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HIV and AIDS in Lithuania



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Continuum of HIV care in Lithuania (Jan 1, 2018)^{2,3,6,7,8}

- Lithuania: $\sim 2,794,184$ inhabitants \triangleright
- Capital City Vilnius: ~547,484 inhabitants¹ \triangleright
- \triangleright 2018: 160 new HIV cases^{2,3}
- \triangleright Since the start of HIV reporting in 1988 until the end of 2017, the main route of acquiring an HIV infection is injecting drug use (59% of all registered HIV cases)
- \triangleright 1/3 of new HIV cases in 2017 in Lithuania acquired in prison
- Tuberculosis was an AIDS-defining illness for 39% of AIDS patients in 2017
 - The "treat all" approach was adopted in February 20184

Reported HIV transmission modes in Lithuania,



Median CD4 count at the start of ART in Lithuania 2008-2018⁹



2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018

Key challenges of HIV/AIDS in Lithuania

- There is a slight progress in Lithuanian continuum of HIV care
- The main problem is linkage to care
- \triangleright The main key population is still intravenous drug users including prisoners
- Appropriate clinical care pathways and referral systems need to be established to ensure optimal linkage to care and support services for people diagnosed with HIV or HIV co-infection with HCV, HBV or TB, especially for vulnerable people
- Epidemiological situation is still threatening also due to high HIV incidence in neighbouring countries

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- 2015-2017 (some 300 patients are estimated to be in prisons) Sick Fund data(2018 m. - in care 1090 patients, 1058 -treated patients)
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- 9. Median CD4 count was calculated from data by courtesy of V. Uždaviniené, R. Matulionyté, Z. Karčiauskiené, R. Girdžiūniené A. Kaušas, D. Vélyvyté, A. Mickiené, N. Chmieliauskiené, L. Jančoriené, L. Svetikas, A. Jelinskaité