



Availability of HIV Testing in Health Care, Community-based and Home-based Settings in the EU/EEA Member States

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OBJECTIVES

Recent introduction of HIV rapid tests and self-tests in EU/EAA provides opportunity for expansion of HIV testing for health care (HC), community-based (CB) and home-based (HB) settings. Information on existing national practices of HIV testing in the three settings and use of data by National Surveillance (NS) systems in EU countries was collected.

METHODS

A quantitative survey among national surveillance contacts of the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control in EU/EEA countries was performed in September 2016.

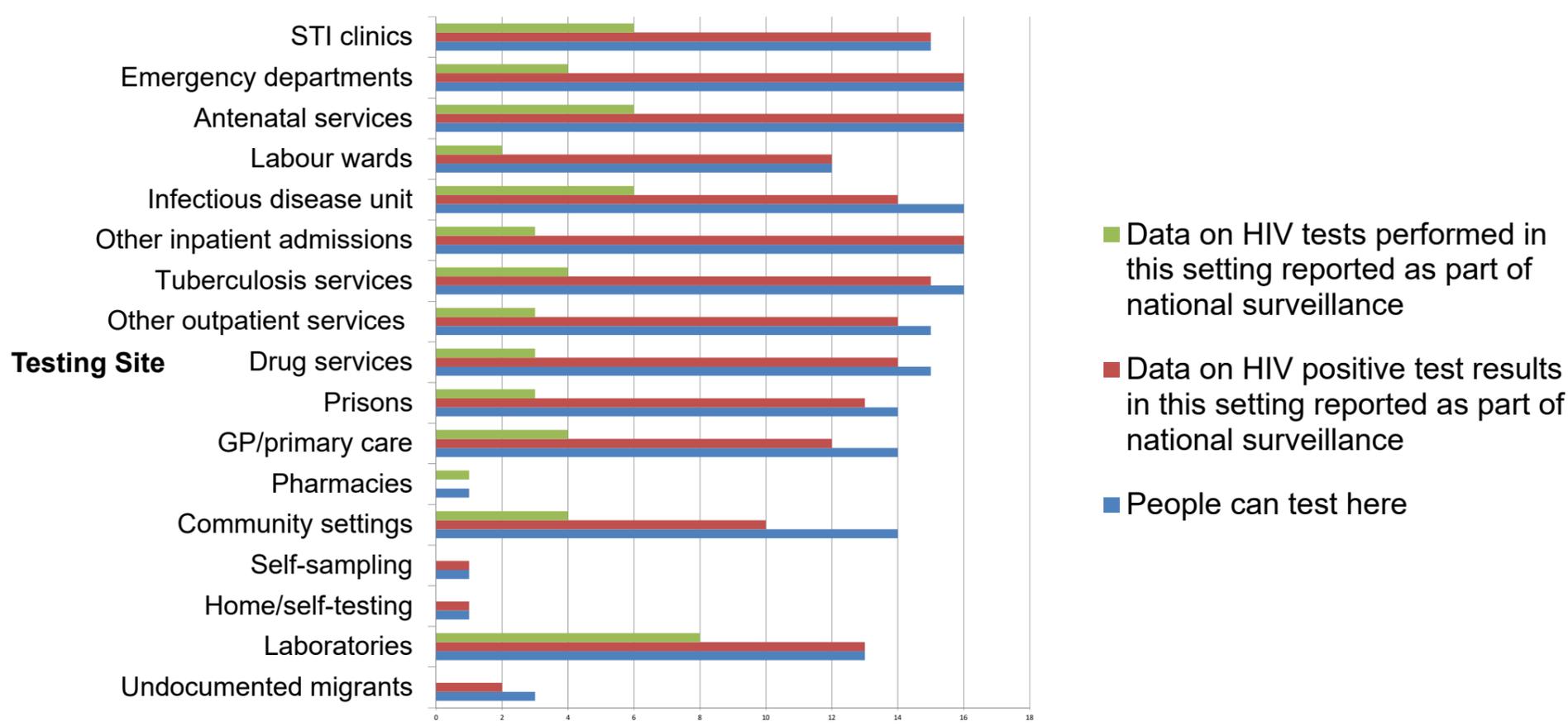
The respondents were requested a) to identify HC, CB and HB settings where HIV testing is available and b) to inform if the data on HIV positive test results and size of tested population is reported to NS in their country.

RESULTS

17 EU/EEA Member States submitted the survey. Of the respondents, 15 reported that HIV testing is available in STI clinics, infectious disease units, emergency departments, antenatal care, drug treatment, TB, and other outpatient and inpatient services; and 14 of the 17 reported that CB testing is available, while HB testing is available only in France and United Kingdom (UK).

HIV positive test results from CB settings are reported to NS in 10 countries, while HIV positive test results in HB settings are only reported in UK. Data on number of HIV tests performed in HC are collected in 5 countries (UK, Poland, France, Lithuania and Czech Republic) and tests in CB in 4 countries (Czech Republic France, Greece, Luxemburg); number of tests in HB settings are not reported (**Figure 1**).

Figure 1: HIV Testing settings in Europe (N=17)



CONCLUSIONS

While HIV testing have expanded beyond HC setting in the majority of the EU countries, HIV testing data from CB, non-HIV HC and HB settings is not widely reported into NS. Reporting of data collected by NS from these three settings need to be improved.