

# LATE PRESENTERS FOR HIV IN DENMARK

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**Bent Hansen**  
Executive director  
**Hiv-Danmark**



- 1. The project**
- 2. Facts about the respondents**
- 3. The health care encounter**
- 4. Personal barriers**

# 1. The project

# The project

- ▣ **Problem:**

About 50% of all people diagnosed with HIV in Denmark have a CD4 count below 350

- ▣ **Objective of the project:**

To investigate reasons behind late testing of HIV in Denmark

# The project

- ▣ Population:

Tested HIV positive between 1 Jan. 2003 – 30 June 2009 with CD4 count < 200

- ▣ Literature

- ▣ Interview with professionals

- ▣ Interview with late presenters

- ▣ Questionnaire collected Oct. 2009 – March 2010

- ▣ 97 questionnaires collected (25.5%)

## **2. Facts about the respondents**

# Diagnosed with CD4 count < 200

	SSI HIV FIGURES 2005-2009 (N=330)	LATETESTER REPORT 2003-JUNE 2009 (N=97)
<b>SEX</b>		
Male	242 (71%)	71 (73%)
Female	88 (29%)	25 (27%)
Not reported	0 (0%)	1 (1%)
<b>AGE AT TIME OF DIAGNOSIS</b>		
<35 years old	86 (26%)	24 (25%)
35-44 years	113 (34%)	25 (26%)
45-54 years	74 (22%)	22 (23%)
55 or more years	56 (17%)	14 (14%)
Not reported	1 (<1%)	12 (12%)
<b>PLACE OF BIRTH</b>		
Denmark	196 (59%)	72 (74%)
Other European country	30 (9%)	3 (3%)
Africa, South of Sahara	63 (19%)	Africa 8 (8%)
Middle East, Northafrica	8 (2%)	Middle East 2 (2%)
Asia	27 (8%)	Asia, Australia 9 (9%)
America	6 (2%)	3 (3%)
<b>MOST LIKELY MODE OF TRANSMISSION</b>		
MSM	114 (35 %)	44 (45%)
Heterosexual	180 (55%)	34 (35%)
IDU	14 (4%)	1 (1%)
Blood transfusion	2 (<1%)	5 (5%)
Mother to child	3 (<1%)	-
Purchase/sale of sexual services	-	8 (8%)
Other	-	17 (18%)
Not reported	17 (5%)	1 (1%)

# Earlier tested for HIV

	<b>HETERO- SEXUAL MEN AND WOMEN</b>	<b>HOMO- SEXUAL MEN</b>	<b>OTHER IDENTITY</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Yes	13 (31%)	18 (55%)	4 (21%)	35 (37%)
No	29 (69%)	15 (45%)	15 (79%)	59 (63%)
				<b>P=0.029</b>



# Duration between negative test and diagnosis with HIV

Up to 5 years	13 (37%)
Between 6 and 10 years	8 (23%)
Between 11 and 15 years	8 (23%)
More than 15 years	3 (9%)
Not reported	3 (9%)

# Where are respondents most likely infected with HIV

	<b>BORN IN DENMARK</b>	<b>BORN OUTSIDE DENMARK</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Denmark	52 (73%)	10 (40%)	62 (65%)
Abroad	10 (14%)	6 (24%)	16 (17%)
Not reported	9 (13%)	9 (36%)	18 (19%)
			<b>P=0.008</b>

# 3. The health care encounter

# Place of diagnosis - sexual identity

	<b>HETEROSEXUAL MEN AND WOMEN</b>	<b>HOMOSEX- UAL MEN</b>	<b>ANOTHER IDENTITY<sup>17</sup></b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Hospital	22 (50%)	10 (29%)	12 (63%)	44 (45%)
All other	22 (50%)	24 (71%)	7 (37%)	53 (55%)
Total	44 (100%)	34 (100%)	19 (100%)	97 (100%)
				<b>P=0.043</b>

# Why the respondents are tested for HIV

Doctor-encouraged test	54 (61%)
Friend-encouraged test	8 (9%)
Partner found with HIV	4 (5%)
Partner notification	2 (2%)
Own initiative	21 (24%)

# Recalling HIV symptoms

	<b>HETEROSEXUAL MEN AND WOMEN</b>	<b>HOMOSEX- UAL MEN</b>	<b>ANOTHER IDENTITY</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Yes	19 (44%)	24 (73 %)	11 (58%)	54 (57%)
No	24 (56%)	9 (27 %)	7 (42%)	41 (43%)
				<b>P=0.045</b>

# Did symptoms made respondents to consider HIV test

	<b>HOMOSEXUAL MEN</b>	<b>ALL OTHER</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
No	8 (33%)	20 (71%)	28 (54%)
Considered, but no test	8 (33%)	1 (4%)	9 (17%)
Yes, tested b/c of symptoms	8 (33%)	7 (25%)	15 (29%)
			<b>P=0.006</b>

# Duration from first contact with symptoms to test for HIV

Less than 1 year	26 (74%)
Between 1 and 5 years	5 (14%)
More than 5 years	4 (11%)



# Did time to wait for answer had any influence on 'no HIV test'

No importance	60 (78%)
Some importance	13 (17%)
Great importance	4 (5%)

# Did distance to anonymous test site had influence on 'no HIV test'

No importance	61 (79%)
Some importance	9 (12%)
Great importance	7 (9%)

## 4. Personal barriers

# Respondents perception of risk

No importance	28 (34%)
Some importance	25 (30%)
Great importance	30 (36%)

# Did not want family and friends to know

No importance	34 (41%)
Some importance	10 (12%)
Great importance	39 (47%)

# Afraid of negative responses

No importance	34 (41%)
Some importance	14 (17%)
Great importance	34 (41%)

# Afraid of finding out

<b>No importance</b>	<b>42 (51%)</b>
<b>Some importance</b>	<b>17 (21%)</b>
<b>Great importance</b>	<b>24 (29%)</b>

# Did not know HIV symptoms

No importance	33 (41%)
Some importance	18 (23%)
Great importance	29 (36%)



# Did not know about good treatment

No importance	42 (54%)
Some importance	12 (15%)
Great importance	24 (31%)

# Did not know treatment is free

	----- BORN IN DENMARK -----		BORN OUTSIDE DENMARK
	HETEROSEXUAL MEN AND WOMEN	HOMOSEXUAL MSM	
No importance	19 (79%)	29 (85%)	7 (41%)
Some or great importance	5 (21%)	5 (15%)	10 (59%)
			<b>P=0.003</b>

# Did not know about anonymous test

	----- BORN IN DENMARK -----		BORN OUTSIDE DENMARK
	HETEROSEXUAL MEN AND WOMEN	HOMOSEXUAL MSM	
No importance	19 (79%)	30 (83%)	7 (41%)
Some or great importance	5 (21%)	6 (17%)	10 (59%)
			<b>P=0.004</b>

# To conclude

More than half of the respondents:

- ▣ did not consider themselves at risk
- ▣ did not want family and friends to know (stigma)
- ▣ were afraid of negative responses (stigma)
- ▣ were afraid to find out about HIV
- ▣ did not know about symptoms of HIV

# Recommendations

- ▣ scale up 'on-site testing' for MSM, who cannot be reached by ngo 'Check Point/Quick Test-sites'
- ▣ intensify information to groups of ethnic minorities on free treatment and anonymous test

# The final report

The final report can soon be downloaded at:

[www.Hiv-Danmark.dk](http://www.Hiv-Danmark.dk)

Authors :

Anders Dahl & Morten R. Eiersted

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Thank you!

