

People-centred health services at HIV clinics across Europe

Findings from the EuroSIDA clinic survey

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Background

- People-centred health systems (PCHS) should organise services around patient needs, and this includes integrated care.
- What does this mean in the field of HIV – and **what are implications for patients?**
- Long-running EuroSIDA cohort study provides an opportunity to investigate these questions.

Background: the EuroSIDA study

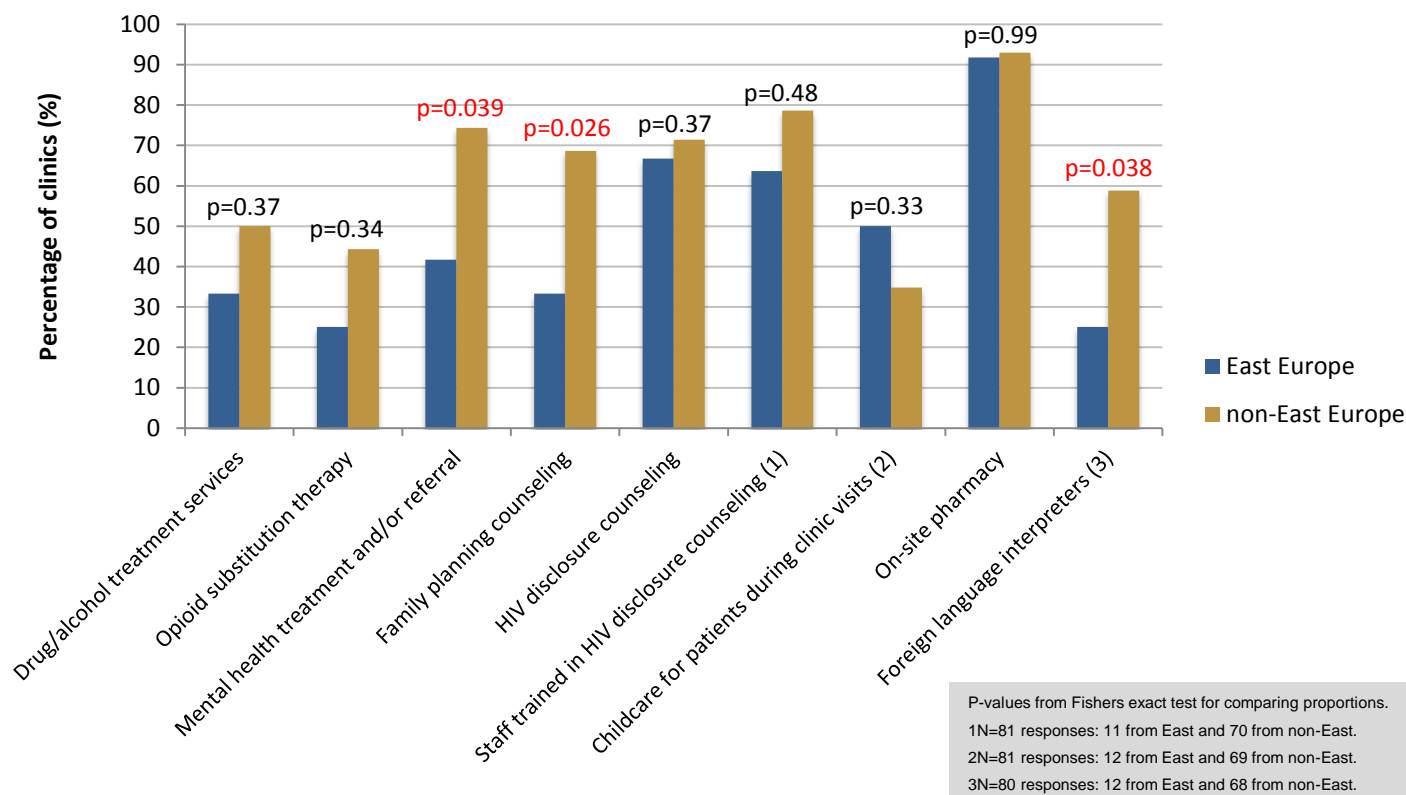
- Prospective observational cohort study launched in 1994
- 108 clinics in 35 European countries, Israel and Argentina
- More than 18,000 HIV-positive patients enrolled

Methods

- 59-item survey of 98 active EuroSIDA clinics (excluding Argentina) in early 2014
- Survey included PCHS items
- Responses from “EuroSIDA East” clinics – Belarus, Estonia, Lithuania, Russian Federation and Ukraine – compared to responses from clinics in 26 other countries – employs a EuroSIDA designation of East
- Fisher’s exact test; statistical significance defined as $p < 0.05$

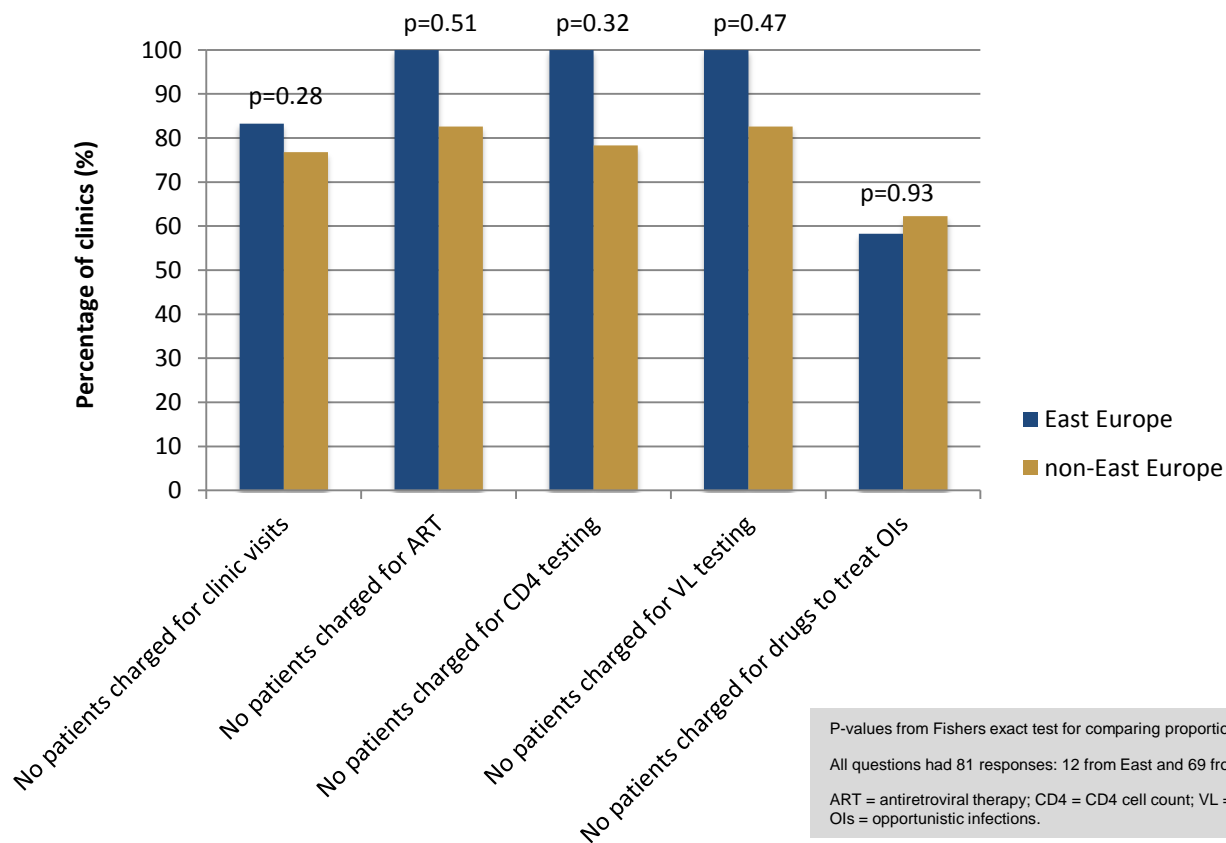
Results

Availability of people-centred health services



Results

Availability of free services



Limitations

- Survey data reported by clinic representatives –
 - Possible errors
 - Possible response bias
- Survey conducted in English only
- Responding clinics not representative of HIV clinics in Europe –
 - Half were university clinics
 - Almost half were government-affiliated
 - Many were in capital cities

Conclusions

- Some service gaps in EuroSIDA East (Belarus, Estonia, Lithuania, Russian Federation and Ukraine)
 - Mental health treatment/referral
 - Family planning counseling
 - Foreign language interpreters
- Some service gaps in full cohort of EuroSIDA clinics
 - Drug/alcohol treatment
 - Opioid substitution therapy
 - On-site childcare

Conclusions

- Further research needed on whether HIV patients with drug/alcohol addiction have access to treatment and to opioid substitution therapy
- Further research needed on consequences of health service fees for HIV patients
- *Strategic question:* how can large observational cohort studies such as EuroSIDA be harnessed to advance our understanding of people-centred health care and in particular the integration of services?

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