

Situation of counselling and testing in non-medical settings in Lithuania

Association of HIV affected women and their families "Demetra"

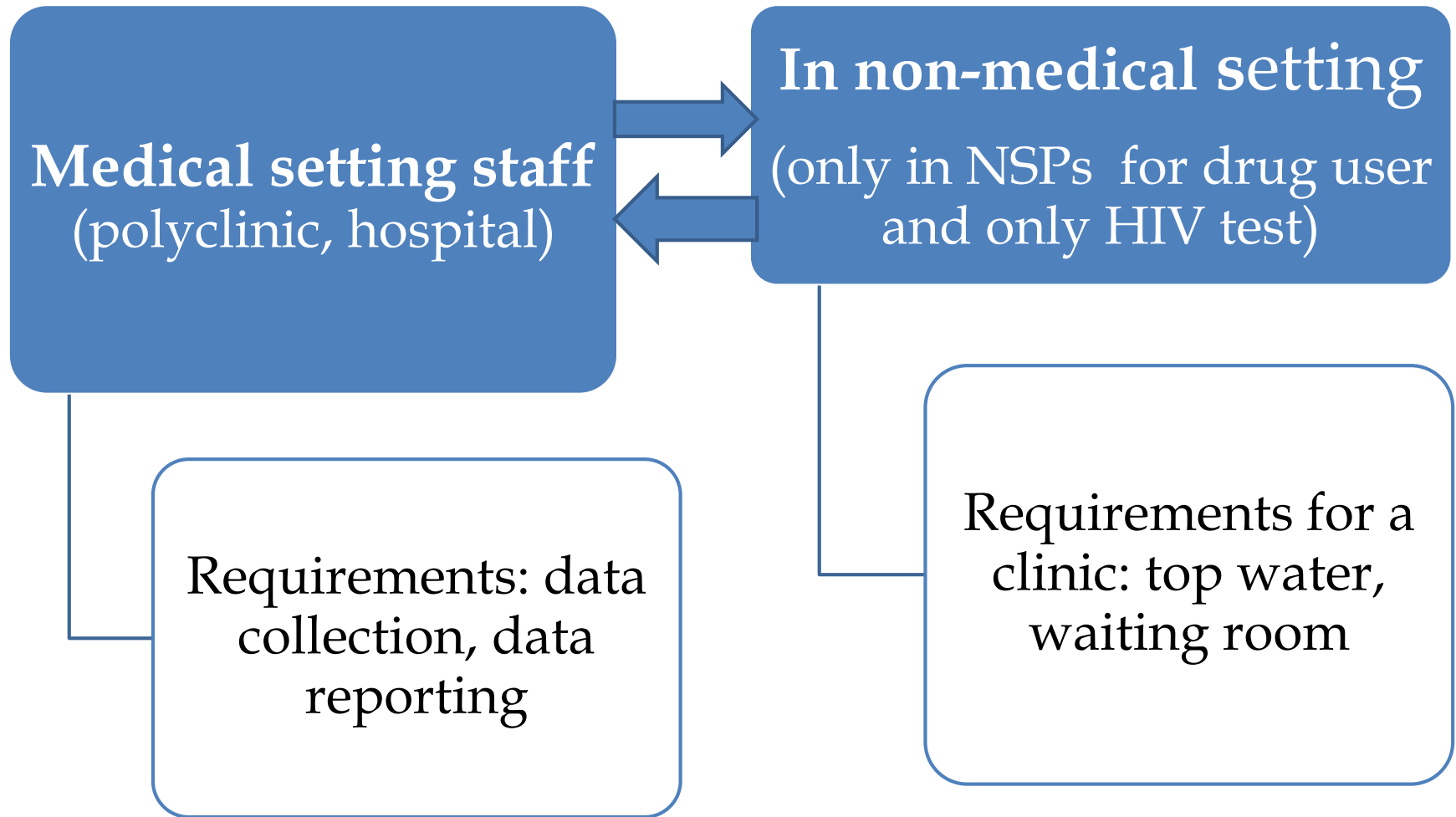
Situation update



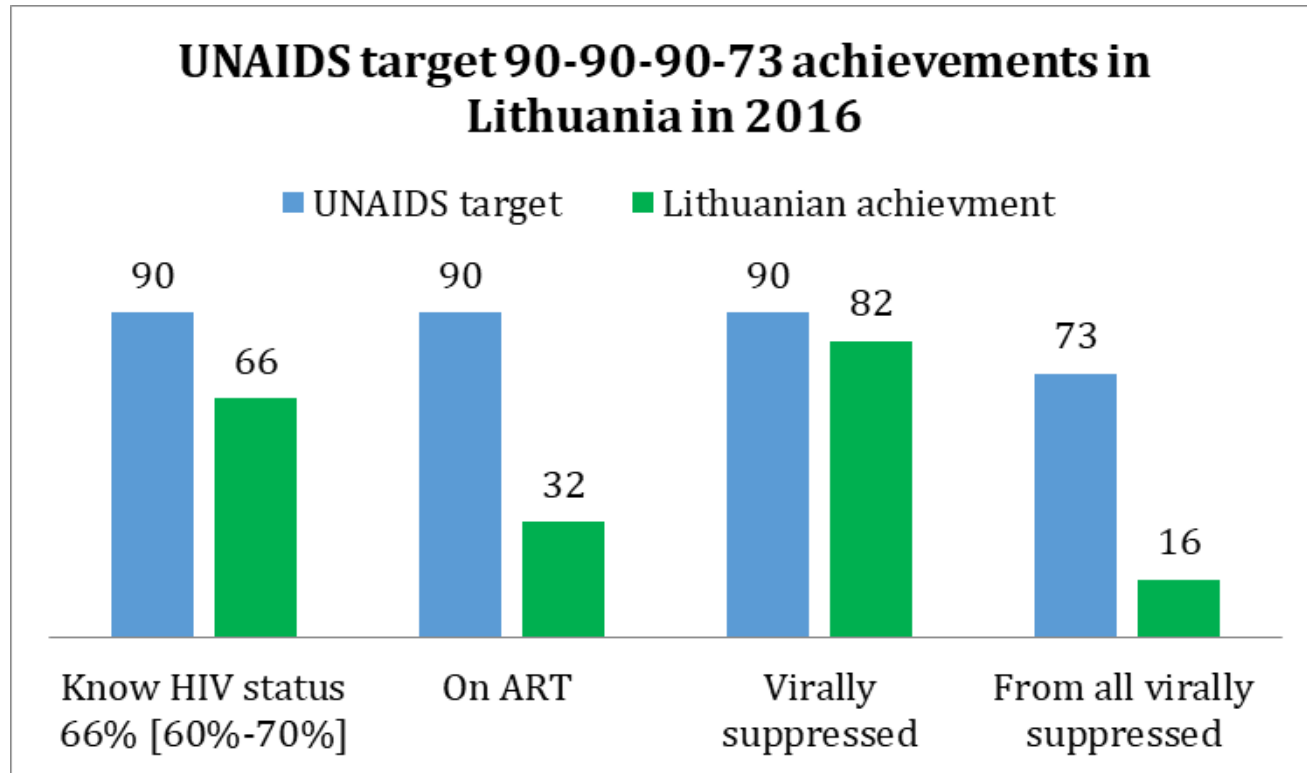
- ◆ Due to four complains from Director of National Communicable diseases and AIDS centre to Accreditation inspection that HIV testing activities in Demetra and Demetra-Checkpoint and Demetra-Klaipeda are „illegal“, rapid HIV testing stops from 8th of March, 2017 till 1st of September, 2017 (and in other NGOs).
 - ◆ Huge advocacy work was done together with international community, national NGO's and patients organizations. 63 organizations signed open letter to Minister of Health. AIDS Action Europe send separate letter and received an answer. Also articles in mass media, uncomfortable questions during conferences.
 - ◆ Decision makers in the Health Ministry understood that happened something unexpected and incomprehensible and supposed that the solution must be find. The solution took 6 month and legalized the same what we have had before, but “illegally”.
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HIV testing in non-medical setting in Lithuania



90-90-90 cascade in Lithuania

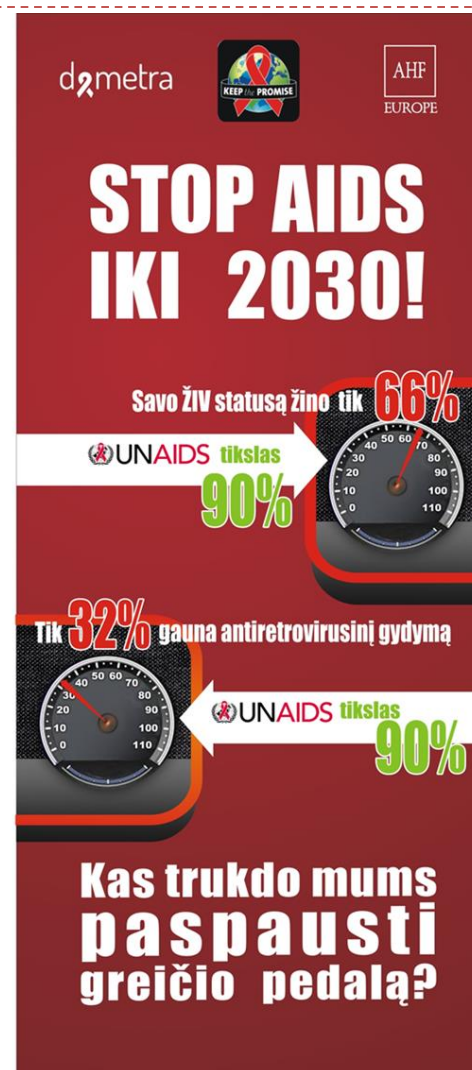


The data showed relatively low results for two first 90%, because HIV status knows two of three persons, on ART are one of three patients living with HIV. These low rates are because Lithuania has not yet implemented the "Test and Treat" strategy, when ART is prescribed only when CD4 cells reaches 350 mm^3



Actions forward

- ▶ New treatment guidelines „Treat all“ prepared but not signed yet
- ▶ Discussion about HIV testing by non –medical staff MoH included in new HIV/ AIDS action plan for 2019.



A No answer from WHO-Euročiū



**ŽIV ir AIDS paveiktų moterų bei jų
artimųjų asociacija**

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To Mrs. Zsuzsanna Jakab, WHO Regional Director for Europe

**SITUATION ABOUT ACCESS TO RAPID HIV TESTING IN COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATION
IN LITHUANIA**

14th of May, 2017

Vilnius



Tha Ačiū

