

HIV AND HCV CARE CONTINUUM THROUGH TESTING IN THE ETET OEIRAS/CASCAIS

Marques A¹, Aguiar A¹, Pinto Ferreira¹, Guedes Soares M², Novaes P², Antunes J², Pires P³

¹ SER+, Portuguese Association for AIDS Challenge and Prevention, ² ETET Oeiras/Cascais Specialised Technical Team in Drug Addiction Treatment, ³ Municipality of Oeiras

Background:

After the announcement of UNAIDS 95's goals, continuum care gained relevance. It is necessary to adapt the treatment of infections to specific populations and the effectiveness of this procedure increases when people are met at the places where they are at. The municipality of Oeiras, as a Fast Track City, follows this strategy. These data are the result of the efforts of two of the consortium partners – SER+, Portuguese Association for AIDS Challenge and Prevention and ETET (Specialized Technical Treatment Team) Oeiras/Cascais.

Methods:

This intervention aims to track the entire drug-using population (PWUD) monitored at the ETET (n=885). The present results were collected between 05/10/2021-12/31/2021 and included 238 ETET clients. They were voluntarily screened with rapid, anonymous and free tests for HIV, HVC, HVB and Syphilis, at the ETET and at the SER+ mobile unit.

All reactive results were referred to treatment, and those previously diagnosed were reconnected. Follow-up with a peer was proposed for linkage to care.

Results:

130/238 people were tested for HVC: 16/130 reactive - 2/16 cured, 2/16 on direct-acting antiviral (DAA), 7/16 in treatment, 5/16 abandoned treatment. 108/238 were not tested for HVC: 26/108 diagnosed for HVC but not in treatment – 2/26 cured; 4/26 on DAA; 9/26 in treatment; 11/26 abandoned treatment.

207/238 tested for HIV: no reactive results. 31/238 were not tested for HIV: 4/31 diagnosed and untreated - all of them currently on ART.

220/238 tested for HVB: 1/220 reactive. 18/238 not tested for HVB: 1/18 has HVB.

224/238 tested for Syphilis: no reactive results.

Conclusion:

This intervention proved to be very useful to increase knowledge of serological status and linkage to care, with important health gains. The results show that a high percentage of people were reconnected to care. Cooperation and networking between consortium partners was essential to scale up the intervention.

Disclosure of Interest Statement:

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