



HIV CONTINUUM OF CARE IN SPAIN, 2016



Drafting and preparation of this report

This report has been written for Victoria Hernando, Olivier Nuñez, Marta-Ruiz-Algueró and Asunción Díaz. HIV Surveillance and Behavioral Monitoring Unit. National Center of Epidemiology, September 2019

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Background

The cascade of care of HIV (or continuum of care) is a key tool for public health to monitor the progress of HIV epidemic in different settings, as well as to evaluate the policies put in place to slow down the epidemic and to monitor progress towards the 90-90-90 UNAIDS targets (90% of people with HIV are diagnosed, 90% on antiretroviral treatment, 90% with viral load suppression))¹. Since 2010, the European Center for Disease Prevention and Control, within the monitoring of Dublin Declaration, follows up advances regarding the 90-90-90 targets in the European and Central Asian countries².

The objective of this report is to present the situation with respect to the HIV continuum of care in Spain in 2016.

Methodological Note

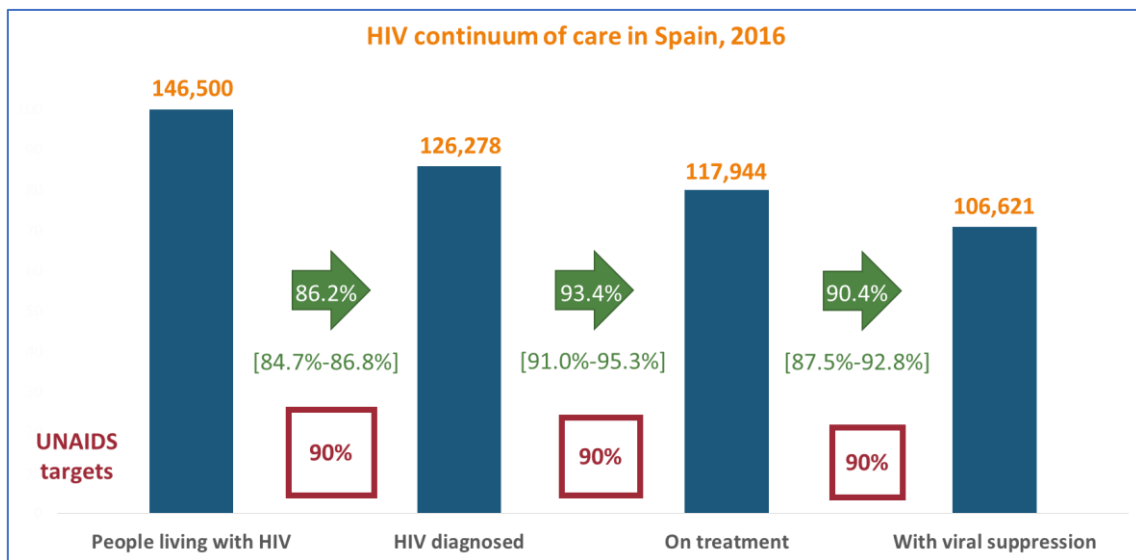
To estimate each one of the bars of the cascade of care, different information sources and methodological approach were used.

- *People living with HIV* and people who know their HIV *diagnosis* in Spain. The estimation was made through mathematical models developed ad hoc, described in a previous publication³. The sources of information were surveillance data from the National Registry of AIDS Cases and National New HIV diagnoses Surveillance System, mortality data from the National Statistics Institute and from the cohort of HIV-positive adults of the AIDS Research Network Spanish (CoRIS)⁴.
- *People* that are aware of their diagnosis and *receive antiretroviral treatment* and people that are aware of their diagnosis, receive antiretroviral treatment, and *achieve viral load suppression*. Those estimations were made with data from the annual one-day cross-sectional survey at public hospitals (named “Hospital survey of patients infected with HIV”)⁵. The percentage of people with viral load suppression was estimated following the Dublin Declaration definition (≤ 200 copies).

Results

On December 31st, 2016 it was estimated that there were 146,500 (CI 95%: 134,417-160,908) people living with HIV in Spain. This represents a prevalence of HIV of 0.37%. Of those, 126,278 (CI 95%: 116,620-136,321), 86.2% knew their status. This means that around 13.7% (CI 95%: 11.1%-17.9%) of the people living with HIV in Spain did not know they were HIV-positive. The estimated number of people on antiretroviral treatment were 117,944, which represent a 93.4% (CI 95%: 91.0%-95.3%) of the people living with HIV and who knew their diagnosis. A total of 106,621 people achieved viral load suppression, which is 90.4% (CI 95%: 87.5%-92.8%) of the people on antiretroviral treatment (Figure 1).

According to these results, it is estimated that 72.8% (range: 70.4%-74.6%) of the people living with HIV in Spain have achieved viral load suppression.



Conclusions

Based on these results, Spain would be very close to achieve UNAIDS 2020 targets. It is necessary to strengthen efforts in order to increase the percentage of people that aware of their HIV diagnosis and to maintain the percentages of people that receive on antiretroviral treatment, and with viral load suppression.

References

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