

DRAFT Call for Action

HepHIV2023

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DRAFT HepHIV 2023 Conference Call to Action

We, the participants of the HepHIV 2023 conference, call on all stakeholders in the European Region to work together toward the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals for HIV, viral hepatitis, sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and tuberculosis (TB) by implementing the following actions:

1. Invest in measuring the impact of stigma on testing offer and uptake in community and health care settings

- Adapt messages with stigma reducing potential to make them clear, ie U=U
- Utilise the full potential of European networks for knowledge sharing and dissemination of key messages– increasing knowledge is key!
- Fund and design research programmes and implement interventions to reduce stigma, at both structural (reviewing of laws and regulations), and implementation level (education programmes)

2. Intensify efforts to design cultural competent prevention, testing and care services for migrant populations

- Start talking about the migrant issues in all countries, while continuing to support those suffering the consequences of the the war in Ukraine
- Services, not populations, are hard to reach
- Strengthen and empower community advocates and peer-to-peer supporters
- Advocate for continued funding across the European Region

3. Improve monitoring and evaluation data and use data when designing programmes to ensure (cost)-effectiveness

- Collect data that allows for the implementation of differentiated strategies in high and low prevalence settings and countries
- Monitor number of late diagnosis by key population and implement strategies to reduce time for diagnosis and for care initiation
- Use surveillance data effectively to monitor potential increases in infections among specific population groups or in specific areas (clusters), and design and implement appropriate interventions to address outbreaks and changes in epidemic patterns;

4. Strengthen collaboration between government and implementers around testing and linkage to care to ensure political commitment and appropriate resource allocation

- Identify new potential partners to strengthen collaborative work – ie municipalities, care centers,
- Formally recognise community health workers as part of the health work force (decentralization)
- Ensure political and programmatic leadership that can abandon strategies or interventions that are not effective and ensure the use of available resources for tailored, innovative and cost-effective approaches

5. Intensify efforts to address the gaps and inequalities for key populations beyond testing services

- Introduce or scale up a wide range of testing approaches, including self-testing and self-sampling – in particular in areas where testing services are not accessible
- Ensure that adequate regulations for medical devices are in place and document validation
- Tailor prevention, testing and post-test services to the needs of the service users

Process

The DRAFT Call for Action will be shared for review and comments to all conference participants and partners



EuroTEST

Working together for integrated testing and earlier care

Hepatitis, HIV, STIs and TB

We will announce the next HepHIV conference in the first half of 2024

2025	1st half-year 2nd half-year	Poland Denmark
2026	1st half-year 2nd half-year	Cyprus Ireland