# CBVCT - Situation of testing in non-medical settings in Lithuania

HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis and Tuberculosis Civil Society Forum Luxembourg, 20-21 July, 2017

# Association of HIV/AIDS Affected Women and their Families dametra



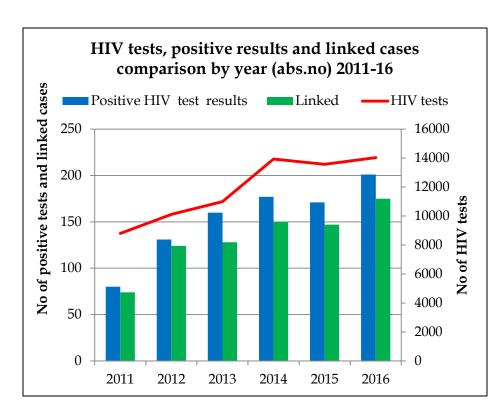
Main activities	HIV testing / councelling	Linkage to health care
Partners	Vilnius Centre for Addictive disorders National LAB	Infectious diseases and TB hospital in Vilnius University hospital in Klaipeda Siauliai hospital
Branches	2 in Vilnius including Checkpoint	1 in Klaipeda

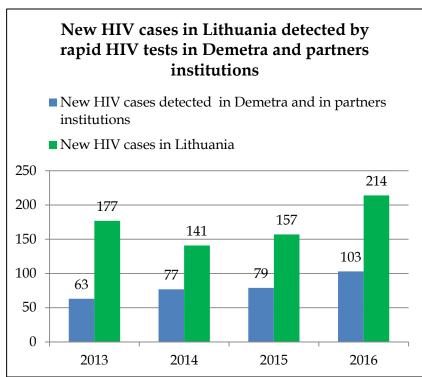




# Rapid HIV tests monitoring

#### In total 75,000 rapid HIV tests during 2011-2016 years





Source: Demetra, CDAC





# HIV testing regulations in Lithuania:

- Last update: November,2010
  - Written consent
  - Licensed medical setting
  - Licensed medical worker (doctor, nurse)
  - Payed in primary health care, in secondary - for free (high threshold)
  - For free: pregnant women (twice), prisoners, donors.

#### **Decisions in Demetra:**

- Special coded form for signatures approved by director
- Detailed agreement with medical licensed institution
- Medical licensed workers from medical institution
- Facilities meet the standards of hygiene

# Letter from MoH about met requirements for HIV testing in 2012



PAŠTU NEBUS SIUNČIAMA

#### LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS SVEIKATOS APSAUGOS MINISTERIJA

Biudżetinė įstaiga, Vilniaus g. 33, LT-01506 Vilnius, tel. (8 5) 266 1400, faks. (8 5) 266 1402, el. p. ministerija@sam.lt, http://www.sam.lt. Duomenys kaupiami ir saugomi Juridinių asmenų registre, kodas 188603472

ŽIV ir AIDS paveiktų moterų bei jų artimųjų asociacijai

2012-03-03 Nr.(10.6-22)10 - 1987 I 2012-01-27 Nr. Ž004

#### DĖL ŽEMO SLENKSČIO PASLAUGŲ TEISINIO REGULIAVIMO

Sveikatos apsaugos ministerijos (toliau – Ministerija) nuomone visuomeninio sektoriaus veikla yra labai svarbi, siekiant mažinti narkotikų vartojimo poreikį bei su švirkščiamųjų narkotikų vartojimu susijusios neigiamos įtakos atskiriems asmenims, jų šeimos nariams, bendruomenėms ir visuomenei esamoms problemoms spręsti bei tokiu būdu pritraukiant narkotikų vartotojus ir jų partnerius į sveikatos ir socialines paslaugas teikiančias įstaigas ir taip prisidedant prie narkotikų perdozavimo ar su narkotikais susijusių mirties atvejų rizikos mažinimo.

Ministerija, įvertino Jūsų rašte išdėstytus teiginius dėl LR sveikatos apsaugos ministro 2010 m. lapkričio 16 d. įsakymo Nr. V-991 "Dėl Tyrimų dėl žmogaus imunodeficito viruso infekcijos tvarkos aprašo patvirtinimo" (toliau – ministro įsakymas Nr. V-991) ir LR sveikatos apsaugos ministro 2006 m. liepos 5 d. įsakymo Nr. V-584 "Dėl narkotinių ir psichotropinių medžiagų žalos mažinimo programų vykdymo tvarkos aprašo patvirtinimo" (toliau – ministro įsakymas Nr. V-584).

Vadovaujantis ministro įsakymo Nr. V-991 5 punktu bei ministro įsakymo Nr. V-584 6 punktu – Jūsų Asociacija, sudariusi sutartį su asmens sveikatos priežiūros įstaiga, turinčia licencija asmens sveikatos priežiūros paslaugoms teikti, atrankinius greituosius tyrimus dėl ŽIV gali atlikti.

# December, 2016

Four complains to Accreditation service about "illegal" community-based HIV testing in Demetra from Communicable disease and AIDS center (CDAC) creates conflict situation because HIV testing is in "grey zone".

The last one on 8<sup>th</sup> of March, 2017 during HIV testing event devoted to International women's day

## Actions focused on decision makers

Euro-commissioner V. Andriukaitis on 23-03-2017

Minister of Health on 23-02-2017

Official letters to

AHF, EC, GF, SCF on HIV/AIDS, ECDC, WHO Euro, EMCDDA, ECUO, EATG, and other organizations and institutions

Official letter from AIDS Actions Europe to Minister of Health on 05-04-2017



Address to Minister of Health of the Republic of Lithuania about rapid HIV testing situation in Association "Demetra"

#### Dear Minister Veryga,

We call for your attention to complicated access to rapid HIV testing situation in communitybased organizations and institutions in Lithuania. Due to the ambiguity within the national legislation and regulation that is not in accordance to international practice and recommendations, rapid HIV testing has been stopped in non-medical settings. This has occurred at the time when the incidence of HIV is dramatically increasing.































































### Actions focused on decision makers

Advocacy team (Coalition I can live, Patient forum) (4 times)

Deputy Minister of Health A. Bilotiene Motiejūniene (2 times)

Meetings / round table discussions with

Minister of Health A.Veryga (2 times)

Director of Accreditation service N. Ribokiene

### **Current situation**

Legislation amendments process in MoH is going. Special requirements:

- Waiting room for registration
- Natural light (window)
- Hot and cold top water
- Plumbing equipment must be in working order, clean and free of visible defects

#### Actions focused on mass media

#### Press release

- Association Demetra
- Coalition I can live
- Media channels well accepted press release and published full text

#### Online articles

- http://www.delfi.lt
- http://www.15min. lt
- <a href="http://sveikata.lryt">http://sveikata.lryt</a>
  as.lt
- <a href="http://www.vlmedicina.lt">http://www.vlmedicina.lt</a>
- <a href="http://lsveikata.lt">http://lsveikata.lt</a>
- http://www.lgl.lt

#### Interviews

- On national TV and radio
- http://lnkgo.alfa.lt
- http://www.lrt.lt





# Next steps

#### Demetra

- To continue advocacy efforts with national and international organizations that HIV testing will be available in non-medical setting, by lay workers, etc.
- To continue reporting on real facts about HIV epidemiological situation and inappropriate national response.

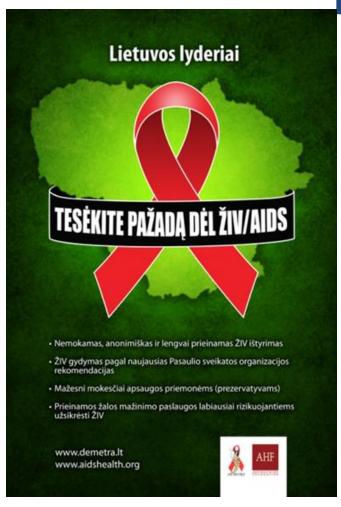
#### **CSF**

- To inform members of Think Tank.
- Express position in a letter to MoH

#### 2013 ir 2017

# Lithuanian leaders keep the promise on

HIV/AIDS









# **Advocasy efforts 2014**







April, 2014 with Viceminister of Health Mrs. **Jadvyga Zinkeviciute** 



June, 2014 with Minister

of Health Mr. **Vytenis Andriukaitis** 



May, 2014 with Viceminister of Health Mrs. **Jadvyga Zinkeviciute** 



July, 2016 with Euro Commissioner Mr. **Vytenis Andriukaitis** 



# **Advocasy efforts 2016**

Mr. Juras Pozela, Minister of Health publicly perform HV test and noted on Facebook that he supports activities of Demetra





Was agreed to met and discuss about access to HIV testing but the activity was postponed due to unexpected reasons

# **HIV** testing week

National HIV testing week ambassador – vice minister of Health





**d**2metra





EUROPEAN HIV-HEPATITIS TESTING WEEK 2015
Results from the 2015 Evaluation

Baltic News Service

The Act United Middlewer Service

The Act United Service

The Act United Middlewer Service

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The Act





# HIV testing in CBO should not be



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