



HIV Armenian Cascade Among MSM and Trans* Woman. Estimates, Services, Barriers



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The goal of the cascade is identification of the main gaps in data on MSM and trans* women in Armenia based on official statistics and development recommendations on what needs should be improved in the provision of services, including services at the community level, in order to achieve the "95-95-95" target goals. "95-95-95" targets were determined by the UNAIDS calling for 95% of all people living with HIV to know their HIV status, 95% of all people with diagnosed HIV infection to receive sustained antiretroviral therapy, and 95% of all people receiving antiretroviral therapy to have viral suppression by 2025.

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HIV prevalance

Among MSM: 5%

Among Trans* woman: 2.5%



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Baseline data for MSM

Basic indicators	Indicator, Source of information
Estimated number of MSM in Armenia	22716 Source: IBBS-2021
Estimated number of MSM living with HIV	1136 Source: IBBS-2021
Number of HIV positive MSM who know about their status	427 Source: IBBS-2021"HIV prevention among MSM" program reports
MSM receiving ARV treatment	232 Source: NCID of RA MoH
MSM receiving ARV treatment and having a suppressed viral load	104 Source: NCID of RA MoH

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Baseline data for Trans* woman

Basic indicators	Indicator, Source of information
Estimated number of Trans* woman in Armenia	1015 Source: IBBS-2021
Estimated number of Trans* woman living with HIV	25 Source: IBBS-2021
Number of HIV positive Trans* woman who know about their status	4 Source: IBBS-2021"HIV prevention among MSM" program reports
Trans* woman receiving ARV treatment	3 Source: NCID of RA MoH
Trans* woman receiving ARV treatment and having a suppressed viral load	3 Source: NCID of RA MoH

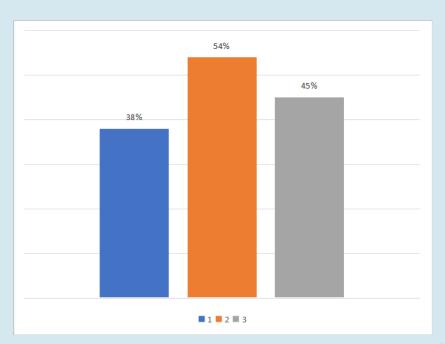
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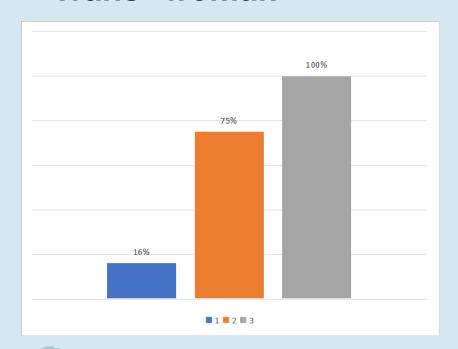




HIV Cascade among MSM



HIV Cascade among Trans* woman



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Community-led monitoring

Hypothesis: The 2nd and 3rd columns of the HIV Cascade among MSM are due to

- a) High level of stigma and discrimination at NCID,
- b) Low awareness of the effectiveness of HIV treatment among MSM





RECOMMENDATIONS





For healthcare service organizations

- Conduct regular training among community outreach workers on modern approaches to social outreach and HIV issues.
- Analyze the existing HIV-related services provided to MSM and Trans* people and integrate the comprehensive packages of HIV-related services based on the international recommendations as well as the needs and priorities of MSM and Trans* people in Armenia.
- Conduct regular training among HIV healthcare providers aimed at reducing stigma and discrimination towards MSM and Trans* people.

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RECOMMEDNATIONS





For the role of community structures

- Initiate the process of amending the Charter of CCM so that MSM an Trans* people are represented in the CCM and other decision-making platforms.
- Develop a screening questionnaire for the use of PrEP and make PrEP free for those MSM and Trans* people who meet the screening criteria.
- Facilitate the PEP receipt process so that it is provided based only on the words of the person at risk of HIV infection.
- Provide self-testing opportunities for those MSM who have sufficient knowledge of HIV to carry out the self-testing process and read the test results. Regulate the process of enabling self-testing through community outreach workers.

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RECOMMENDATIONS





For policy change and dialogue, i.e. for advocacy activities

- Develop and implement advocacy steps to include sexual orientation and gender identity in the draft law on Ensuring Equality before the Law as protected grounds, as well as for the adoption of the draft law.
- Strengthen the capacities of NGOs working with MSM and Trans* woman and develop advocacy steps to increase public funding for NGOs.
- Decentralize HIV and AIDS services, as well as ARV delivery.



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Thank you!

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