

3rd EACS Standard of care for HIV and co-infections, Bucharest, 2019

Cristiana Oprea MD, Ph.D
Associate Professor

Carol Davila University of Medicine and Pharmacy
Victor Babes Clinical Hospital for Infectious and Tropical Diseases, Bucharest

Conflict of interest Disclosure

- Advisory board: ViiV, MSD, Gilead
- Consultant: Janssen, Abbvie, MSD

HIV infection in 2019

Progress

- Rapid scale-up of HIV treatment, new drugs – but still no cure!
- PLHIV - long survival, aging
- Good service models of HIV care
- Improved quality of life
- Better prevention methods - PrEP

Challenges

- Inequalities in HIV and co-infections care across the European region
- Lack of implementation of combination prevention programs
- Socio-economic barriers to diagnosis and treatment
- Stigma and criminalization of key populations persist

- focus on the standard of care as a specific topic and a **main activity of EACS**
 - involve active stakeholders in the field: ECDC, WHO, HIV in Europe
 - actively involve individuals living with HIV and community representatives: EATG and national NGOs.
- decided to organize a **biennial meeting** on Standard of care for HIV and Co-infections in Europe (previous meetings: Rome, 2014 and Brussels, 2016)

Aims of the EACS Standard of care meeting



Identify indicators allowing a periodic monitoring of their progress in access to testing and care, cascade of care and prevention, diagnosis and management of HIV and co-infections (hepatitis, TB, STIs) across Europe.

Elaborate a **STANDARD OF CARE STATEMENT** which defines benchmarks for different areas of care and treatment according to the EACS Guidelines.

- **1st** in a Central-East European country
- **3 plenaries** and **3 topic-oriented parallel workshops**
- **100** participants
- ✓ **HIV clinicians** from **35** countries across Europe, active in the fight against HIV (including also non-EU countries from Central and Eastern Europe)
- ✓ **Public health institutions** (ECDC, WHO, EMCDDA, European Commission)
- ✓ **Policymakers**
- ✓ **Community representatives** (EATG, NGOs)

Plenary sessions

1. Present an **overview on current socio-epidemiological aspects** of HIV, hepatitis and TB in Central and Eastern Europe and to address the gaps in care.
2. Summarize the **“European standards of care”** for HIV, hepatitis and TB

JOINT SESSION



3. Update the **prevention programmes** for HIV, hepatitis and TB in Europe and to **outline the main challenges for diagnoses and treatment.**

Workshops - focus on 3 topics

1. Barriers to HIV and HCV diagnosis and treatment
2. HIV testing and late presentation
3. HIV and TB co-infection, integration of HIV-TB services

Workshop objectives

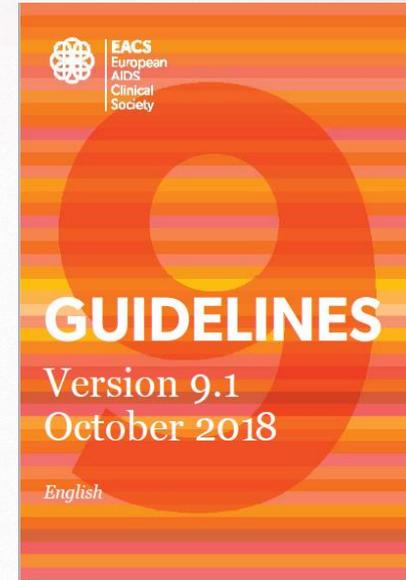
Workshop 1 Strategies to overcome the main barriers to HIV, HCV treatment and linkage to care

Workshop 2 Operational methods to improve HIV testing

Workshop 3 Collaboration between HIV/HCV and TB services in order to implement integrated care.

Workshop deliverables

**To generate European auditable standards in
3 key areas, based on EACS (ECDC) guidelines
recommendations.**



Extending collaboration overall goals

Working groups will create an EACS-ECDC HIV **Standard of Care document** which aims to:

- a. assess current standards for clinical and public health practice in place in Europe
- b. stimulate pilot audits of clinical and/or public health practice
- c. use audit results to measure progress towards European standards for HIV and main coinfections
- d. make recommendations (guide for HCPs) and explore joint initiatives on how European standards of care could be improved

Expected results and outputs

- **Create supportive policies** in order to remove barriers to access HIV and hepatitis services, in particular for key populations and to optimise local resources to reach **“universal treatment”**.
- Define and implement the **same tools for HIV, HCV, TB** prevention strategies **around all EU member states** & establish agreement on priority actions plans.
- Promote the **uptake of the EACS Guidelines** to achieve optimal standards in managing patient with HIV and co-infections.

Statement...

- implement a **multidisciplinary approach (patient - centered)**, including national policies for routine HIV, HCV and TB testing, improve harm-reduction programs and of the continuum of care, in particular for **key populations**.



Statement...

- **intensify collaboration** of HIV clinicians with policy makers, NGOs and with the community (multi-stakeholder collaboration)



Statement...

- **use audits** as a way to improve quality and drive standard of care for Europe (repeated every 2 years)
- **use the European Standard of HIV care document for diagnosis and treatment** to complement existing clinical and public health guidelines.

Everyone has the right to health, to non-discrimination and equivalence of care for the global health benefit !

***We hope that this meeting will contribute to better care
for HIV patients in the region!***

***If we are successful ...
more conferences will be organized in this part of Europe !***

Acknowledgements

- Anastasia Pharris
- Juergen Rockstroh

Thank you!

