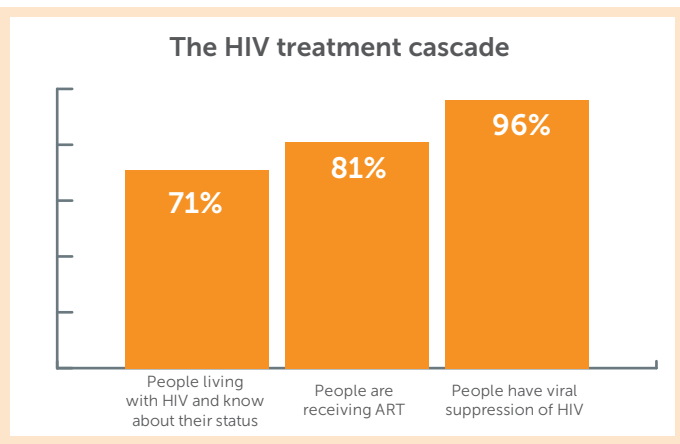




Background:

At the end of 2021, Ukraine's progress in achieving the UNAIDS 95-95-95 goals was that 71% of people living with HIV knew about their status, 81% of them are receiving ART and 96% have viral suppression. According to the recommendations of the WHO in 2017, Ukraine implements the rapid appointment of ART, ideally within the first 7 days, to accelerate the overcoming of the HIV epidemic.



Materials and methods:

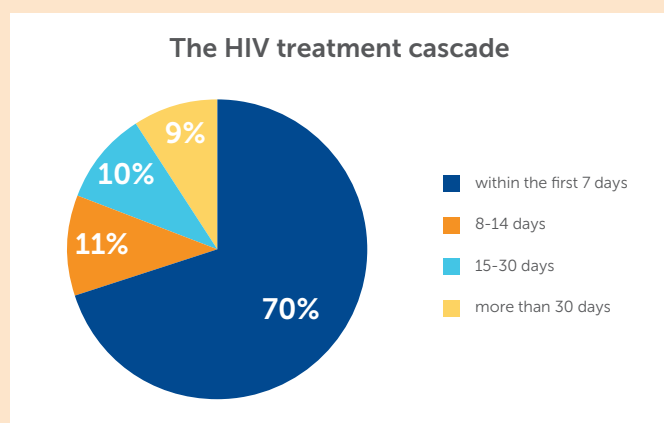
We evaluated the data from all regions of Ukraine during January-December 2016 and 2021, according to the legally approved reporting forms and the electronic medical system "Monitoring of socially significant diseases".



Results:

In Ukraine, as of the end of 2021, 1,923,468 HIV examinations were conducted. 17,289 newly diagnosed PLHIV were involved in medical supervision, 25% of them had HIV clinical stage IV, which indicates the untimely detection of HIV-infected patients and how the result is late involvement in ART, treatment and prevention of OI.

During 2021, 16,660 PLHIV started ART for the first time. 70% of them received ART within the first 7 days from the moment of the screening study, 8-14 days – 11%, 15-30 days – 10%, more than 30 days – 9%, which is significant progress compared to 2016, in which it was about 31% of PLHIV received ART within first 7 days.



This progress may be related to the increase in the specific weight of the use of rapid tests to establish a diagnosis of HIV on the same day.

During the first quarter of 2022, the number of HIV tests decreased by 36% compared to the first quarter of 2021, and the absolute number of positive results decreased accordingly, which can be associated with the start of a full-scale war in Ukraine. However, the rapid initiation of ART within the first 7 days among newly diagnosed PLHIV in 2022 is 83%.



Conclusions:

Despite the challenges facing Ukraine today, healthcare institutions continue to perform their work quickly and efficiently (initiation of ART within the first 7 days 83% in I quarter 2022). Due to the high speed of initiation of ART, a significant number of PLHIV are able to maintain their quality of life and health and will not transmit HIV to their index partners, which makes it possible to stop the spread of HIV in Ukraine.