HIV/AIDS, STI, hepatitis

HIV Think Tank meeting
Luxembourg, 16-17 December 2009
Dr Maarit Kokki, Director’s Cabinet on behalf of
Marita van de Laar, Programme Coordinator STI/HIV/hepatitis
Update on 2009 work plan and outlook for 2010:

- HIV/AIDS surveillance
- World AIDS day 2009
- Annual meetings of the HIV/AIDS and STI surveillance networks
- STI and HIV related projects
- Work plan 2010
HIV infections diagnosed in 2008
Total population

Rate as number per million population
- <20
- 20–99
- 100–199
- ≥200
- Missing or excluded data

HIV infections diagnosed in 2008
WHO European Region and EU/EEA

Characteristics of cases

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristics</th>
<th>WHO European Region*</th>
<th>EU/EEA countries*</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of HIV cases</td>
<td>51600</td>
<td>25656</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rate per million population</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>61</td>
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<tr>
<td>** Percentage of cases:**</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Age 15-24 years</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>** Transmission mode***</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heterosexual</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men who have sex with men</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Injecting drug use</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>24%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* Missing data: Austria, Denmark, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Turkey, Russia
** cases with unknown age/gender are excluded from the percentages
*** excludes individuals originating from countries with generalised epidemics

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ECDC events
World AIDS day
Men who have sex with men

- Growing number of newly acquired HIV infections in MSM.
- Increase in MSM who report unprotected anal intercourse.
- Reports on co-infection with hepatitis and STI in HIV-positive men.
- Reports of outbreaks of gonorrhoea, syphilis and LGV in MSM in several European countries.
- Special issue: HIV and STI in men who have sex with men

Eurosurveillance, Volume 14, Issue 47, 26 November 2009
Editorials
HIV/AIDS and other STI in men who have sex with men – a continuous challenge for public health
Seminar
27 November 2009

• Seminar with Swedish Board of Health and Welfare.
• Stigma and discrimination.
• Speakers from AIDS Action Europe, Swedish NGOs, ECDC, SMI.
• Movie about Swedish infected heterosexual woman.
Seminar
1 December 2009

• Seminar on HIV in men who have sex with men in the European Parliament.
• Speakers from European Parliament, Commissioner, ECDC, SMI, civil society.
Video clip
STI and HIV related projects

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Linking the networks

Annual meetings back-to-back for the first time

STI meeting
Seminar on HIV and STI in MSM
HIV meeting with 53 countries
Behavioural surveillance

• 28/31 countries returned the questionnaire.
• 15/28 have established HIV/STI behavioural surveillance system.
• In most countries without a BSS, data collection on behaviour reported for one or more populations.
• Populations most regularly surveyed: General population, youth, men who have sex with men, injecting drug users, IDU > sex workers, patients of STI clinics and PLWHA > migrants and ethnic minorities.

Next steps: to develop a general framework for behavioural surveillance in EU 2010-2013 and provide technical assistance to MS.
Migrant reports and HIV

• Migrants are one of the populations that are vulnerable to HIV/AIDS, stigma and discrimination.

• Migrant series reports show:
  – Burden of HIV in migrant populations in EU with high prevalence rates.
  – Barriers for migrants exist to access treatment.
  – Impact on HIV epidemic in EU is poorly understood due to the lack of accurate data.
  – Complex and sensitive situation to address migrants.

• ECDC suggested a set of key actions to address these challenges.
HIV testing

• Uptake of HIV testing is needed and reducing barriers to HIV testing is a priority.

• EU-wide survey on practices and barriers (2008):
  – HIV testing is covered by an extensive framework of regulations in most countries.
  – HIV testing regulations support a voluntary testing strategy, built around consent, confidentiality and counseling.

• ECDC will publish HIV testing guidance in 2010.
Monitoring of commitments

- The European Commission asked ECDC to develop a framework for the monitoring of progress in implementing the actions set out in the Dublin Declaration.
- ECDC suggested an indicator-based and country-driven framework.
- Workshops and advisory group meetings.
- ECDC is currently receiving data from all countries of the European region; the report will be published in 2010.
- ECDC will support the Commission in monitoring the implementation of the new EU Action Plan against HIV/AIDS.
Work plan 2010 includes:

Surveillance programmes to be improved:

- HIV/AIDS surveillance: HIV and AIDS case reporting; HIV incidence studies (MSM as pilot population); ART resistance feasibility study.
- Develop protocol for enhanced hepatitis B/C surveillance
- STI surveillance: produce reports on STI surveillance
- Behavioural surveillance: to initiate the next steps by developing a general framework

Key prevention strategies

- STI and HIV Partner notification: public health benefits
- HIV testing guidance
- MSM: outbreaks of STI and surveillance of outbreaks
- Monitoring and evaluation programme
Thank you!

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