

HIV

Group 4

Lecturer: Dr. Edward Goka
Module: Public Health Policy BMHP5002
Date: 15th December, 2021



Group Members

Erkan Paca	2010132
Ivelina Succaria	2010919
Mihaela Ganchev (Group Leader)	2013873
Tendai Dzitiro	2011634
Kawther Chible	2008114

This is a list of all the group members. It is shown their full names and student ID number.

Table of Contents

01

**Introduction
History/Incidence**

02

**Discrimination
and stigma**

03

**Control and
prevention**

04

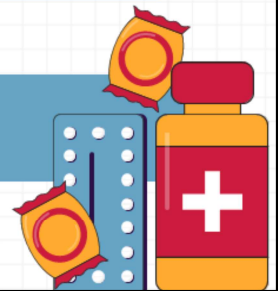
Relevant Policies

05

**Role of different
agencies**

06

Conclusion



What is STD/HIV

- “Sexually transmitted disease; STDs, it is a sexual activity that can be passed on person to another via vaginal, oral and anal sex. HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) if not treated it can be the cause for AIDS.
- There is no effective cure for HIV, you have it for life “
- Appropriate medical supervision can control the HIV. People with proper treatment can live long and have a healthy lives and protect their partners. CDC (2020)

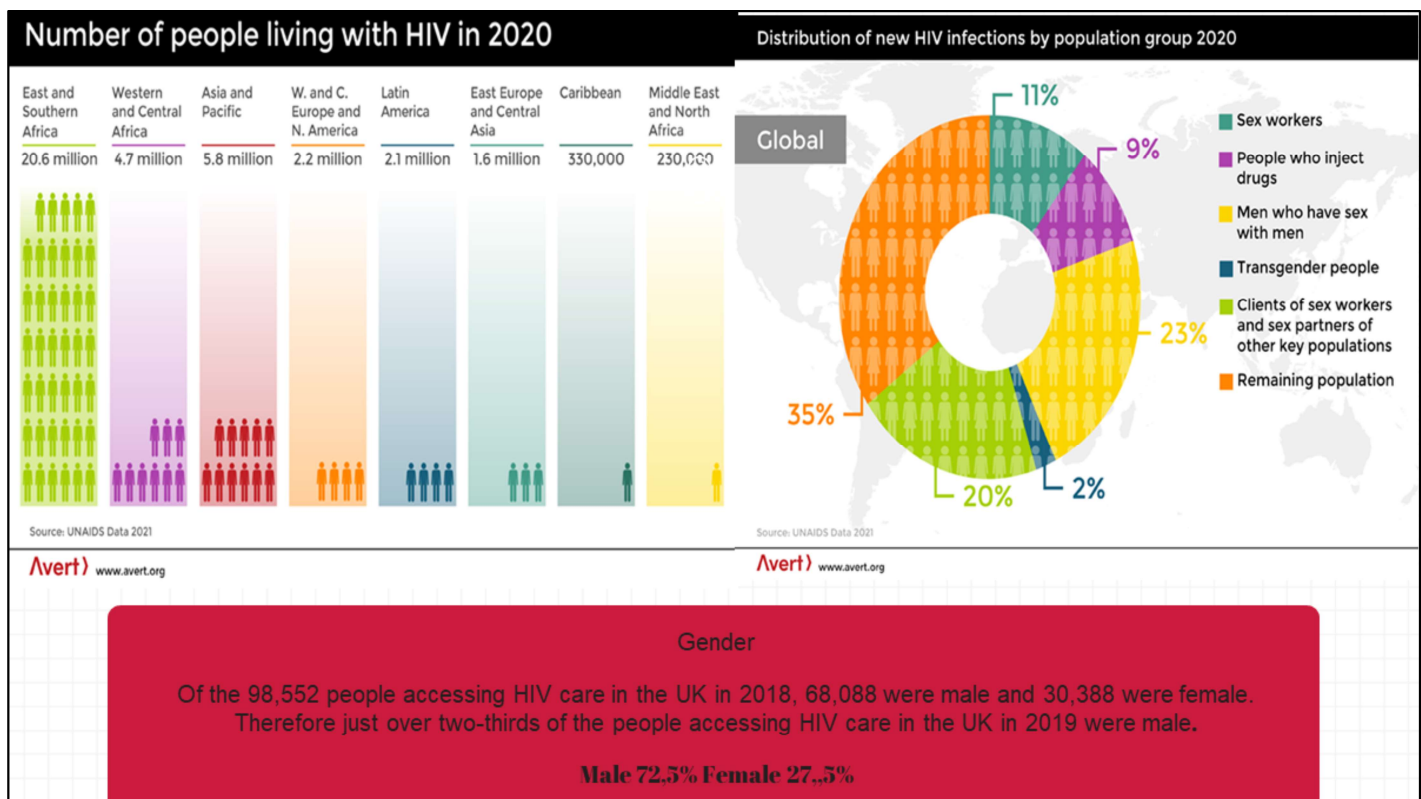


STD's either causing little symptoms or none, thus you could never know whether you have the infection or not. Having an STD could maximize your chances to catch HIV. And you have both are very prone to give the infection to your partners. CDC (2020)

Historical Development

- The first transmission in 1920 of SIV (simian immune deficiency virus)/HIV from chimpanzee in central Africa in Republic of Congo spread into infrastructures via migrants and sex trade.
- In the 1960s, HIV spread from Africa to Haiti and then Caribbean back to Congo to New York and San Francisco in that decade around 1970.
- In 1984, researchers finally identified the cause of AIDS—the HIV virus—and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) licensed the first commercial blood test for HIV in 1985
- 1985, 20.000 reported case of AIDS every region of the globe
- In 1987, the first antiretroviral medication for HIV, azidothymidine (AZT), became available.
- In 1991, the red ribbon became an international symbol of AIDS awareness
- In 1994, the FDA approved the first oral (and non-blood) HIV test. Two years later, it approved the first home testing kit and the first urine test.
- In 2001, UNAIDS report that Aids was the main cause of death in sub-Saharan Africa, drug companies slashed their prices in half.
- In 2009, President Barack Obama lifted a 1987 U.S. ban.
- The FDA approved pre-exposure prophylaxis, or PrEP, for HIV-negative people in 2012. When taken daily, PrEP can reduce the risk of HIV from sex by more than 90 percent and from intravenous drug use by 70 percent, according to the CDC.

- At the end of 2019, some 38 million people were living with HIV/AIDS worldwide, and 940,000 people died from AIDS-related illnesses that year, according to WHO



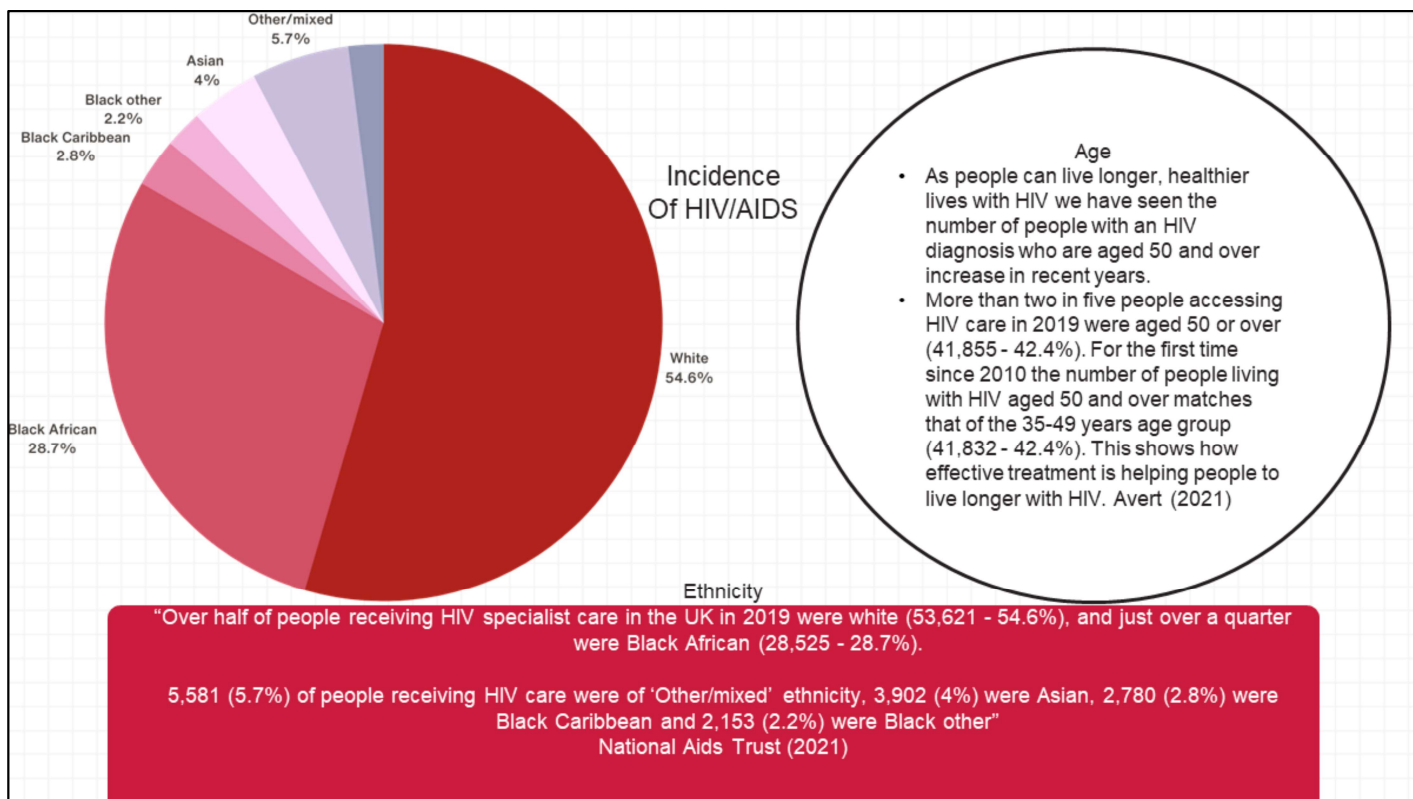
37,7 million people are living with HIV globally, 16% don't know their status not knowing their ailment. Estimated 0.7 % adults aged 15-49 globally living with the condition. And the impact still continue with the pandemic . Africa was the region that severely affected, 2/3 of people. WHO (2021). In 2012 FDA approval on Prep medicine in 121 countries. WHO (2021)

680.000 mortality rate of HIV related ailments globally in 2020.

UK Distribution

The vast majority (90,121 - 91.5%) of people receiving HIV care in the UK in 2019 did so in England. In Wales 2,358 (2.4%) people received HIV care in 2019, in Scotland it was 4,945 (5%) and 1,122 people (1.1%) in Northern Ireland. Mode of transmission

The majority (91,216 - 92.6%) of people accessing HIV care in 2019 acquired HIV through sexual transmission. National Aids Trust (2021)



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02

Stigma and discrimination



Stigma and Discrimination (Geneva,2010)

Stigma -HIV-related stigma is negative beliefs, feelings and attitudes towards people who have and/or associated with HIV. Stigma may also be a method of humiliation of people and making them be ashamed, self-blaming and feel worthlessness.

Discrimination - HIV-related discrimination means unfair and unjust treatment (act or omission) towards an individual and is based on their real or perceived HIV status.

Both occur in very different aspects of peoples' lives and affect

- ✓ Employment
- ✓ Housing
- ✓ Insurance
- ✓ Education
- ✓ Services
- ✓ Travel and immigration

(Avert,2018)



(www.cdc.gov, 2021)

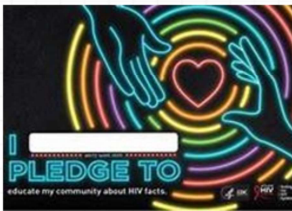
As human being we answer the unknow with fear and prejudice. Stigma and discrimination are the most common way of showing our fear.
Difference between them: stigma is the way we think; discrimination is the actions we take towards the stigmatic phenomenas in our lives.
Both mark our whole life appearing in any important aspect of it.

Stigma and its effects (Avert.2018)

- ✓ HIV and AIDS mean DEATH
- ✓ They are result of behaviour some do not approve
- ✓ Sex is taboo in some cultures
- ✓ HIV shows moral degradation and should be punished
- ✓ Misleading info that creates fear about own health
- ✓ Loss of personal life and finance
- ✓ Loss of marriage and children
- ✓ Loss of adequate health care
- ✓ Loss of hope and self-esteem
- ✓ Loss of reputation

Kinds of stigma:

- ✓ Self-stigma (fear to search help because will be condemned by the society and family)
- ✓ Governmental stigma (partial and inadequate legislation)
- ✓ Restrictions of entry, travel and stay (73 countries criminalised same sex activity, 2015)
- ✓ Healthcare stigma (contacts and treatment sessions are minimised)
- ✓ Employment stigma (loss of job, refusal of promotion, discrimination from managers and co-workers)
- ✓ Community stigma (one might be forced to leave their family and home)



(www.cdc.gov, 2021)

Why is there a stigma against HIV positive – we connect the illness with sure death; according to the way it is transmitted we connect it with inappropriate behaviors and our first reaction is to condemn the people together with their behavior and we consider that this should be punished by the society; the word "sex" and everything connected to it is a taboo; any contact with HIV positive people may be a threat to own health.

The effects of stigma could bring an immense amount of losses starting with personal life and reaching to losing your own self-esteem and personality.

There are six main kinds of stigma. The strongest one in my opinion is self-stigma because it is a way of thinking and behaviour that cannot be changed without the person's will and approval. The HIV positive people are in deep stress, they are afraid that the HIV is taking away all the world they have and know and throwing them into a tunnel of deep isolation and loneliness and they know that the end of this tunnel is their death. In many cases, self-stigma is the one that comes as a result of all the other kinds. An HIV positive person keeps themselves away from everything and everyone trying to avoid judgement and discrimination.

What to do?

- ✓ Create flexible programmes and legislation that protects the right of HIV positive people
- ✓ Update the approach towards the human rights of HIV positive people
- ✓ Educate the society
- ✓ Agenda for Zero Discrimination in Healthcare – UNAIDS and WHO 2016 (Avert, 2018)
- ✓ Correct and reasonable forward of funding's for people with HIV (Podmore, 2011)
- ✓ Be personal responsible and active



(www.cdc.gov, 2021)

We all, alone and together can make a lot to stop stigma and discrimination.

We can work on global level, updating the approach to the human rights of HIV positive people

We can work on state level and do a lot:

1. Preparing legislation that guarantees that HIV positive people will be an equal part of our society and will not lose their lives because of prejudiced behaviour.
2. Education is the key answer to the fear. People tend to accept and tolerate things that they understand so we should be sure we give the members of the society the right information about HIV.
3. Be sure that the fundings for HIV people, their treatment, medical research, are going to the right places and are managed successfully.

On personal level we should be active members of the society and show personal responsibility and have active position towards HIV positive people, protecting their rights and spread the right information.

03

**Control and
prevention**



Prevention in (Drugs users') communities

WHO
UNAIDS
UNODC
UN General Assembly
Economics and Social Council
UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs
Global Fund
PEPFAR

Comprehensive package

- Needle and syringe programmes
- Opioid substitution therapy + drug dependence treatment
- HIV testing and counselling
- Antiretroviral therapy
- Prevention and treatment of sexually transmitted infections
- Condom programmes
- Targeted information, education and communication
- Prevention, vaccination, diagnosis and treatment for viral hepatitis
- Prevention, diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis.

("Harm Reduction")

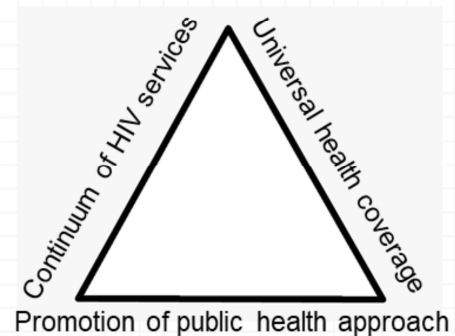
Since HIV is in the European area for decades, we are aware of the epidemics. We know the using policies and strategies is helping us to improve. Especially, through support, care and treatment. One of the most popular method that is known by everyone through health promotion is using condoms. Another Interventions are HIV testing, opioid substitution therapy and treatment for sexually transmitted infections. ("Prevention")

There is Harm Reduction which is a bond made out of related policies, programmes, services and actions. Their goal is to reduce the HIV cases or the harm through it especially for communities related to drugs. WHO, UNAIDS, UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs and other programmes are supporting the society. Using evidence based researches, they have provided the people in need with comprehensive package. ("Harm Reduction")

Action plan for the health sector response to HIV in the WHO European Region (2017)

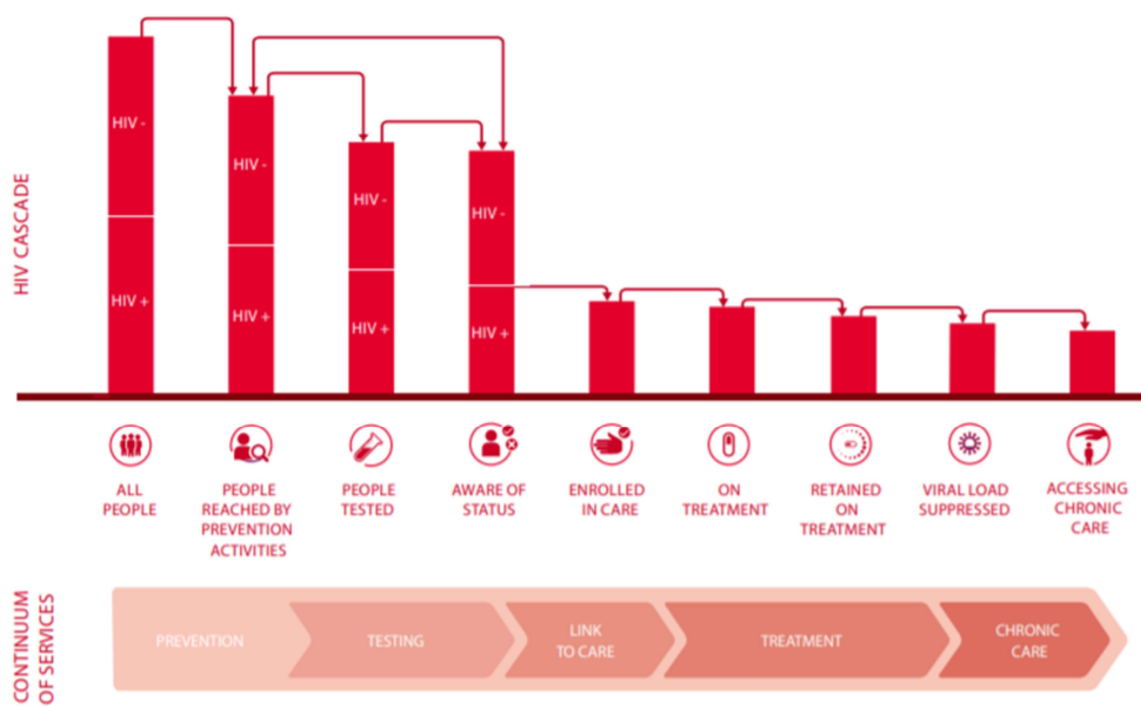
- End HIV until 2030
- Mainly focuses on PLHIV
- Strategies:
 - Information for focused actions
 - Interventions for impact
 - Delivering for equity
 - Financing for sustainability
 - Innovation for Acceleration

(World Health Organisation, 2017)



In United Kingdom: NHS Infectious Diseases in Pregnancy Screening Programme
("Screening for Hepatitis B, HIV and Syphilis")

This action plan is aiming to stop the spreading of HIV by 2030. It is based in the HIV/AIDS plan 2012-2015. It shows us a new perspective and how to proceed into the next stadium of stopping the infectious disease. The whole plan is people-centred. The frames of the of the plan are universal health coverage, continuum of HIV services and promoting public health approaches. The health coverage makes sure that anyone can access the health care, no matter of their financial situation. It works on both, prevention and treatment. Continuum provides the basis for the evidence based approach and helps to focus on the end if HIV. The public health approach is there to improve society's health and their wellbeing. Their strategies are as first to gather all information possible to develop a strategic system. It uses high quality data and standardized indicators and methodologies. The second strategy focuses on providing a good quality life for everyone by giving the best care. Delivering for equity is about making it all available for anyone. It's to make sure everyone is treated equally. The fourth strategy is about the costs and that no one's health should depend on their financial possibilities. The last one is there to make sure that everything is working and that there is nothing left out such as knowledge and technology. (World Health Organisation, 2017)



(World Health Organisation, 2017)

04

Relevant Policies



Legislation and Law Development

Policy statement

People who recklessly or intentionally transmit HIV and other sexually transmitted infections are prosecuted.

UN Political Declaration

All United Nations Member States pledged to end AIDS by 2030

1974

Health and Safety at Work Act

2008

The Equality Act

All people living with HIV protected from discrimination in employment, trade union membership and the provision of goods and services.

2010

2016

2020
/21

HIV Commission

Objectives:

- ✓ To end new HIV transmission till 2030
- ✓ To ensure effective levels of support
- ✓ To be independent and support delivery of effective government action plan

Legislation

Legislation

- **Equality Act of 8 April 2010** – combines all the preceding laws and appears to be a strong basis of under-discrimination law.
- **Health and Safety at Work Act of 31 July 1974** – secures the health, safety and wellbeing of people at work, protects others against risks to health or safety in connection with their work activities.
- **Domestic Violence Act of 31 October 2012**
- **Immigration Act of 14 April 2014** –
- **International Development (Gender Equality) Act of 13 March 2014**
- **Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act of 17 July 2013**
- **The Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations No. 1471 of 12 June 2013**

National policies and strategies

- Government, Achieving Universal Access – the UK's Strategy for Halting and Reversing the Spread of HIV in the Developing World, 2008, 68 pp.
- Department of Health, National Strategy for Sexual Health and HIV: Implementation Action Plan, June 2002, 17 pp.

(Public Health England, 2013)

- Due to the stigma attached to HIV, some people are reluctant to use existing testing services and as a result half of HIV infections are discovered late, meaning they are harder to treat. To decrease the HIV cases, the “Nations Political Declaration in 2016” was implemented (Casper *et al.*, 2018). This increased the awareness regarding the sexual health and its importance. The awareness involved in the act resulted in the decrease in the HIV cases by 28%, this further motivated the government and people to control the HIV diseases.
-
- To provide the treatment to the affected the government also raised funds for the neediest. “The Global Fund to Fight AIDS” was raised to fight against AIDS. The fund raised through the act resulted in the betterment of more than 3 million lives all over the world. Note that 2021 marks 40 years since the first

case of AIDS were reported.

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- The government of the UK also implemented the “Treat All” policy in April 2018. The policy mainly stated that if someone is found to be HIV positive then he/she will be treated immediately (Kontomanolis *et al.*, 2017). This further helped in the prevention of the spread of HIV. To make sure everyone infected with HIV get viral suppression, in 2013 National Health Services England started following WHO and UNAIDS’s policy on immediate treatment of HIV. Since April 2018 there is also full funding available for the antiretroviral treatment.
- The Health and Social Care Department announced they goal, which is to sink infections of HIV by 80 per cent by the year 2025 and end infections and deaths by 2030.
- The main perspective is to stop the infections of HIV by 2030. This is to be done by increasing testing levels, with a specific focus on high-risk communities e.g. Africa to disease control and prevention.
- The action plan, which has launched to mark World Aids Day will scale up testing, make sure people receive their treatment as quickly as possible and prevent infections using prevention activities.

Legislation

Other acts

- British HIV Association/British Association of Sexual Health and HIV/British Infection Society, UK National Guidelines for HIV Testing 2008, September 2008, 23 pp.
- Department of Health, HIV Infected health care workers: Guidance on management and patient notification, July 2005, 70 pp.
- British Association for Sexual Health and HIV (BASHH), National Guideline on the Sexual Health of People with HIV-Sexually Transmitted Infections, April 2006, 29 pp.

(Public Health England, 2013)

05

Role of different agencies



UK HIV/AIDS Agencies

1. NHS & TERRENCE HIGGINSTRUST
2. BRITISH HIV ASSOCIATION (BHIVA)
3. NATIONAL AIDS TRUST (NAT)
4. AVERT
5. POSITIVELY UK
6. I-BASE



(Elton John AIDS Foundation, 2021)

1. NHS & TERRENCE HIGGINS TRUST

It is the largest voluntary sector of HIV and sexual health services in the UK. Its main aim is to end new transmissions of HIV in the UK and support people with HIV.

2. BRITISH HIV ASSOCIATION (BHIVA)

It is a leading UK association since 1995. It provides excellent care for people living with and affected by HIV and support students, graduates, and current medical education within HIV care.

2. NATIONAL AIDS TRUST (NAT)

It is the UK's HIV rights charity. It works to stop HIV as a public health threat and end new HIV transmissions.

4. AVERT

Their aim is to increase health literacy on HIV and sexual health especially in the most affected area that are in great need to reduce the number of new infected cases.

5. POSITIVELY UK

It is a national organization and works along with the NHS. They work to keep the well being of people with HIV by providing customized peer support, advocacy and information to manage any side of their diagnosis, care, and life with HIV.

6. I-BASE

It is a treatment activist group. They offer up to date information about HIV treatment and plans to health care professionals. Their services are provided

online in many other languages (such as guidelines, website, articles, medical advisors and consultancy).

International/Global HIV/AIDS Agencies

1. UNAIDS
2. KAISER FAMILY FOUNDATION (KFF)
3. WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO)
4. INTERNATIONAL AIDS SOCIETY
5. THE GLOBAL FUND



(HIV.gov, 2021), (National Library of Medicine, 2020)

§UNAIDS

The organization's aim is to end AIDS as a public health threat by 2030 through providing strategic planning, advocacy, and technical support to help understand the HIV epidemic state and progress made at the local, national, regional, and global levels.

§KAISER FAMILY FOUNDATION (KFF)

The foundation focuses on providing recent data regarding the U.S. role in global health taking into account the key issues facing policymakers, non-governmental organizations, and others working in the global health field.

§WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO)

The organization aims to serve the vulnerable communities so that all individuals can reach the highest level of health. WHO leads the development and implementation of the global health sector strategy in order to promote health to keep the world safe and eliminate AIDS.

§INTERNATIONAL AIDS SOCIETY

The organization supports the implementation of human rights-based strategies to improve the life of those living with AIDS and those who are vulnerable to it. The organization also seek to fortify the vulnerable communities' voices to influence policy across the HIV prevention-to-care continuum.

§THE GLOBAL FUND

The organization invests more than 4 billion dollar a year to support local organizations in over 100 countries to challenge obstacles and embrace improvements. The Fund has lessened annual AIDS-related deaths and new

infections by half.

06

Conclusion



Conclusion

HIV is a widespread virus that still presently has no cure, however knowledge of the disease is much wider than what was known thirty years ago in terms of prevention, diagnosis, and medical supervision.

Many local and international agencies are working on vaccine progress, prevention plans, and basic medications with a hope to outpace and even reduce the disease spread all over the world.



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