Slovakia – reflection on universal access to HIV prevention, treatment and care

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Slovakia

- ▶ 5.4 mil inhabitants
- Neighboring countries: Poland, Ukraine, Hungary, Austria, Czech republic



HIV situation in Slovakia

- Cumulative (1985 30.9.2009) number of PLWH:
 - 309 Slovaks (258 males, 51 women), out of them:
 - 55 AIDS, 35 died of AIDS,
 - 61% MSM, 25% hetero, 10% unknown, 3% IDUs
 - 110 foreigners
- National program for HIV/AIDS prevention in Slovak republic 2009 – 2012, no budget
- Eurobarometer survey 55% of correct responses on HIV transmission, 2006
- Euro HIV Index 2009, 7th in best HIV care

Knowledge on HIV and AIDS

Study done by Odyseus, funded by Ministry of education, 2009, preliminary data:

- 1.051 young people 14-30 age, at recreational setting
- experience: vaginal sex 90%, oral 86%, anal 37%
- The top sources of information about safer sex and STIs Internet 67%, then friends 44% and TV 36%, porn 15%+ erotic magazines and broadcasts 16%, school 30%, family 22%
- Knowledge on proper use of condoms 23%
- Proper knowledge on HIV transmission 7%
- Ever done HIV test 15%

Prevention

- General population:
 - no country-wide campaign
 - sexual education
 - mostly local N/Gos



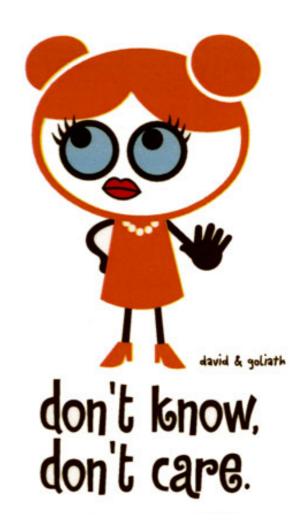
- VTC: 14 places around country
- Specific population:
 - MSM
 - IDUs 6 org. run NEPs, coverage?
 - SWs 4 org. run programs, coverage?
 - Prisons (condoms if they are, no other HR)

Treatment

- Currently available to all in need
- In 4 ambulances across the country
- Experience in one case need for advocating at the insurance company, done by NGO
- Challenges:
 - More people in need in future bigger financial burden?
 - People without health insurance?
 - HIV Literacy of PLWH

Care

- Problems:
 - Dental care
 - Gynecological care
 - Stigma within the health sector
 - PLWH are obliged to disclose their status within health care
- Support group



Questions:

Have you held annual dialogue sessions with the government or Ministry officials to review the national data submitted on UNGASS Commitments, in particular around universal access? NO

"Know Your Epidemic": Does your national program place resources towards those most impacted? (key populations and communities)

Does your country's Development Assistance Program (ODA) include support to HIV and AIDS? Yes, via Slovak Aid

What are the trends or emerging issues Civil Society identifies for the next 2-5 years? Other than survival? Taking HIV seriously: Involvement of PLWH, Proper nationwide strategies not only on a paper, financial support, multidisciplinary approach, scaling up the services.

Bit of hope for future

- PLWH
- www.hivaids.sk
- Current situation will gain attention of political leaders
- Updating of the current "Expert guidelines to ensure the prevention and treatment of HIV in the Slovak Republic No.

5650/99/A", dated 1/12/1999.

Thank you for attention

