Towards 2015: reorienting the health sector response to HIV

WHO's strategic directions and priorities

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Global health sector goals for HIV

- To achieve universal access to comprehensive HIV prevention, treatment and care

- To contribute to the halting and reversal of the HIV epidemic (Millennium Development Goal 6) and other health-related Goals
Context: Universal Access - Global Progress

Good news:

- HIV treatment has increased; 5.25 million people accessing treatment in low- and middle-income countries-13 fold increase in the last 6 years.
- More than half of women (53%) in need have access to PMTCT.
- Between 2008 and 2009, the total number of HIV tests performed increased by over 50%
...and not so good news

- Less than 40% of people living with HIV know their status
- 28% of children in need of HIV treatment had access in 2009
- 30% of pregnant women receiving single-dose nevirapine for PMTCT in 2009
- 38% of countries reporting experienced one or more stock-out of antiretroviral drugs in health facilities in 2009
- 18% of patients initiating treatment were lost to follow-up during the first year
Number of people receiving antiretroviral therapy in low- and middle-income countries, by region, 2002–2009
Percentage of pregnant women living with HIV receiving antiretrovirals for preventing mother-to-child transmission of HIV in low- and middle-income countries by region, 2005, 2008 and 2009

The bar indicates the uncertainty range around the estimate.

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Note: Data have been retroactively revised according to the revised methodology (see Box 5.7).
Evolving context – public health

● Early treatment for people with HIV is not only life-saving but a critical element of prevention.

● Strong HIV response contributes to reducing maternal and child mortality.

● Antiretroviral drugs given to pregnant and breastfeeding women can virtually eliminate the scourge of HIV in children - Elimination of transmission from mother to child by 2015.

● New prevention technologies (e.g. microbicide gels, PrEP).

● Efficiency gains through greater integration and decentralization of services.
Closing the gaps in service access

- HIV service coverage remains low; targeting and quality sometimes unsatisfactory.
- Programmatic linkages between HIV and other key health areas have not been optimized.
- Limited capacity of health systems hinders further expansion of HIV responses.
- Vulnerability, societal structures and policies continue to impede access to information and services.
Four Strategic Directions for a sustainable health sector response

- Optimize HIV prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care
- Leverage broader health outcomes through HIV responses
- Build strong and sustainable systems
- Reduce vulnerability and structural barriers to services
Maintaining and scaling up a strong health sector response

Paradigm shifts and innovations

- New approaches to service delivery
- Treatment optimization
- Reaching the unreached
Five WHO Key Contributions

- Scale-up and innovation in HIV prevention
  - Contribution to 'Revolutionize HIV Prevention'

- Treatment and care optimization
  - Contribution to 'Treatment 2.0' and HIV/TB

- Health for women and children
  - PMTCT; Women, gender & GBV

- Health sector strategic information and planning
  - Cross-cutting

- Health equity and HIV
  - MARPs; Laws; Social protection
Key Contribution: Scale-up and innovation in HIV prevention

- Engage in scale-up of existing HIV prevention approaches
- Drive the development of new HIV prevention interventions

- Support prevention intervention packages for key populations
- Facilitate sexuality education for adolescents and provision of services that meet their needs
- Support innovation in harm reduction services for people who use drugs

- Support integration of combination HIV prevention strategies in national plans
- Improve access to affordable HIV prevention medicines and commodities

- Remove structural barriers that prevent access to prevention services
- Strengthen community systems to deliver HIV prevention programmes
Key Contribution: Treatment and care optimization

- Improve access to affordable and quality medicines and diagnostics
- Promote efficiencies in service delivery
- Drive the research agenda on HIV treatment and care
- Support scale-up and simplification of treatment
- Improve uptake of HIV testing and counseling
- Improve tools for management of HIV related co-infection and co-morbidities
- Strengthen collaboration between HIV, tuberculosis and other infectious diseases control programmes
- Remove structural barriers to accessing HIV treatment services
Key Contribution: Health of women and children

- Promote comprehensive HIV services for pregnant women and their children
- Provide guidance and tools for the identification, care and treatment of children with HIV
- Facilitate improved access to diagnostics and medicines for pregnant women and children
- Promote integration of gender analysis and actions into health-sector responses
- Support bidirectional integration of HIV with maternal, newborn and child health, and sexual and reproductive health services
- Remove barriers to access and uptake of services related to gender and other social inequalities
Key Contribution:
Strategic health sector information & planning

- Promote health-sector planning in countries that adequately incorporates HIV plans
- Guide efforts to achieve sustainable financing of the HIV response
- Encourage development of integrated information systems

- Identify, update and advocate for priority health-sector policies and intervention on HIV
- Build synergy in strategic and operational plans between HIV programmes and other health-sector programmes
- Support planning that addresses equity challenges
- Support integration of health-sector planning into multisectoral HIV planning
Key Contribution: Health Equity and HIV

- Provide leadership to redress inequities in access to services
- Provide guidance on services for underserved and key populations
- Generate and synthesize strategic information to guide more equitable HIV responses
- Promote linkages between HIV and other priority services
- Guide countries to reduce financial barriers to access
- Support countries to address stigmatization and discrimination, and other human rights abuses
WHO is fully committed to providing support to Member States

Core functions

- Leadership and partnerships
- Norms and standards
- Technical support
- Research agenda
- Policy options
- Monitoring and assessment
Research Agenda

- Treatment optimization and patient monitoring
- Development of new prevention interventions
- Implementation of prevention innovations
- Prevention benefits of ART
Conclusion: From 5.2 millions people on ART to Universal Access

- Continued progress and commitment to reach Universal Access

- Scale up in the current economic context is feasible:
  - Simplified and efficient therapeutic approaches
  - Efficiency gains in service delivery
  - Affordability of second and third line regimen

- Working with ARV producers is more than ever critical in this context of expanding demand