

Measuring the readiness and functionality of health facilities to provide sexually transmitted infection (STI) services in Bangladesh: Evidence from Bangladesh Health Facility Survey (BHFS) 2014 and 2017

Background

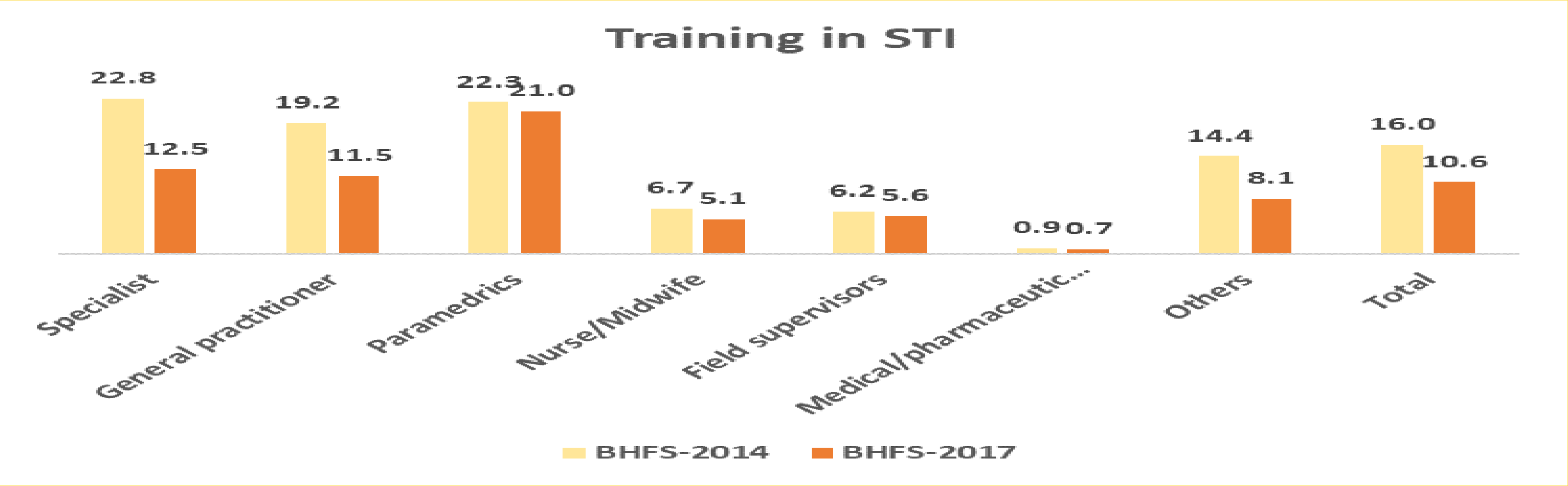
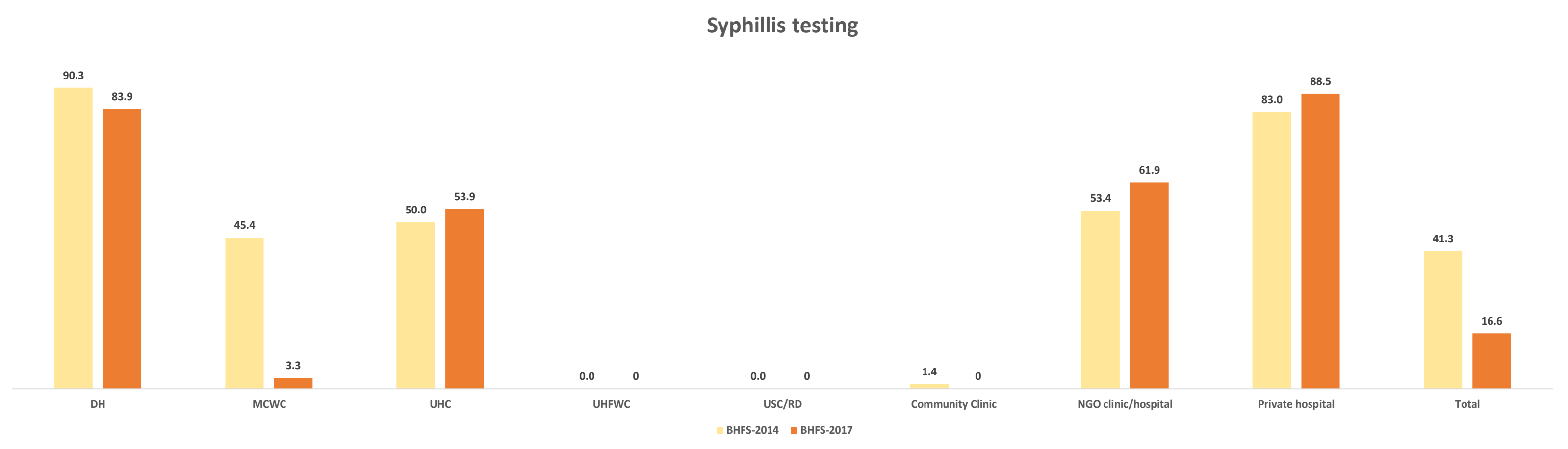
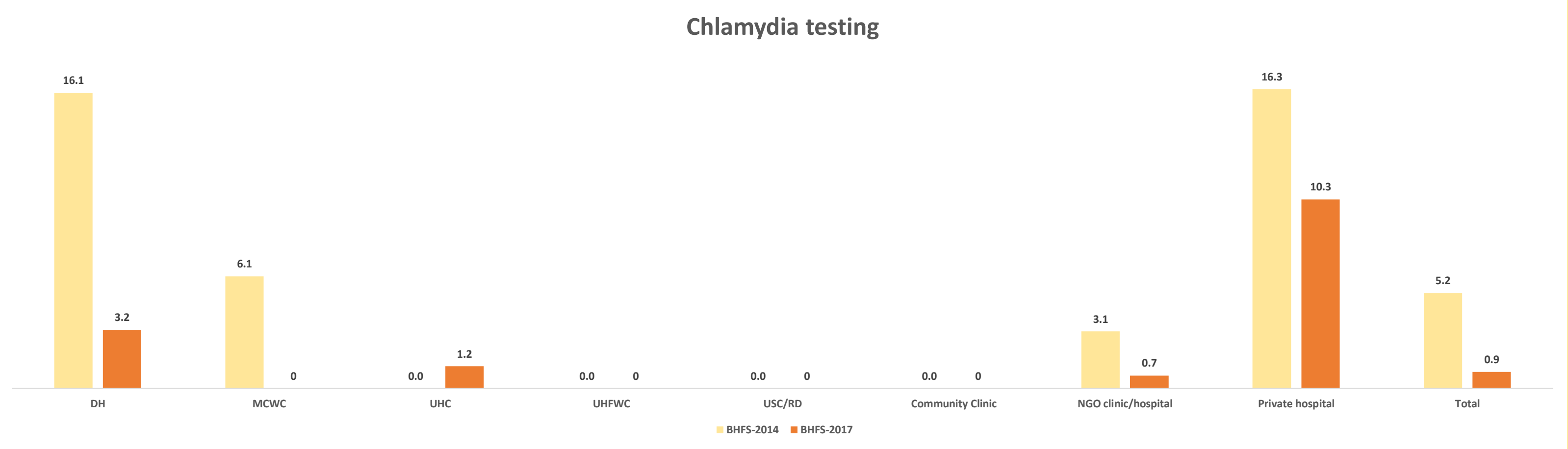
- STIs represent a global public health burden.
- The World Health Organization’s global strategy on STIs states the objective of **reducing the incidence of syphilis and gonorrhoea by 90% by 2030**.
- Bangladesh is adhering to the strategy as mentioned in the “**National Guidelines for Management of STI 2019**”.
- The Newborn Essential Service Package of Bangladesh states that the **provision for STI services is available from the union to the district level**.
- The objective of this paper is to assess the readiness of health facilities to provide STI services in Bangladesh.

Methods

- Data source: BHFS 2017 (1524 health facilities) and 2014 (1548 health facilities).
- Analysis-
 - ✓ Training of healthcare providers (on STI diagnosis, management and resistance)
 - ✓ Availability of medicines and commodities
 - ✓ Availability of diagnostic facilities
- STATA 15 was used for data analysis.

STI services in Bangladesh are declining over time

Results



Conclusion

- There has been an overall **decline** in the readiness and functionality of health facilities in providing STI services.
- No questions regarding gonorrhea in BHFS questionnaire.
- Urgent action is required to upgrade the situation in order to meet the global strategy’s timeline by 2030.