
Mental Health, HIV/AIDS and Public Health: An International Perspective

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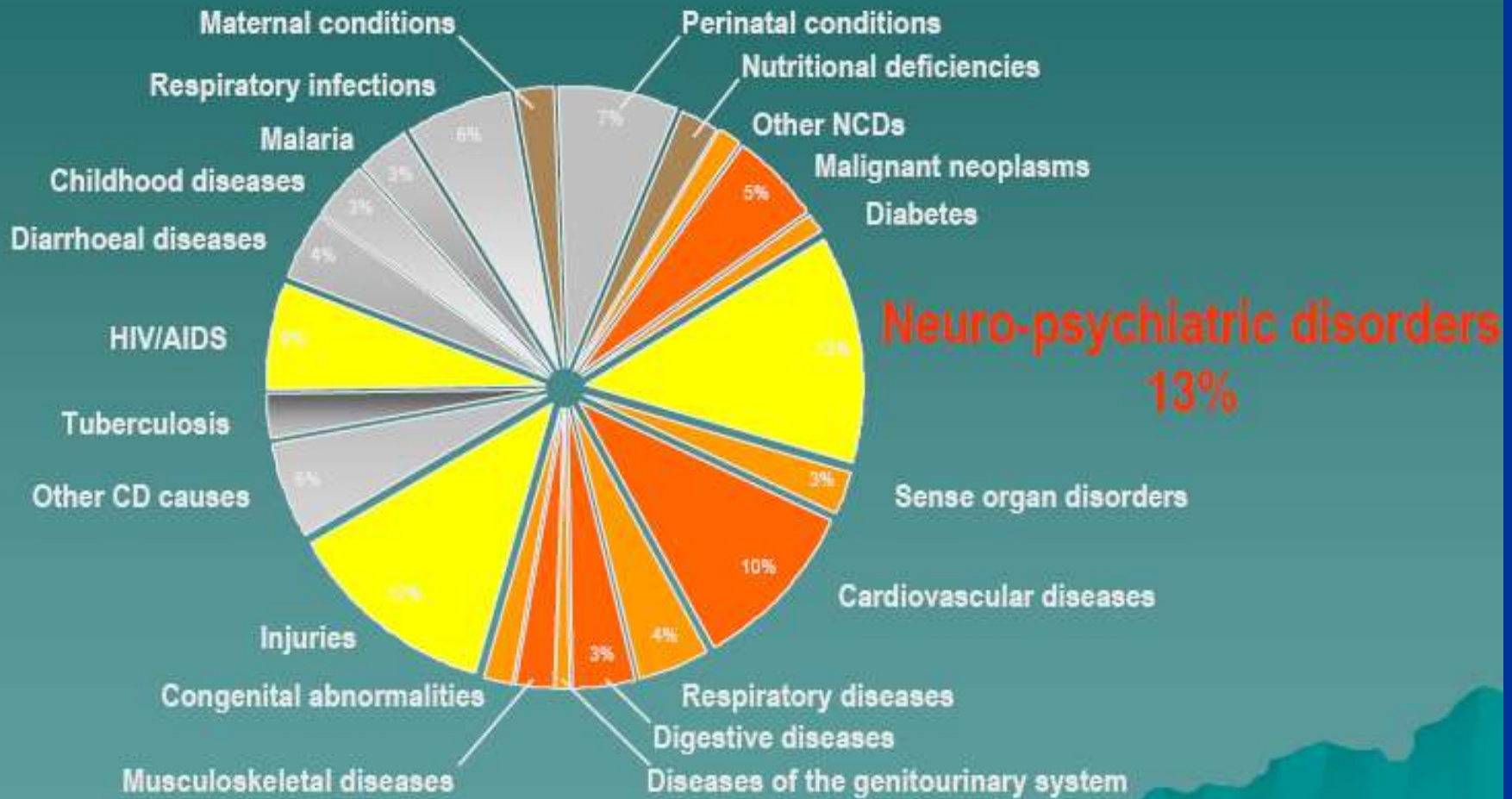
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***"Double Stigma – Double Challenge":
Putting Mental Health and HIV/AIDS
on the International Agenda***

The Hague, 9 November 2007



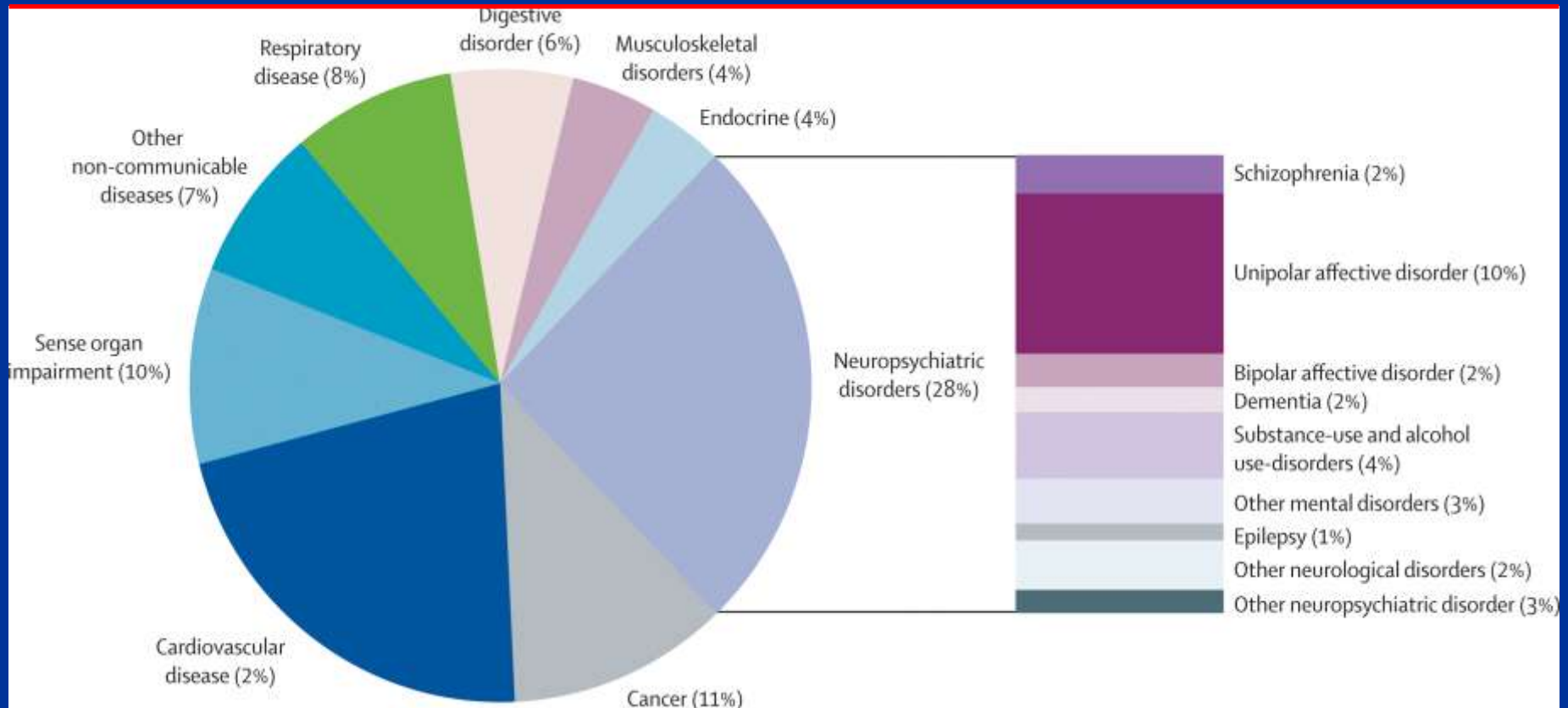
Proportion of different conditions in the global burden of diseases



Source: WHR 2002



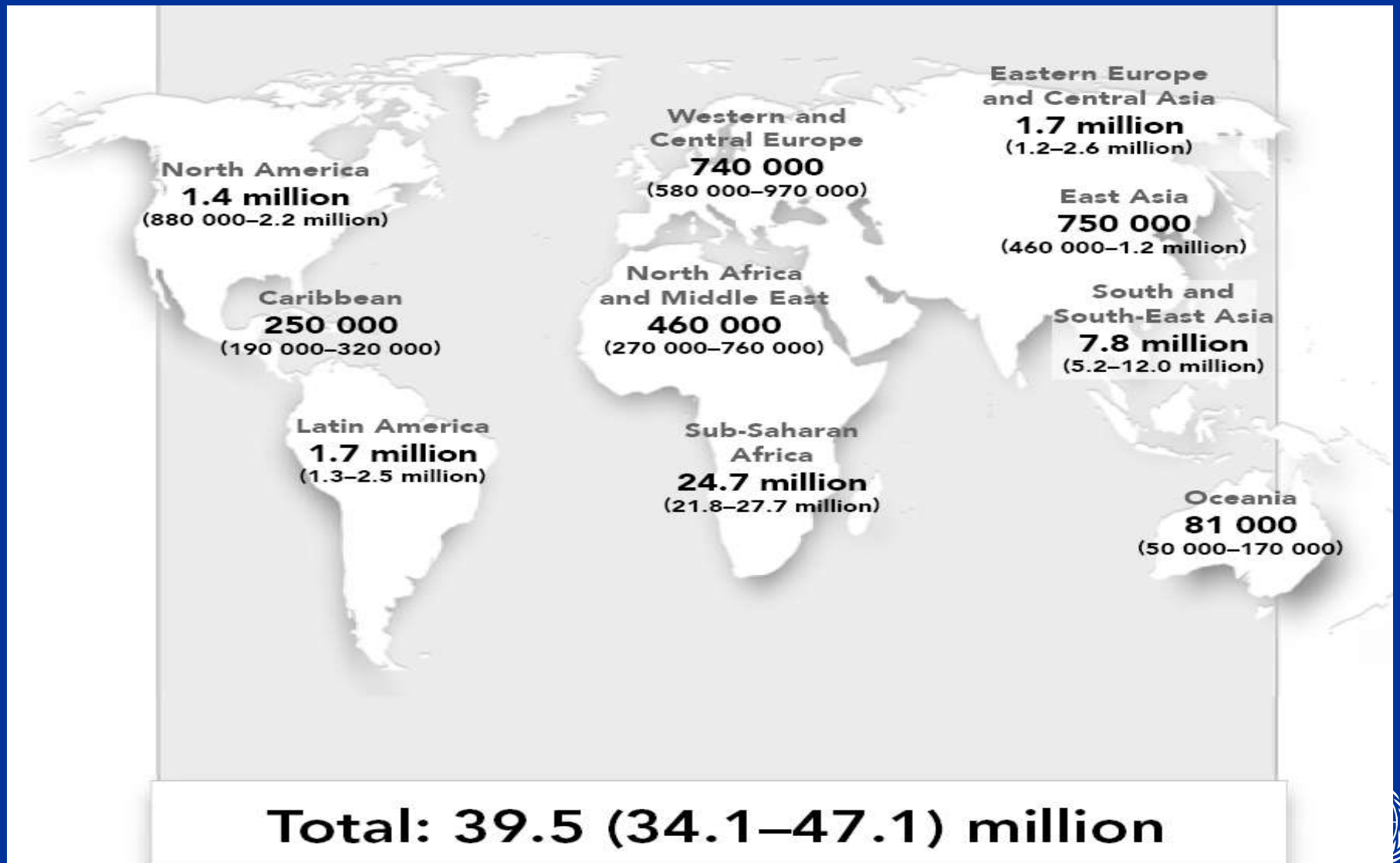
Contribution by different NCD to DALYs worldwide in 2005 (WHO data)



Source: M. Prince et al, *Lancet*, Global Mental Health, September 2007



Adults and children estimated to be living with HIV/AIDS in 2006



Mental Health and HIV/AIDS

- People with mental disorders may have increased risk of HIV infection, as supported by:
 - evidence of increased HIV prevalence and prevalence of high risk behaviors among people with serious mental illnesses
 - depression in some populations was shown to be a predictor of HIV seroconversion
- Effects of HIV infection on the central nervous system
 - Neurocognitive impairment
 - Depression
 - Other syndromes, including psychotic
- Psychological impact of being HIV infected or having someone with HIV/AIDS in the family
- Impact on adherence to ARV treatment
- Potential impact on help-seeking behaviour and/or uptake of diagnostic and treatment services for HIV/AIDS



Estimated number of adults and children newly infected with HIV during 2006

Injecting drug use accounts for ~1/3 of new infections outside sub-Saharan Africa (~0,5 million)

North America 43 000 (34 000–65 000)

Caribbean 27 000 (20 000–41 000)

Latin America 140 000 (100 000–410 000)

Western and Central Europe 22 000 (18 000–33 000)

North Africa and Middle East 68 000 (41 000–220 000)

Sub-Saharan Africa 2.8 million (2.4–3.2 million)

Eastern Europe and Central Asia 270 000 (170 000–820 000)

East Asia 100 000 (56 000–300 000)

South and South-East Asia 860 000 (550 000–2.3 million)

Oceania 7100 (3400–54 000)

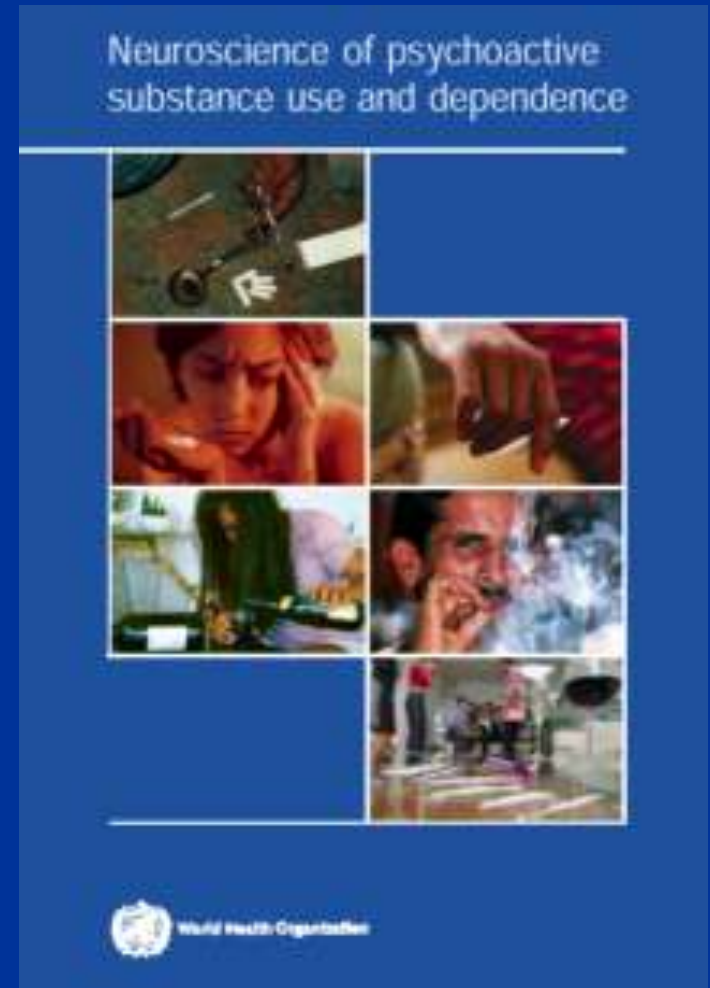
Total: 4.3 (3.6–6.6) million

Source: UNAIDS, WHO, 2006



Rights of people with substance use disorders

"Regardless of the level of substance use and which substance an individual takes, they have the same rights to health, education, work opportunities and reintegration into society, as does any other individual " (WHO, 2004)



Basic Principles For Treatment and Psychosocial Support of Drug Dependent People Living with HIV/AIDS (WHO, 2006)

- Human rights of drug dependent people with HIV/AIDS
- Evidence-base for treatment, care and psychosocial support
- Appropriate treatment and psychosocial support
- Equitable access to HIV/AIDS care and treatment including antiretroviral therapy (ART)
- Supportive environments to enable and facilitate treatment, care and psychosocial support
- Client participation
- Participation of community and other stake-holders



Mental Health Action Plan for Europe: priorities (WHO, 2005)

- Foster awareness of the importance of mental well-being
- Collectively tackle stigma, discrimination and inequality, and empower and support people with mental health problems and their families to be actively engaged in this process
- Design and implement comprehensive, integrated and efficient mental health systems that cover promotion, prevention, treatment and rehabilitation, care and recovery



Mental Health Action Plan for Europe: priorities (WHO, 2005) /continued/

- Address the need for a competent workforce, effective in all these areas
- Recognize the experience and knowledge of service users and carers as an important basis for planning and developing services.



Stop Exclusion!

Dare to Care!

