HIV Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis Services, Provision, and Delivery in the NEAT ID Network

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Background:
Despite a decrease in the number of new HIV infections over the last decade, nearly 105,000 new HIV infections occurred in the European Union in 2020. To tackle the epidemic, HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) of HIV has been integrated into HIV prevention packages in many European Countries. However, few surveys have provided a comprehensive picture of PrEP use in Europe. The European treatment network for HIV, hepatitis, and global infectious diseases (NEAT ID) performs and coordinates clinical research on HIV/AIDS, COVID-19, and viral hepatitis across 342 sites in 11 European countries. We conducted a survey within the network to evaluate PrEP services implementation in European centers.

Results:
- 50 of 342 sites from 11 countries provided a response (15% response rate)
- 45 sites provided PrEP services
- All sites were in Western Europe, except two sites in Poland and one in Hungary
- The responding sites represent a total of 27,416 users, rising by 1,361 new PrEP initiators each month

Conclusion:
PrEP is mainly implemented in Western European sites with a large and growing pool of PrEP users. These centers express a high interest in conducting research on PrEP and STIs. This supports the scope extension of research within NEAT ID toward HIV and STIs Prevention.