

New European HIV Test Finder launched during European HIV-Hepatitis Testing Week

Eurosurveillance editorial team ¹

1. European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC), Stockholm, Sweden

Correspondence: Eurosurveillance editorial team (eurosurveillance@ecdc.europa.eu)

Citation style for this article:

Eurosurveillance editorial team. New European HIV Test Finder launched during European HIV-Hepatitis Testing Week. Euro Surveill. 2015;20(47):pii=30072. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.2807/1560-7917.ES.2015.20.47.30072>

Article published on 26 November 2015

On the occasion of the 20–27 November European HIV-Hepatitis Testing Week, the European HIV Test Finder, an online tool supporting people to find HIV-testing sites across Europe has been launched [1].

The European HIV Test Finder lists HIV testing centres and clinics across the 28 European Union (EU) member states. It was developed by Aidsmap.com with funding from the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC). Mobile friendly, it enables people to search for a nearby HIV testing centre by country, town and area code [2].

During the European HIV-Hepatitis Testing Week [3], the European Test Finder has been actively promoted via smartphone dating apps for men who have sex with men (MSM), thereby further disseminating the message that it is important to be tested. A newly published report [4] shows that sex between men is still the most common way HIV is transmitted in the EU/European Economic Area. HIV diagnoses among MSM have been rising at a significant rate from 30% of cases diagnosed in 2005 to 42% in 2014.

The European HIV Testing Week was first organised in 2013. Its aim is to increase HIV status awareness and to communicate the benefits of HIV testing with an aim to reduce late diagnosis. Current data shows that 47% of newly reported HIV cases are diagnosed late. Those tested and diagnosed with HIV early are less likely to pass on the virus [4].

4. European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe. (ECDC, WHO). HIV/AIDS surveillance in Europe 2014. Stockholm: ECDC; 2015. [Accessed 26 Nov 2015]. Available from: <http://ecdc.europa.eu/en/publications/Publications/hiv-aids-surveillance-in-Europe-2014.pdf>

References

1. European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC). Stockholm: ECDC; 2015. Available from: http://ecdc.europa.eu/en/press/news/_layouts/forms/News_DispForm.aspx?ID=1325&List=8db7286c-fe2d-476c-9133-18ff4cb1b568&Source=http%3A%2F%2Fecdc.europa.eu%2Fen%2FPages%2Fhome.aspx
2. Aidsmap NAM. [Accessed 26 Nov 2015]. Available from: <http://www.aidsmap.com/european-hiv-test-finder>
3. European HIV-Hepatitis Testing Week. [Accessed 26 Nov 2015]. Available from: <http://www.testingweek.eu/>