Testing Strategies

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EA TG European AIDS Treatment Group

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STEP-UP: Skills Training to Empower Patients

Acronyms & Useful Terms

- **TasP** = Testing as Prevention

- **CBVCT** = Community Based Voluntary Counselling & Testing;

- **MSM** = Men who have Sex with Men;

- **Trans*** = A "Gender Identity" frame*, opposite to "cis";

- **PWID** = People Who Inject Drugs;

- **PLWH** = People Living With HIV;

- **ChemSex** = Having sex while on specific drugs, usually for longer durations;

- **SWOT** = Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats;

- **CHW** = Community Health Worker;

- **ART** = Antiretroviral Treatment;

- **U = U** / Un-Detectable equals Un-Transmittable;

- **PEP** = Post Exposure Prophylaxis

- **PrEP** = Pre Exposure Prophylaxis

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Testing Strategies

Important Aspects to Testing

- Why?
- Whom?
- When?
- How?

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Important Aspects to Testing

- **Why?**
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- **Why?**
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- HIV diagnosis   ->   U=U   ->   Ending HIV
- TasP = Testing as Prevention
- UNAIDS 90-90-90 target; What about 10-10-10?
- Targeting the general population;
- Why Prioritise? (Targeting specific populations);
- TasP & other prevention methods

(Testing as Intervention)

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1. Prioritising : Targeting specific populations

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2. Identifying Targeted Populations:

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2. Identifying Targeted Populations:

- Gay, Bi and other MSM
- Trans*
- PWID
- Sex-workers
- 50+
- Migrants
- Prisons
- Other specific populations

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Important Aspects to Testing

- Why?
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3. **Reaching out to these populations:**

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3. **Reaching out to these populations:**
   - Identify characteristics of these populations;

   SWOT Analysis

	Helpful to achieving the objective	**Harmful** to achieving the objective
Internal origin (attributes of the organization)	**S** Strengths	**W** Weaknesses
External origin (attributes of the environment)	**O** Opportunities	**T** Threats

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3. **Reaching out to these populations:**
   - Identify characteristics of these populations;
   - Who? can reach these populations "easier"?

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3. **Reaching out to these populations:**
   - Identify characteristics of these populations;
   - Who? can reach these populations "easier"?
   - How to reach these populations? (Next point)

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4. **More reasons to test the general population:**

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4. More reasons to test the general population

- **Let's face it**! People have unprotected sex;
- **Let's face it**! Sexual Practices are common;
- **Let's face it**! Sexual Orientation is a spectrum;

Including the general population:

- Takes the "stigma" away from specific groups
- Is a way to reach "non-visible" populations
- Promotes testing to everyone!

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Remember:

You Need to Prioritise!

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- Why?
- Whom?
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- How?

1. How often should people get tested;
2. Criteria:
   - Epidemiological Data in your country;
   - Routes of HIV Transmission (RHT);
   - Sexual & Other Practices based on RHT;

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Remember:

Each population needs

a Different Approach !

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- Whom?
- When?
- **How?**

"**Look for Best Practices**"

**You Do Not Need
to Reinvent the Wheel
!!!**

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- **How?**

The CBVCT Model
- What is the CBVCT Model (Checkpoints);
- Why the CBVCT Model works;
- CBVCT Outreach Testing;
- CBVCT Centre: Permanent Space;
- Setting Up a CBVCT Centre (Next Session)

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The CBVCT Model

- Safe Space for Clients: Anonymity / Confidentiality;
- Pre- & Post-Test Counselling (Risk Assessment);
- Where to test? (Permanent Space and/or Outreach);
- Announcing a Reactive Test (WHO protocol);
- Confirmation of a positive result (WHO protocol);
- Psychological Support (Peer-to-Peer);
- Linkage to Care (ART coherence);
- Psychological health of CHW (Supervision);

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Obstacles to Testing

- Stigma & Discrimination as barrier to testing;

- Legal frames of Testing in your country;

- Operational Barriers (human resources management);

- Training of CHW & Volunteers;

- Funding Sustainability;

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Obstacles to Testing

- Stigma & Discrimination as barrier to testing;

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- Operational Barriers (human resources management);

- Training of CHW & Volunteers;

- Funding Sustainability;

- **One More Thing…**

Community-based Testing

Important Aspects to Testing

- Operation Environment

- CBVCT Services & Organisation Needs

- Counselling / Testing / Linkage to care

- Communication

- Advocacy

- Quality Improvement & Innovation

- Useful Tools

Community-based Testing

In this session (Testing Strategies)

- Operation Environment
- **CBVCT Services** & Organisation Needs
- **Counselling / Testing / Linkage to care**
- **Communication**
- Advocacy
- Quality Improvement & Innovation
- Useful Tools

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Community-based Testing

In the next session (Community-based Testing):

- **Operation Environment**
- CBVCT Services & **Organisation Needs**
- Counselling / Testing / Linkage to care
- Communication
- **Advocacy**
- **Quality Improvement & Innovation**
- **Useful Tools**

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Q & A

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