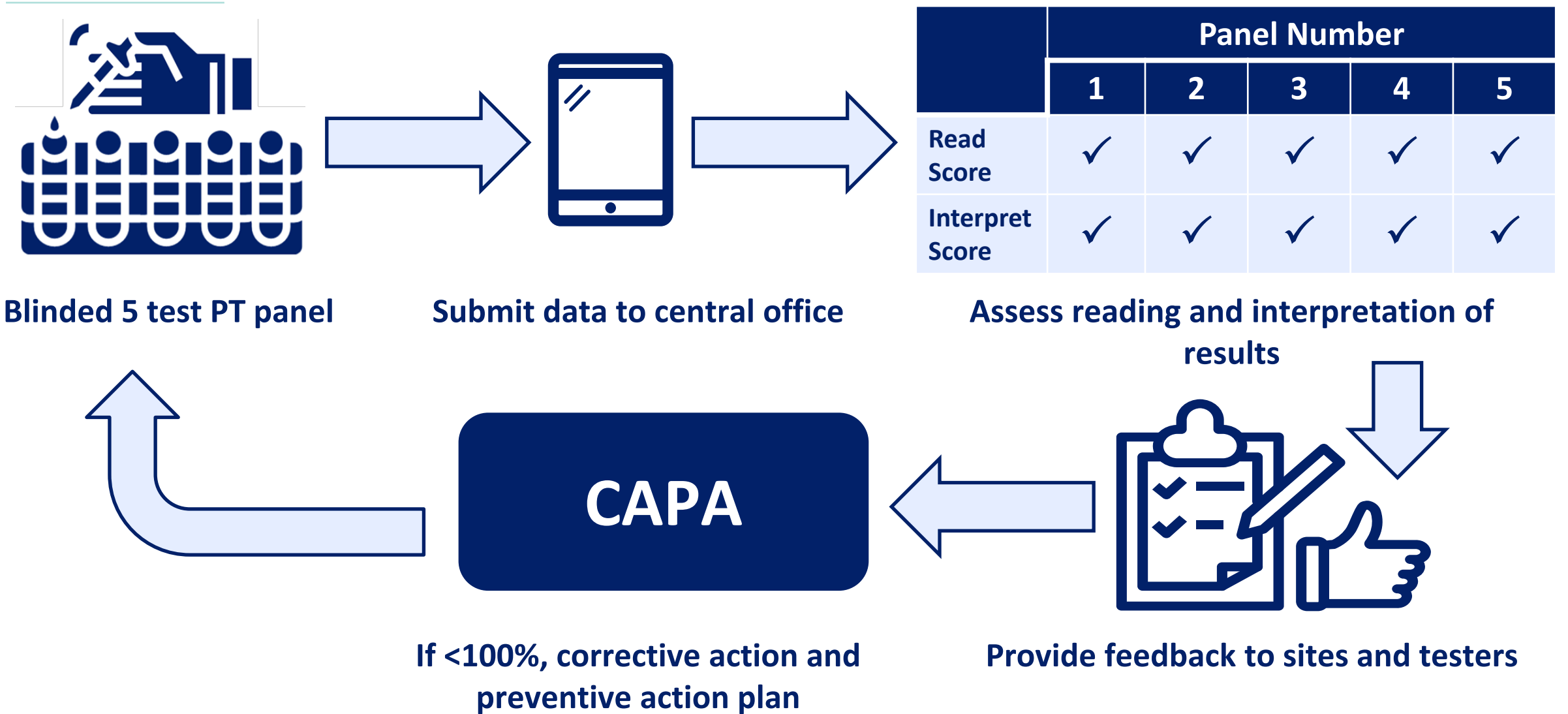
- **The Eswatini HIV-1 Recent Infection Surveillance (EHRIS) program is a national surveillance program to track new HIV infections.**
- **From July 2019, testers already deployed at health facilities and community points with HIV testing services (HTS) were trained on EHRIS.**
- **These testers offered a rapid test for recent infections (RTRI) to all newly diagnosed individuals 15+ years, and RTRI quality was assessed through proficiency testing (PT) every 6 months.**

# Methods: Specimens and Timing

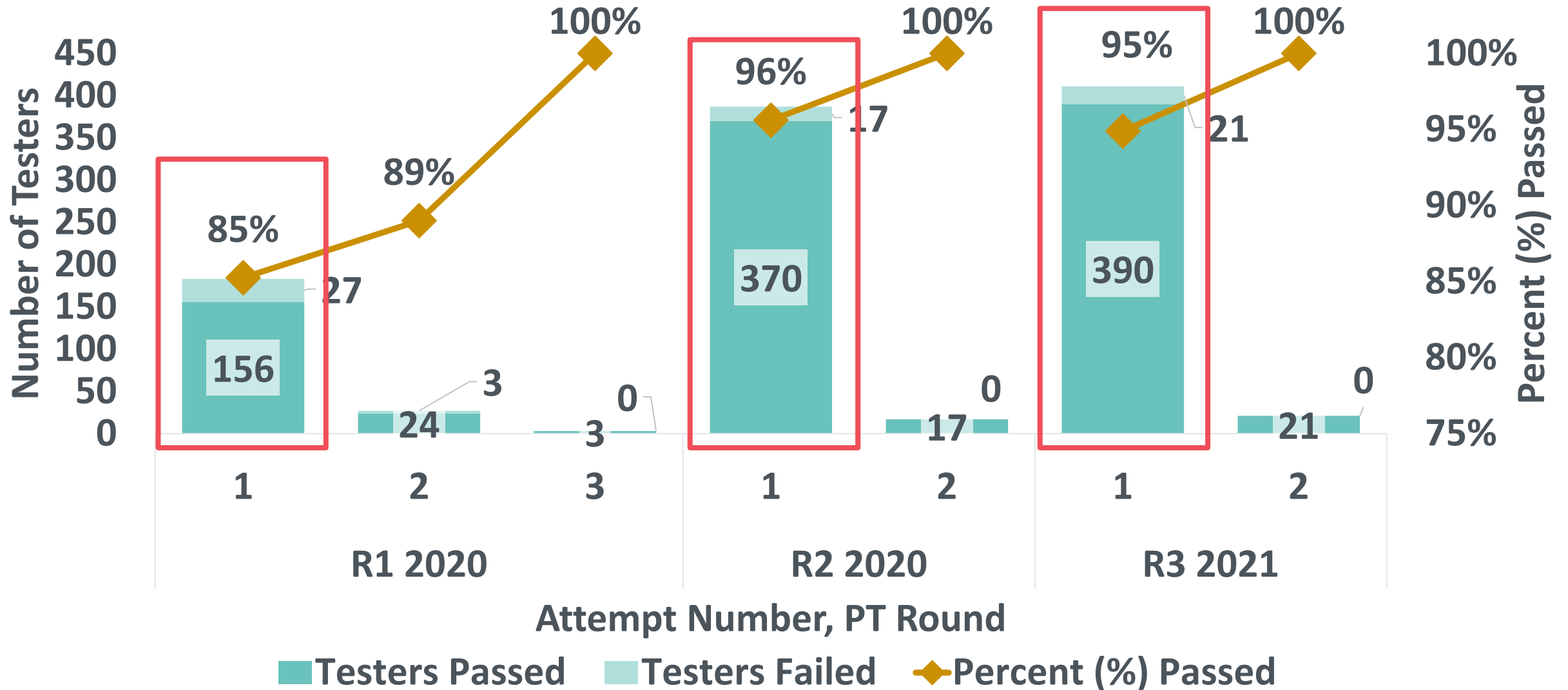
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- **PT conducted using dried tube specimen with 5 panels containing 3 types of specimens:**
  1. **HIV-negative**
  2. **HIV-positive long-term**
  3. **HIV-positive recent**
- **Performed by all testers, once every 6 months: March 2020 (round 1), September 2020 (round 2), and March 2021 (round 3)**

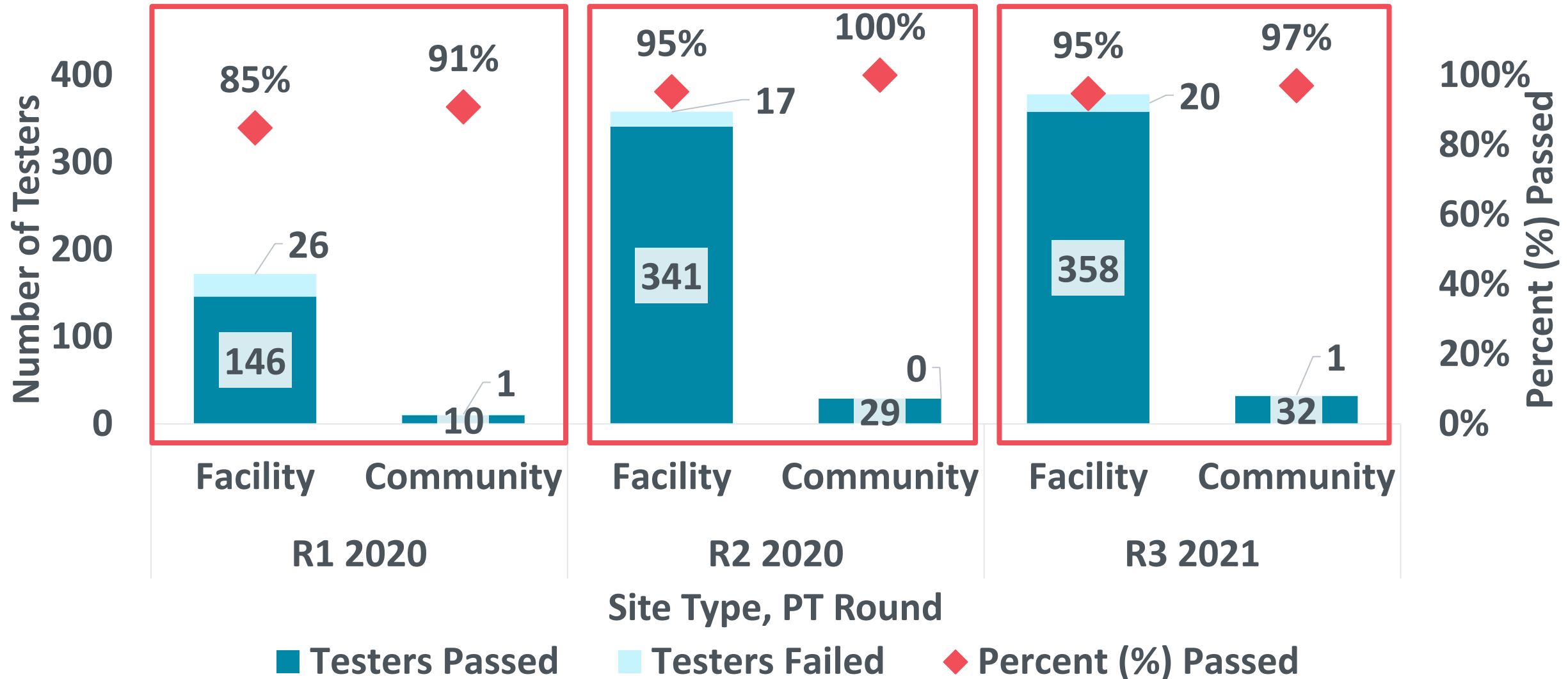
# Methods: Approach



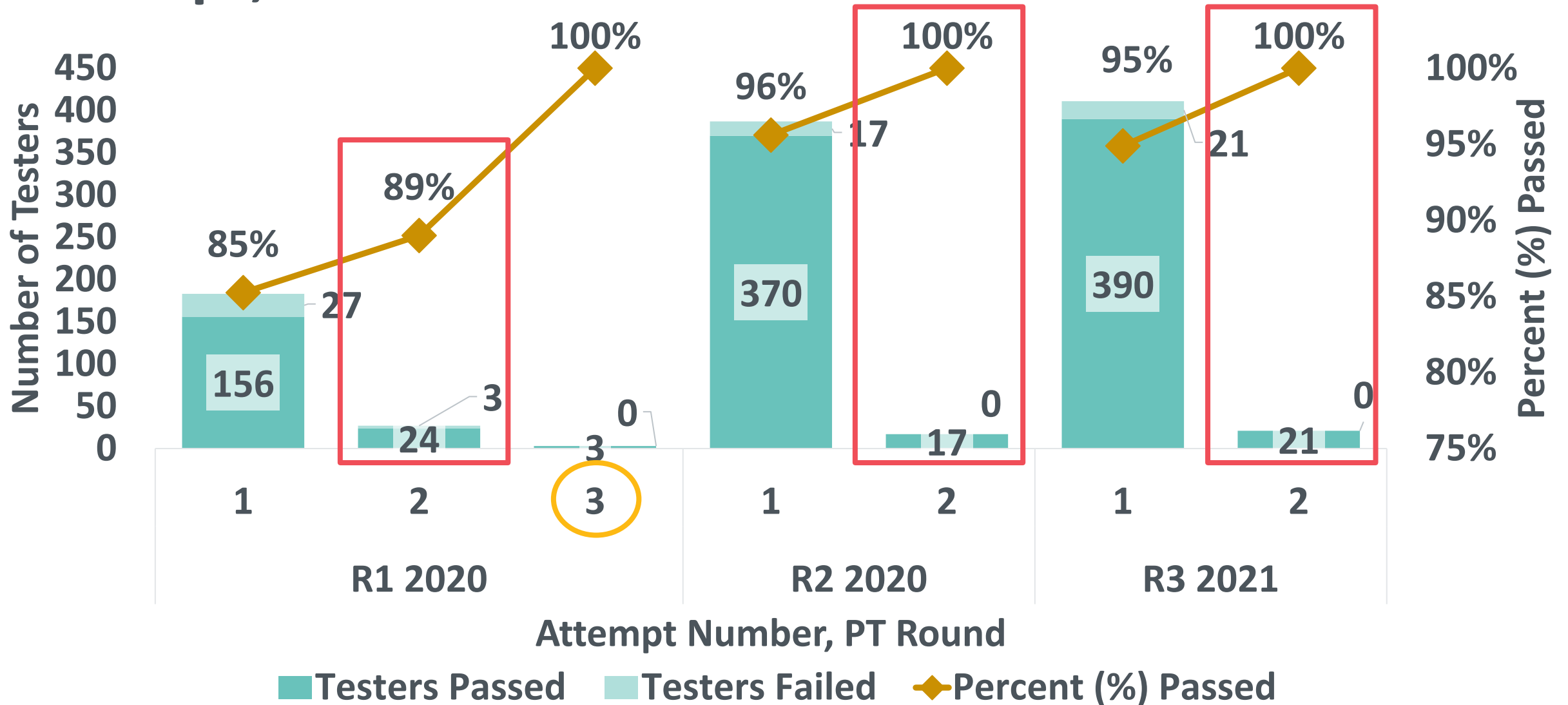
# Results: Proficiency Testing Results by PT Round and Attempt, March 2020–March 2021



# Results: Proficiency Testing Results by PT Round and Setting, First Attempt, March 2020–March 2021



# Results: Proficiency Testing Results by PT Round and Attempt, March 2020–March 2021



# Conclusions

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- **Testers in health facilities and community testing points exhibited high PT performance, with improvement over time.**
- **These results provide assurance in the quality of point of care testing for HIV recent infections in this national surveillance program.**



# Thank You.

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**Affiliations:** Dumile Sibandze<sup>1</sup>, Samkelo Simelane<sup>2</sup>, Siboniso Mamba<sup>2</sup>, Lenhle Dube<sup>1</sup>, Vusie Lokotfwako<sup>1</sup>, Munyaradzi Pasipamire<sup>3</sup>, Nokuthula Mahlalela<sup>1</sup>, Kathyryn Lupoli<sup>4</sup>, Trudy Dobbs<sup>4</sup>, Yen T. Pottinger<sup>5</sup>, Cebisile Ngcamphalala<sup>2</sup>, Ruben Sahabo<sup>2</sup>, Suzue Saito<sup>5,6</sup>, Harriet Nuwagaba-Biribonwoha<sup>2,6</sup>

**Affiliations:** <sup>1</sup> Ministry of Health, Government of the Kingdom of Eswatini, Mbabane, Eswatini

<sup>2</sup> ICAP at Columbia University, Mailman School of Public Health, Mbabane, Kingdom of Eswatini

<sup>3</sup> CDC Eswatini

<sup>4</sup> CDC Atlanta

<sup>5</sup> ICAP at Columbia University, Mailman School of Public Health, New York New York, USA

<sup>6</sup> Department of Epidemiology, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University, New York, United States