

Guidelines on Key Populations

Technical Forum: HIV Prevention in Prisons
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Prevalence of HIV, STIs, hepatitis B & C and TB in prison populations is estimated to be twice to ten times higher than in the general populations

Without addressing their needs, a sustainable response to HIV will not be achieved

**HIV
prevention**

**Harm
reduction for
people who
use drugs**

**HIV testing &
Counselling (HTC)**

Essential Health Sector Interventions

**HIV
treatment
and care**

**Prevention and
management of
coinfections and
co-morbidities**

**Sexual and
reproductive
health**

- **Correct and consistent use of condoms with condom-compatible lubricants to prevent sexual transmission of HIV and STIs**

Consistent and correct use of male condoms reduces sexual transmission of HIV and other STIs by up to 94%

- **Among men who have sex with men, pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP)**
- **Where serodiscordant couples can be identified and where additional HIV prevention choices for them are needed, daily oral PrEP**

**Essential Health Sector Interventions
HIV PREVENTION**

- **Post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) should be available on a voluntary basis after possible exposure to HIV**

PEP is the only way to reduce risk of infection after exposure to HIV

- **Voluntary medical male circumcision (VMMC)**

Medical male circumcision reduces the risk of female-to-male sexual transmission of HIV by about 60%

**Essential Health Sector Interventions
HIV PREVENTION**

- **All people from key populations who inject drugs should have access to sterile injecting equipment through needle and syringe programmes (NSP)**

NSPs substantially and cost effectively reduce HIV transmission among people who inject drugs

- **Have easy, confidential access to NSP, and not just information about avoiding risks**

**Essential Health Sector Interventions
HARM REDUCTION FOR PEOPLE WHO USE DRUGS**



- All people from key populations who are dependent on opioids should be offered and have access to opioid substitution therapy

OST is highly effective in reducing injecting behaviours that put opioid-dependent people at risk for HIV

- All people from key populations with harmful alcohol or other substance use should have access to evidence-based interventions, including brief psychosocial interventions involving assessment, specific feedback and advice
- People likely to witness an opioid overdose should have access to naloxone and be instructed in its use for emergency management of suspected opioid overdose

**Essential Health Sector Interventions
HARM REDUCTION FOR PEOPLE WHO USE DRUGS**



- **Voluntary HTC should be routinely offered to all key populations both in the community and in clinical settings. Community-based HIV testing and counselling for key populations, linked to prevention, care and treatment services, is recommended, in addition to provider initiated testing and counselling**

HTC is the essential first step, but about half of people living with HIV do not know their HIV status

**Essential Health Sector Interventions
HIV TESTING & COUNSELLING (HTC)**



- **Same access to antiretroviral therapy (ART) and to ART management as other populations**
- **All pregnant women should have same access to services for prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) and follow the same recommendations as women in other populations**

**Essential Health Sector Interventions
HIV TREATMENT AND CARE**



World Health
Organization

- **Same access to tuberculosis prevention, screening and treatment services as other populations at risk of or living with HIV**

Tuberculosis is preventable and treatable, but it accounts for one in every five HIV-related deaths

- **Routine screening and management of mental health disorders (depression and psychosocial stress) should be provided for people from key populations living with HIV**

**Essential Health Sector Interventions
PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT OF COINFECTIONS AND
CO-MORBIDITIES**



- **Same access to hepatitis B and C prevention, screening and treatment services as other populations at risk of or living with HIV**

A comprehensive approach to addressing viral hepatitis among key populations includes prevention, screening, HBV vaccination, and treatment and care

**Essential Health Sector Interventions
PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT OF COINFECTIONS
AND CO-MORBIDITIES**

- **Screening, diagnosis and treatment of sexually transmitted infections should be offered routinely as part of comprehensive HIV prevention and care for key populations**
- **Able to experience full, pleasurable sex lives and have access to a range of reproductive options.**

**Essential Health Sector Interventions
SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH**



- **Offer cervical cancer screening to all women from key populations**
- **Same support and access to services related to conception and pregnancy care, as women from other groups**
- **Abortion laws and services should protect the health and human rights of all women, including those from key populations**

**Essential Health Sector Interventions
SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH**



“HIV epidemics continue to be fuelled by stigma and discrimination, gender inequality, violence, lack of community empowerment, violations of human rights, and laws and policies criminalizing drug use and diverse forms of gender identity and sexuality”

**Supportive
legislation, policy
and financial
commitment**

**Addressing stigma
& discrimination**

Essential Strategies for an Enabling Environment

**Community
empowerment**

**Addressing
violence**

- **Laws, policies and practices should be reviewed and, where necessary, revised by policymakers and government leaders, with meaningful engagement of stakeholders from key population groups, to allow and support the implementation and scale-up of health-care services for key populations**

**Essential Strategies for an Enabling Environment
SUPPORTIVE LEGISLATION, POLICY AND FINANCIAL
COMMITMENT**



- **Countries should work towards implementing and enforcing antidiscrimination and protective laws, derived from human rights standards, to eliminate stigma, discrimination and violence against people from key populations**
- **Health services should be made available, accessible and acceptable to key populations based on the principles of medical ethics, avoidance of stigma, non-discrimination and the right to health**

**Essential Strategies for an Enabling Environment
ADDRESSING STIGMA & DISCRIMINATION**



- **Programmes should work toward implementing a package of interventions to enhance community empowerment among key populations**

Essential Strategies for an Enabling Environment COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

- **Violence against people from key populations should be prevented and addressed in partnership with key population-led organizations. All violence against people from key populations should be monitored and reported, and redress mechanisms should be established to provide justice**

Essential Strategies for an Enabling Environment ADDRESSING VIOLENCE

Thank You