

**Actitudes de los profesionales
sanitarios hacia las personas con
VIH en España**
**Health professionals' attitudes
towards people with HIV in
Spain**

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INTRODUCTION

Stigma in healthcare settings: a major barrier to effective responses to HIV and AIDS

Personal perspective

- Gender, political ideology, conservative values, education.
- Perceived severity, misconceptions about route of transmission
- Blaming PLWH
- Degree of proximity of PLWH



Scientific Knowledge perspective

- Professional experience in caring PLWH
- HIV knowledge
- Concerns about occupational infection
- Self-confidence and self-efficacy in caring for PLWH

INTRODUCTION

Data from Spain:

- FIPSE Study (2005): discriminatory practices such as refusing treatment, different treatment, special sanitary measures, etc..
- Fuster et al. (2008): 20% of PLWIH claimed they had been denied any health care at some point
- Human Rights Watch: 23% of notifications in this area

OBJECTIVES

1. To determine the degree of stigma towards PLWHIV in Spanish healthcare settings

2. To analyze the variables associated with HIV-related stigma among healthcare professionals.



HYPOTHESIS

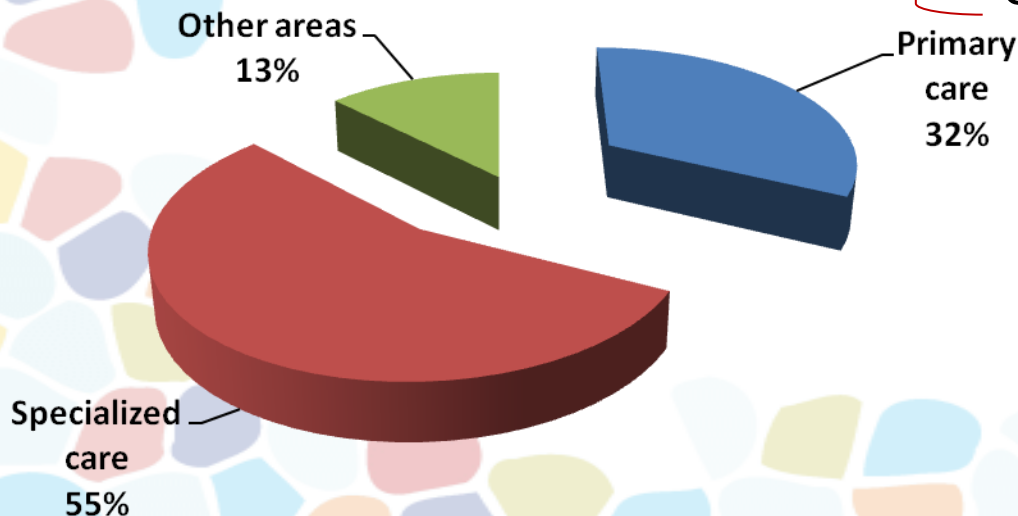
- (a) Misconceptions about HIV transmission, risk perception at work, and conservative values: positive association with stigma
- (b) Experience and self-efficacy in caring PLWHIV and perceived HIV knowledge: negative association with stigma

METHOD

SAMPLE

- ✓ 1695 healthcare professionals
- ✓ 75% ♀
- ✓ Age: 42.8 ± 10.9

Physicians
Nurses
Auxiliary nursing staff
Psychologists
Social workers
Administrative staff
Ancillary staff
Others



METHOD

MEASURES

- ❑ Stigma in daily life¹
- ❑ Stigma in healthcare setting²
- ❑ HIV transmission pathways³
- ❑ Professional experience with HIV+ patients⁴
- ❑ Perception of risk of HIV occupational infection⁵
- ❑ Perceived self-efficacy and knowledge to deal with HIV patients⁶
- ❑ Personal contact with PLWHIV⁷
- ❑ Conservative values: religion and political ideology⁸

¹ (SEISIDA, 2012) ² (Harrell y Wright, 1998; Li et al., 2009) ³ (Herek, 1999) ⁴ (Pleck, 1998) ^{5,6} (ad-hoc) ⁷ (Fuster et al., 2013) ⁸ (ad-hoc)

METHOD

PROCEDURE

- Cross-sectional survey
- Data collection:
 - (1) printed questionnaires distributed in 9 hospitals, 5 specialized care centres and 12 primary care centres (52.6% questionnaires collected)
 - (2) On-line questionnaire distributed by e-mail (47.7% questionnaires collected)



RESULTS

1. To determine the degree of stigma towards PLWHIV in Spanish healthcare settings

2. To analyze the variables associated with HIV-related stigma among healthcare professionals.

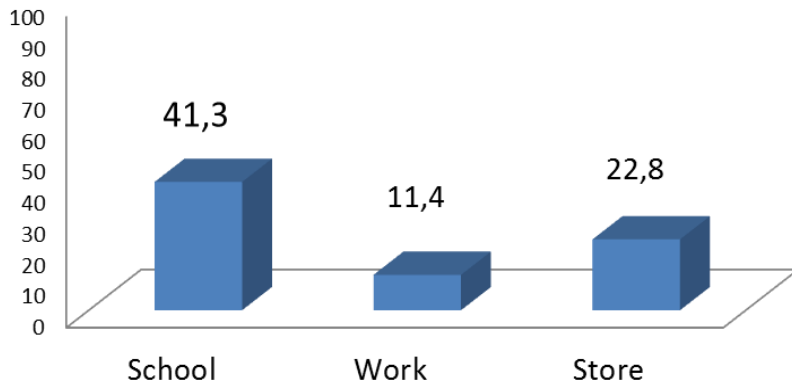


HYPOTHESIS

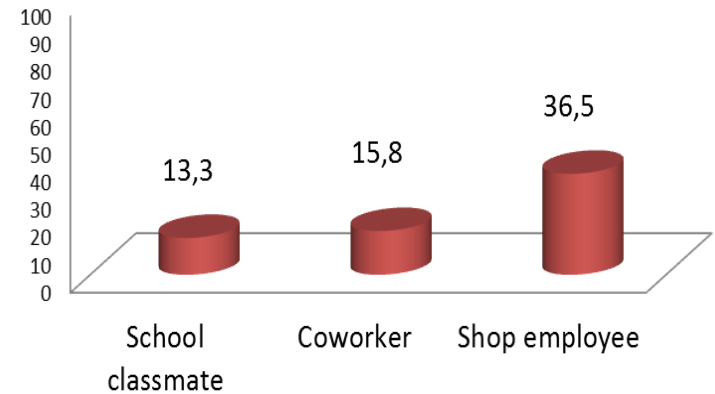
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STIGMA IN DAILY LIFE

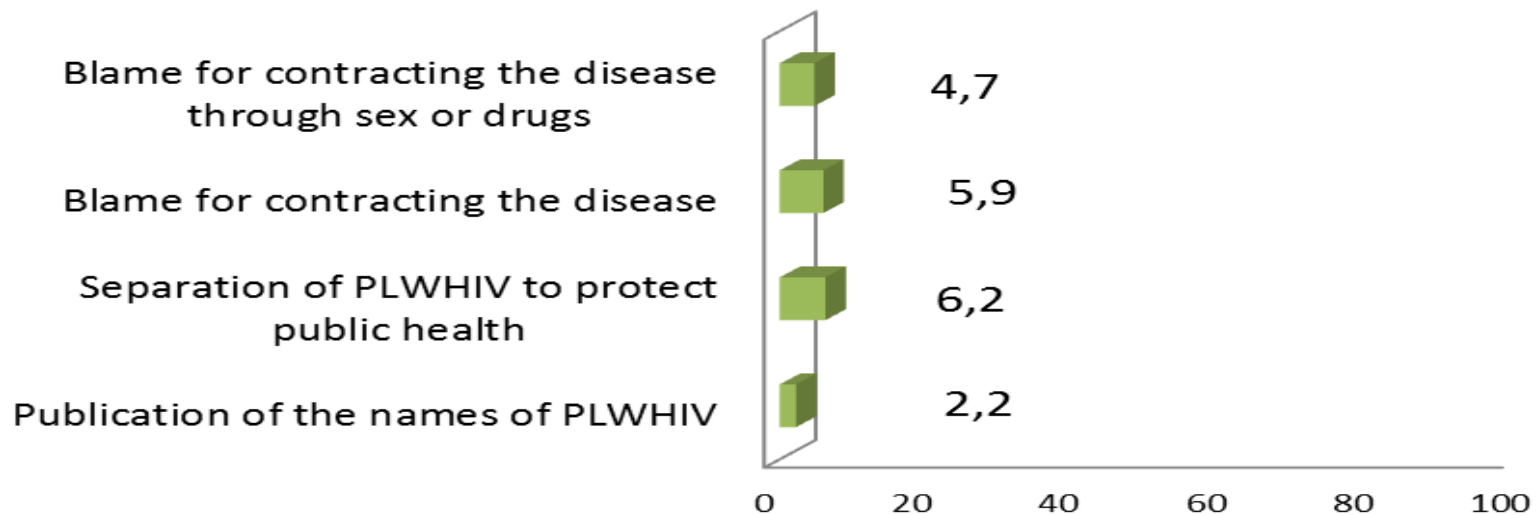
Discomfort



Avoidance

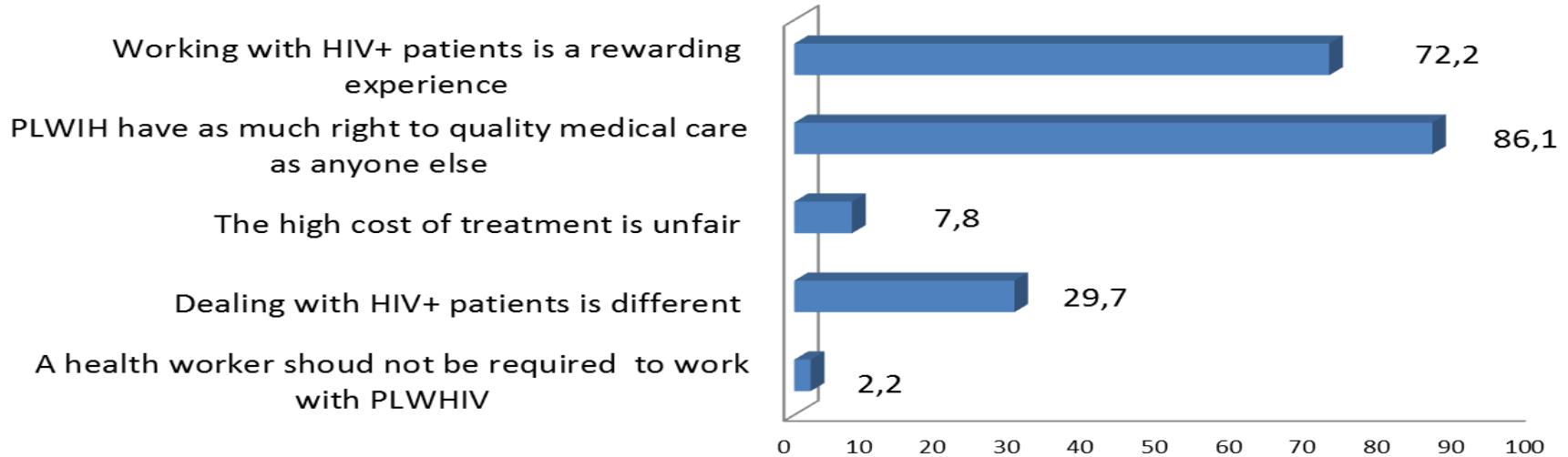


Blame and discriminatory policies

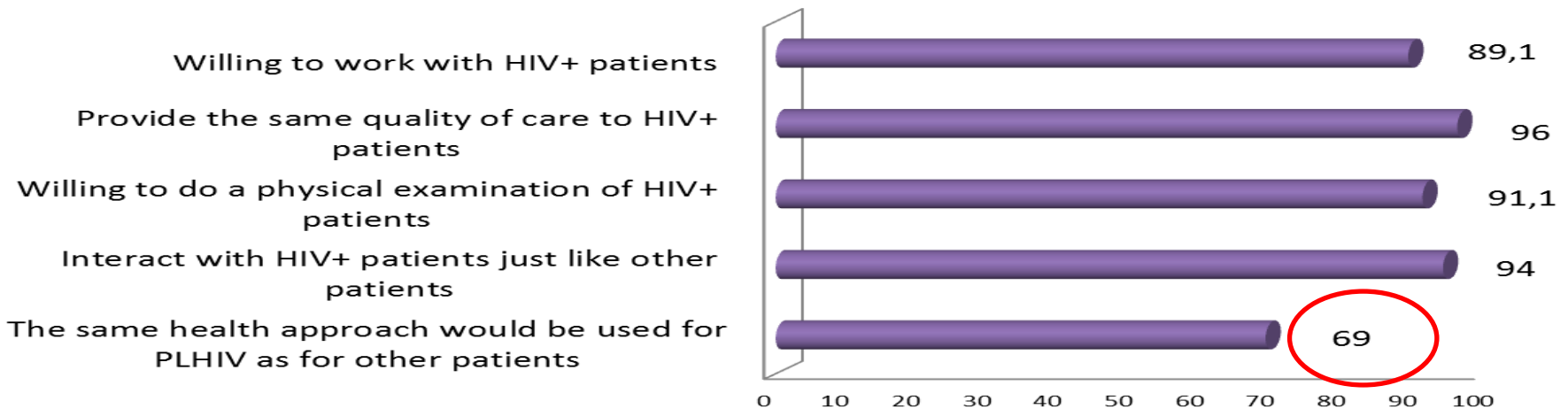


STIGMA IN HEALTHCARE SETTING

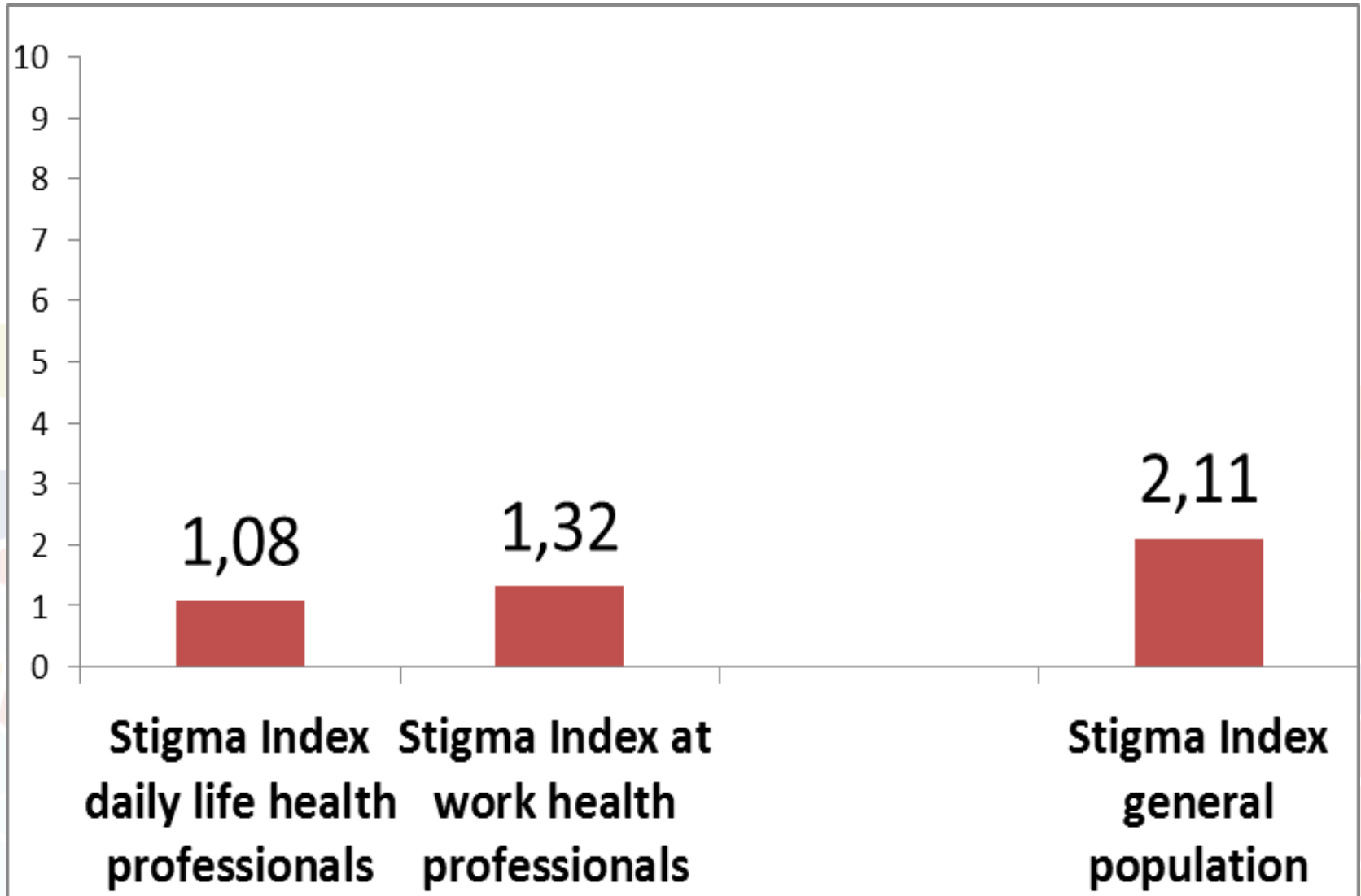
Prejudice attitude at work



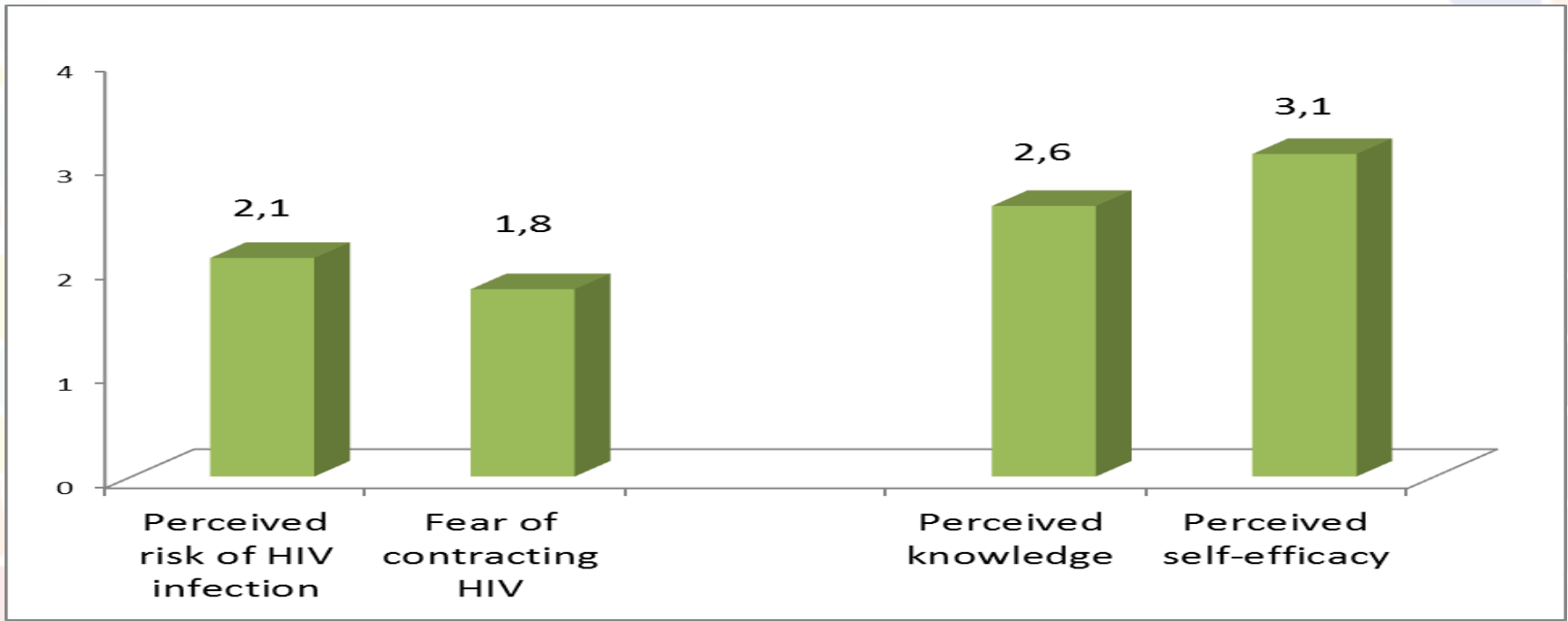
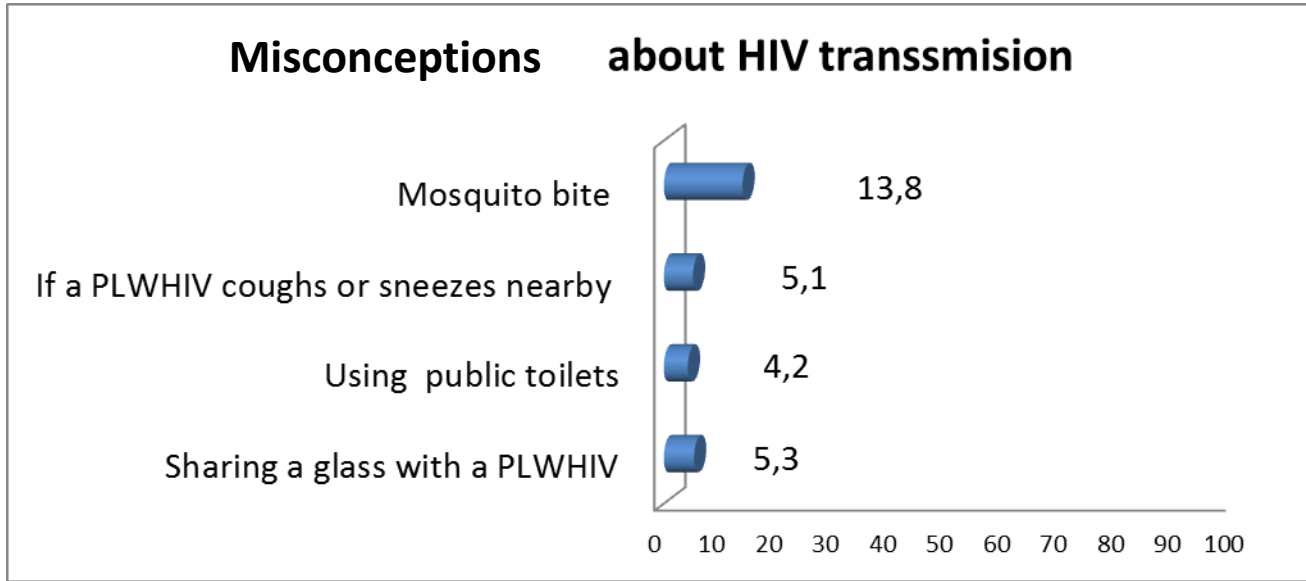
Discrimination intent at work



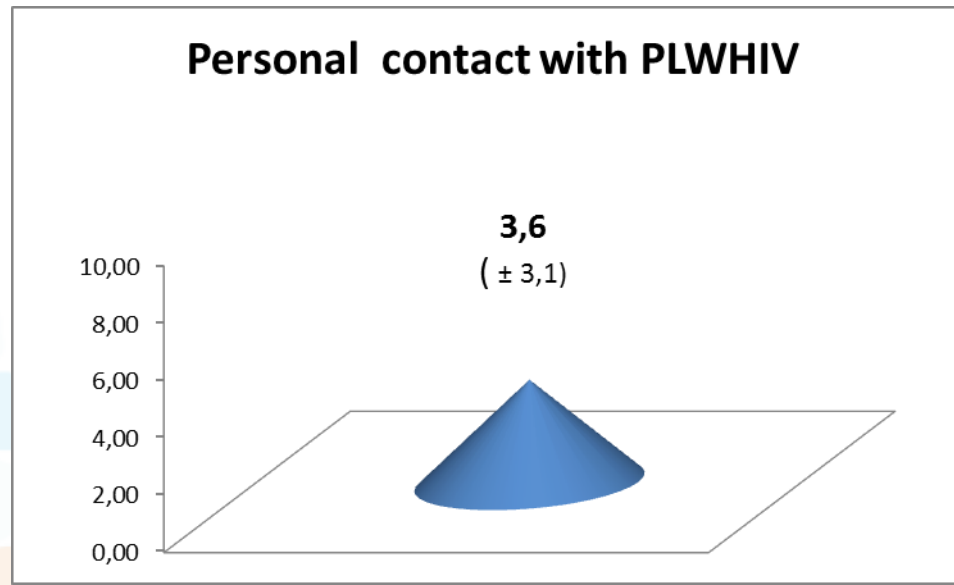
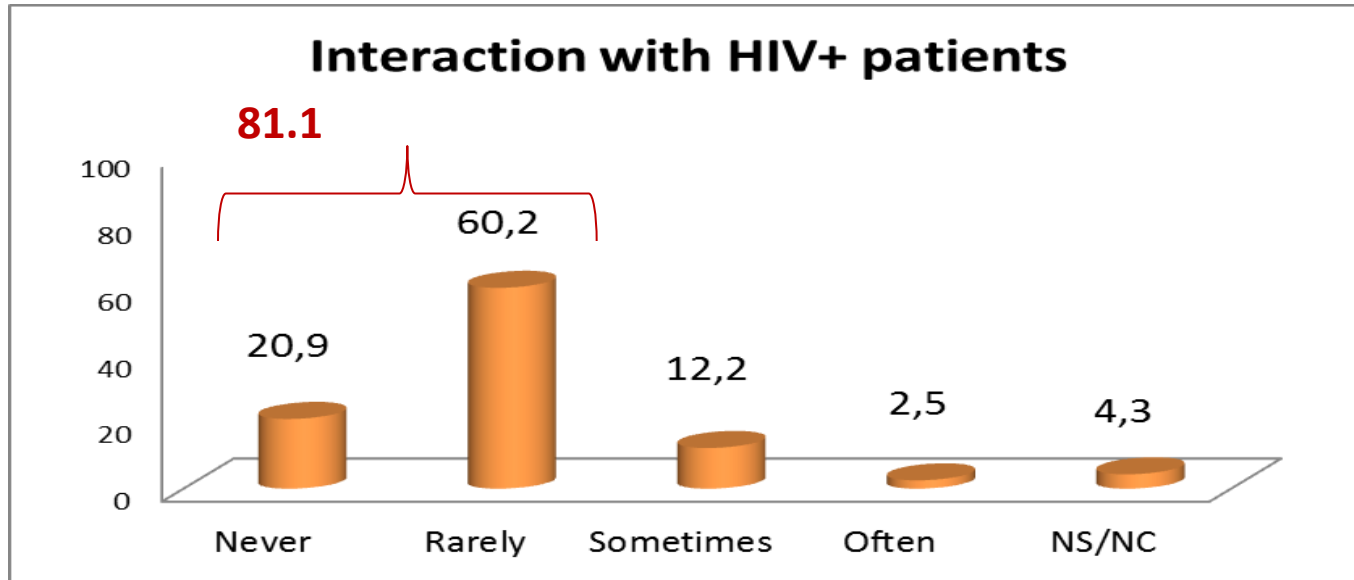
STIGMA INDEX AND COMPARISON WITH GENERAL POPULATION



VARIABLES ASSOCIATED WITH HIV-STIGMA



VARIABLES ASSOCIATED WITH HIV-STIGMA



STIGMA AMONG PROFESSIONALS

Professionals	N	Mean Stigma Index
Social Worker	15	1,6
Psychologists	52	1,81
Physicians	656	2,09
Others	52	2,17
Nurses	592	2,37
Pharmacist	14	2,43
Administrative staff	70	3,21
Auxiliary nursing staff	151	3,34
Ancillary staff	43	3,79

$F = 7.55; p < .001$

Range total Stigma Index from from 0 to 20

RESULTS

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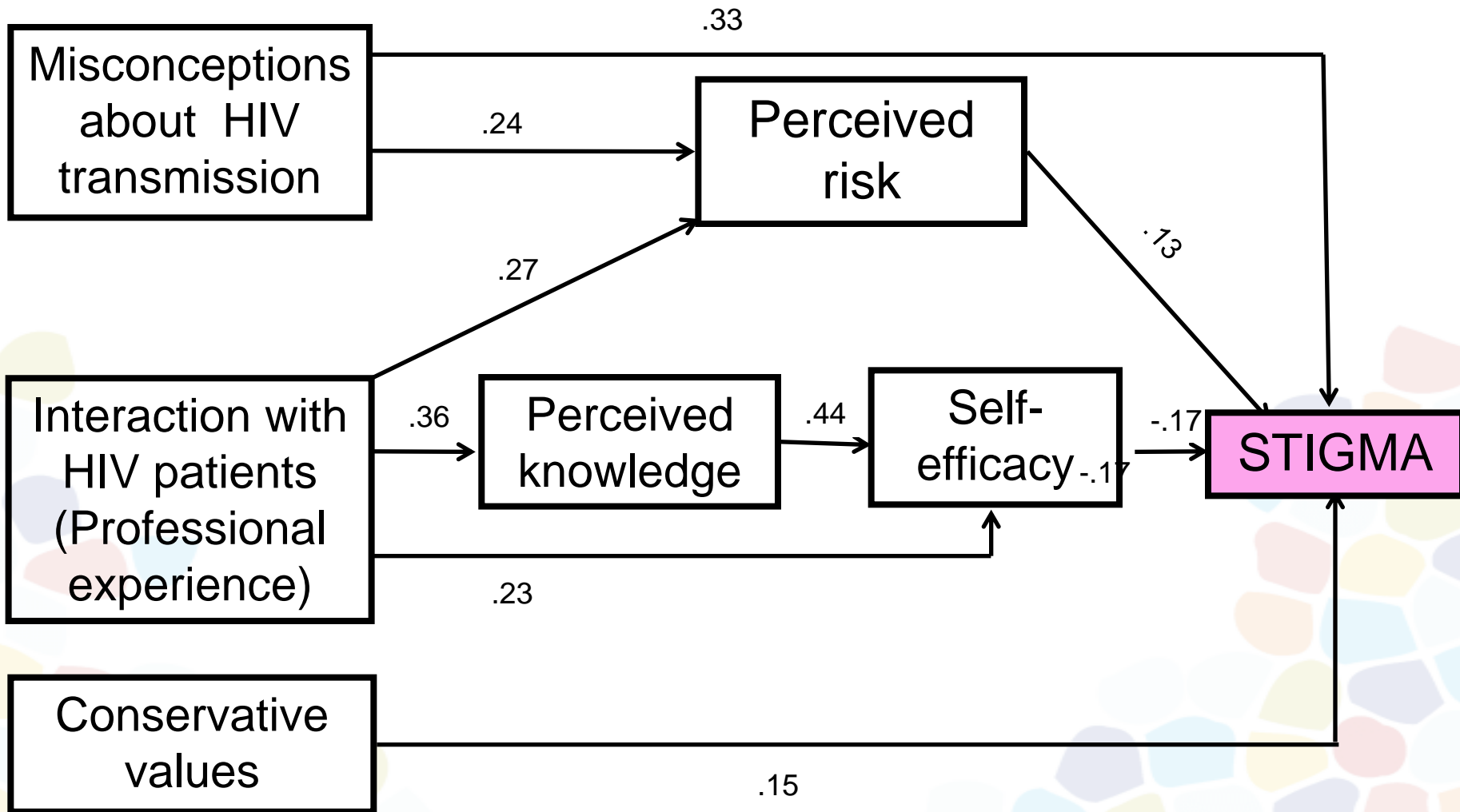
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HYPOTHESIS

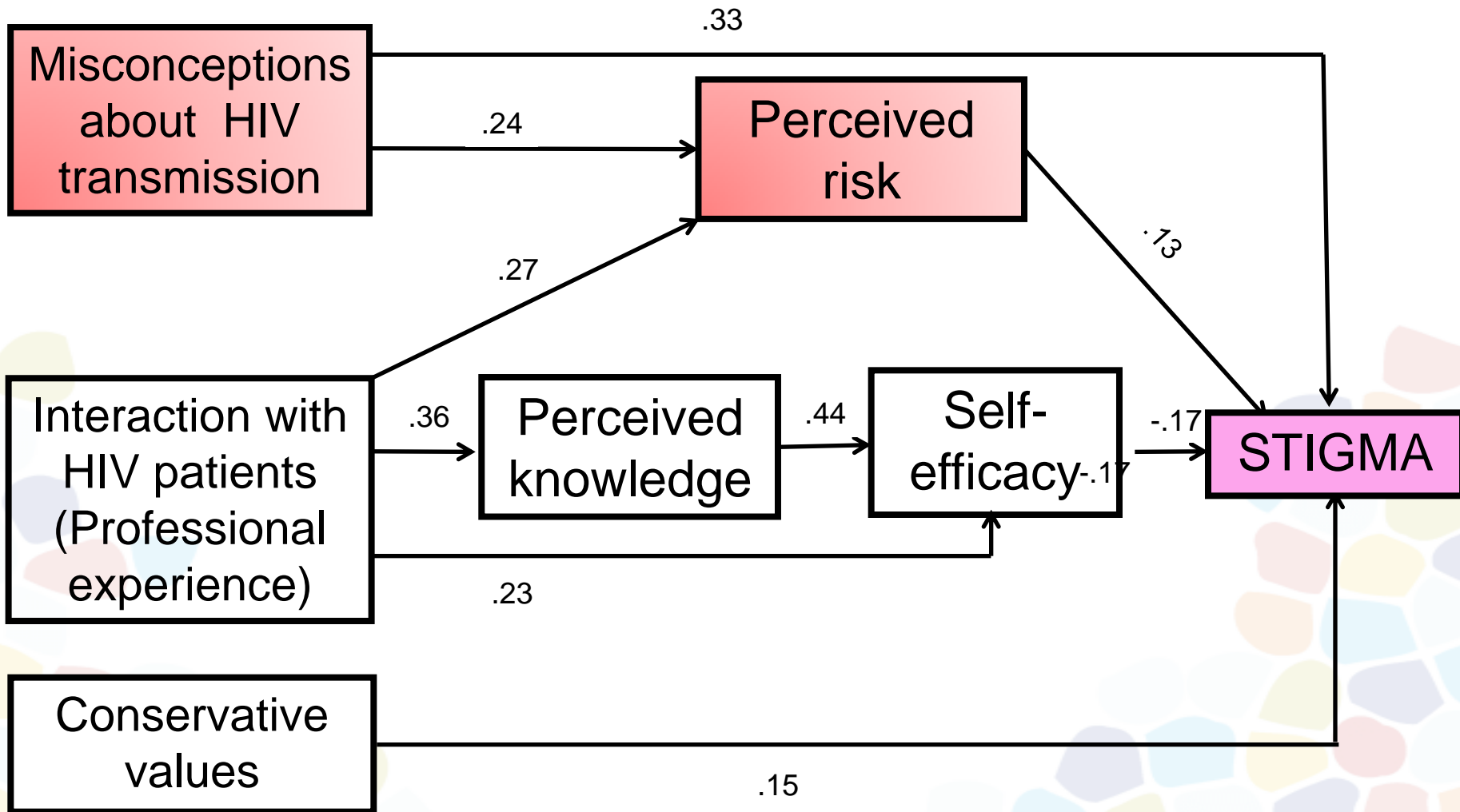
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MODEL



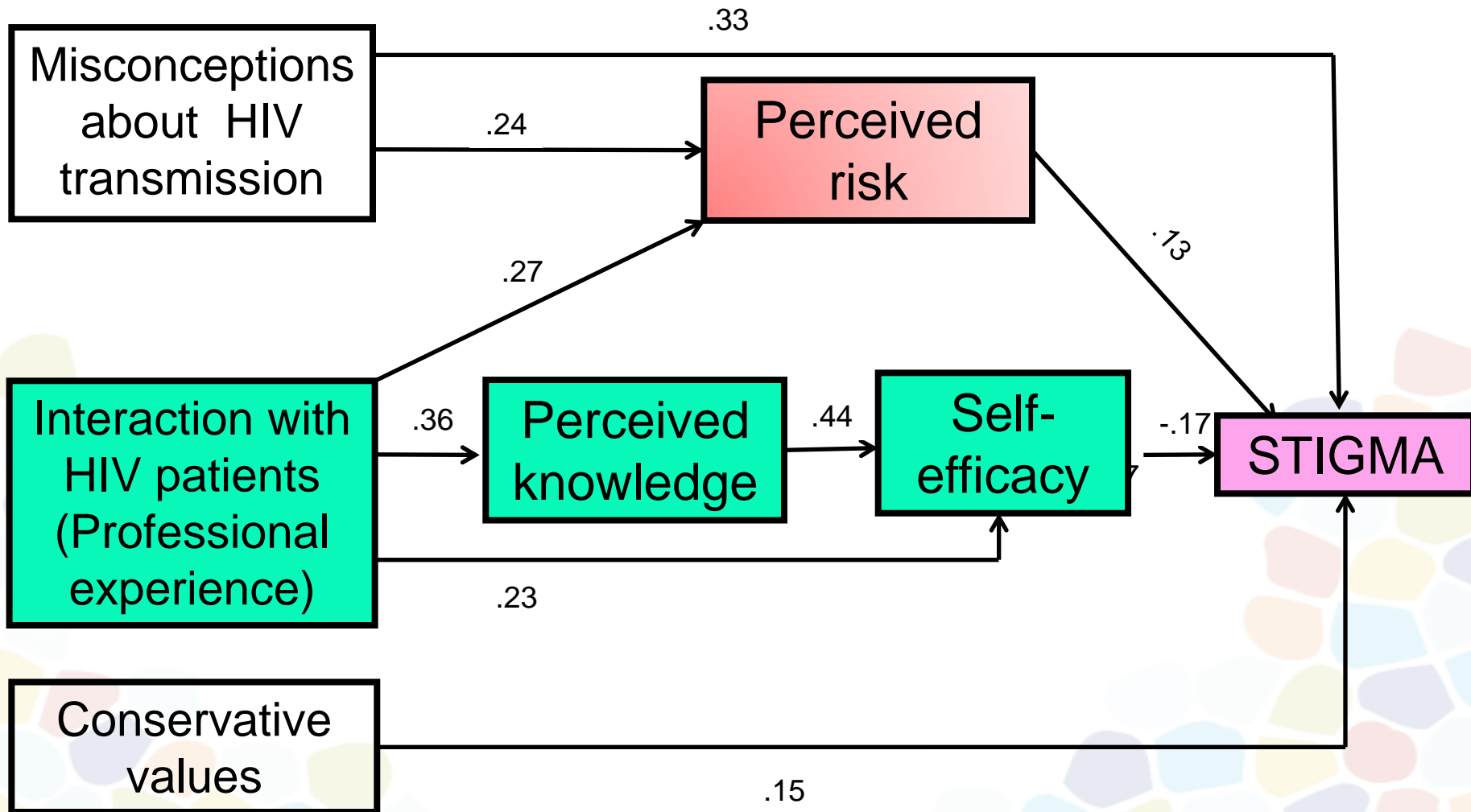
$\chi^2 (9, 1668) = 73.7, p = .000, RMSEA = .06, GFI = .99, CFI = .96$

MODEL



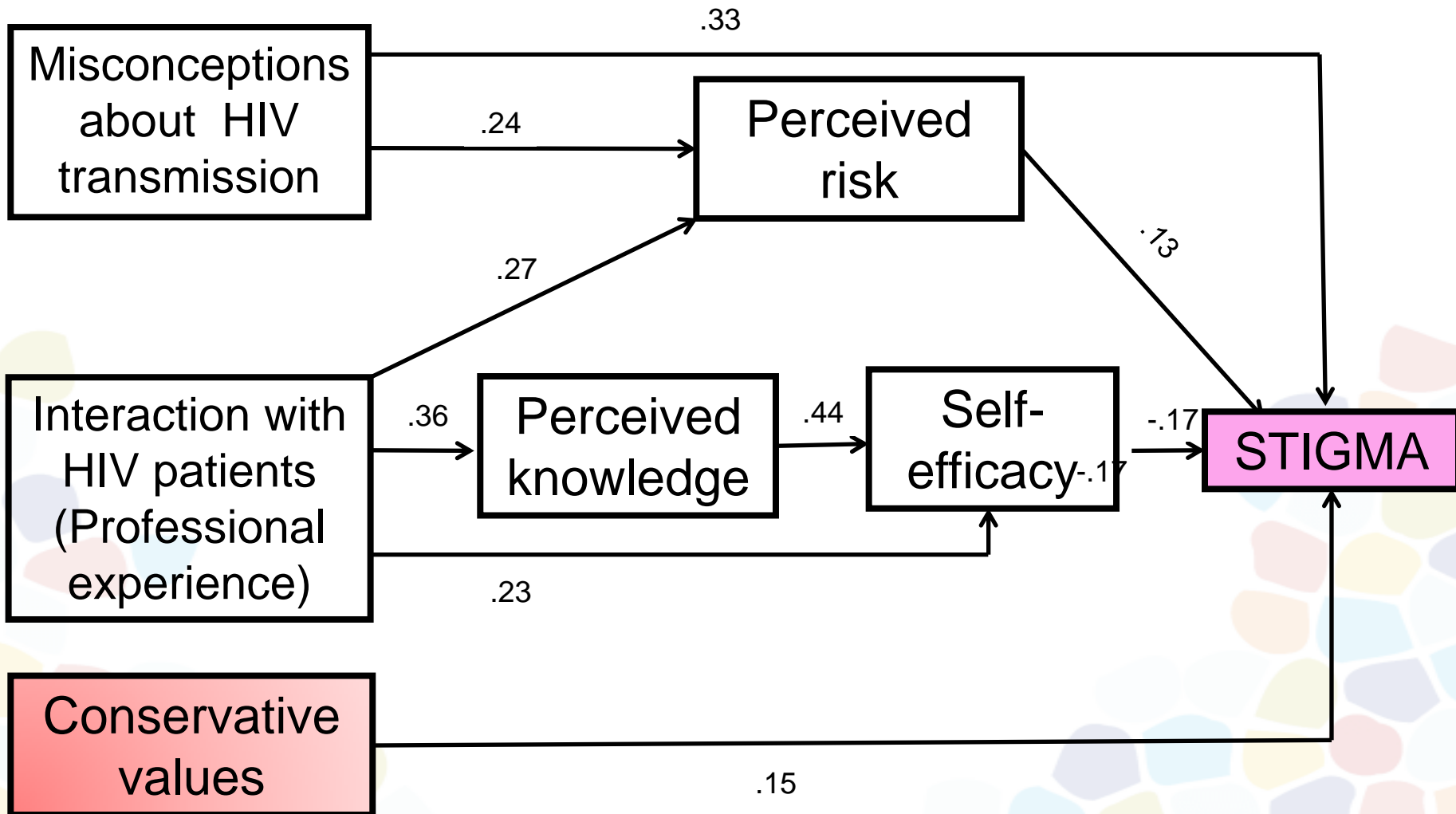
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MODEL



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CONCLUSIONS

- ✓ The degree of stigma in Spanish health centres is low
- ✓ However, there are indicators that could point to the existence of subtle prejudice
- ✓ Contact with people with HIV is low, both in daily life and in the workplace (low professional experience).
- ✓ Interventions aimed at increasing knowledge and perceived self-efficacy and at decreasing the HIV misconceptions regarding transmission and concerns about occupational HIV infection would be welcome.
- ✓ These interventions should be targeted to those professionals who express greater stigma (auxiliary nursing staff, ...)

Unidos Podemos

Unity is Strength

Acknowledgments:

- SEISIDA Collaborators that have contributed to data collection
- Participating Health Professionals
- Ministry of Health for funding