

Survey on collaborative TB-HIV activities in European countries Preliminary results

**Presented by Gerard de Vries, on behalf of the Wolfheze
Working Group on Collaborative TB/HIV activities**

31 May 2017

42 (=76%)

Total number of countries responding

Q1: What is your country?

Responding countries (n=42)

Albania, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom and Uzbekistan

Non-responding countries (n=13)

Andorra, Cyprus, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Montenegro, Poland, Russian Federation, San Mario, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan

EU/EEA countries: 25/31 (81%)

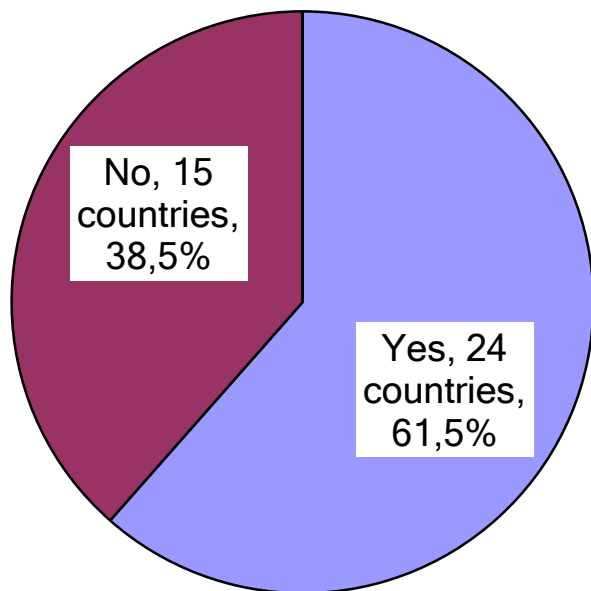
Non-EU/EEA: 17/24 (71%)

Survey topics

- I. Details country and person completing the survey (Q1-6)**
- II. Policy and guidelines (Q7-18)**
- III. Diagnosis TB/HIV co-infection (Q19-26)**
- IV. Treatment of and care for TB/HIV co-infected patients (Q27-34)**
- V. Surveillance (Q35-37)**
- VI. Good practices (Q38)**
- VII. Barriers (Q39)**
- VIII. Research (Q40)**

Questions were multiple choice except the last three questions

Q7: Does your country have written national guidelines/regulations/strategy for TB/HIV co-infection? (n=39)



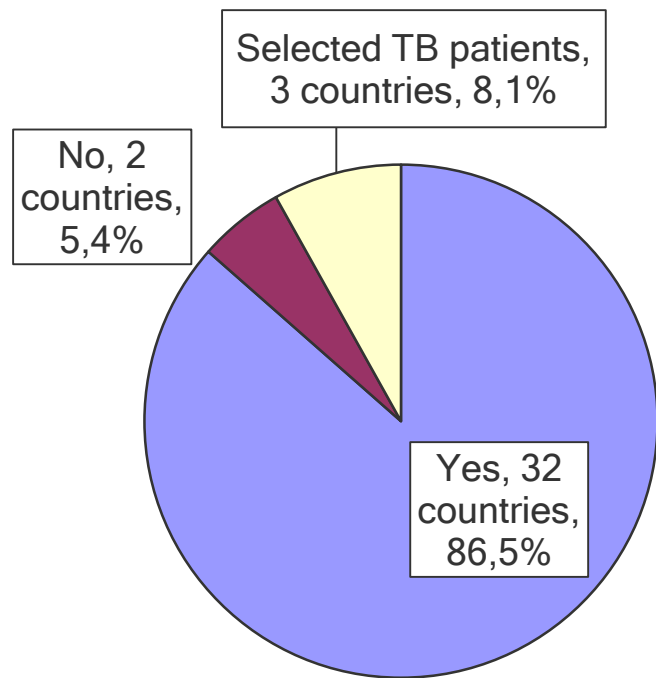
Q8: If no, which guidelines are used? (More answers possible)

Answer Options	Response
WHO policy on collaborative TB/HIV activities	8
Other (please specify)	9

3x EACS (European AIDS Clinical Society) guidelines

Three countries (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Greece and Kosovo) did not answer the questions in the survey. One country, Kosovo, responded that they had 1 TB/HIV case in 10 years.

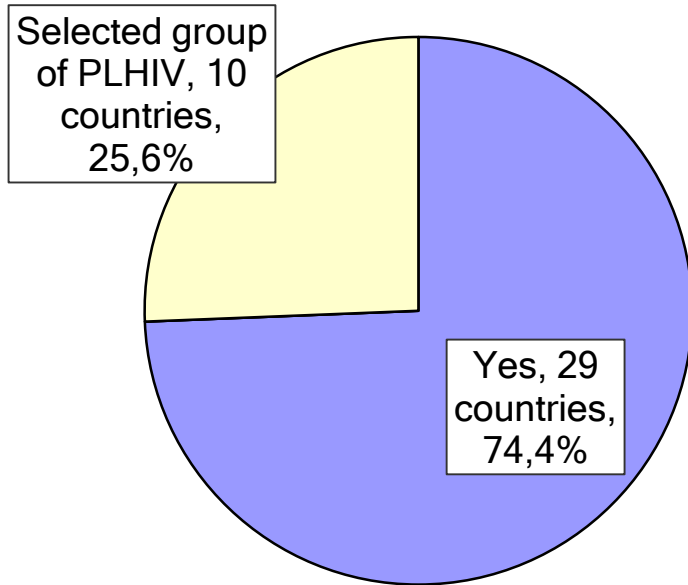
Q9: Does the guideline recommend HIV testing of all TB patients? (n=39)



**Q10. If not all TB patients are screened for HIV:
Which TB patients are not screened for HIV? (More
options possible)**

- Native-born patients (3x)

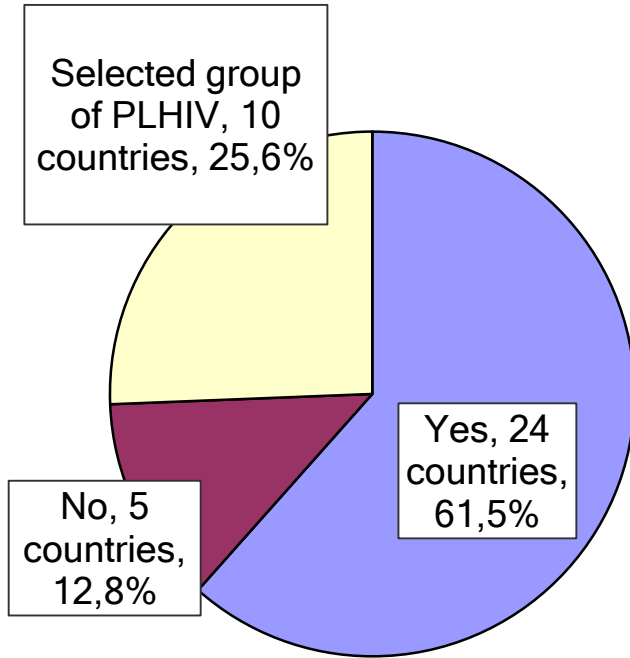
Q11: Does the guideline recommend screening for active TB of all people living with HIV? (n=39)



Q12: If the recommendation is not to screen all people living with HIV for active TB: What criteria are used to select people living with HIV for TB screening? (More answers possible)

- Low CD4 cell count (<350 cells/mm³) (4x)
- Patients with symptoms (9x)
- Patients with previous TB (7x)
- Patients who have been in contact with infectious TB patients (9x)
- Others: (patients from high-endemic countries; TST-positive patients)

Q13: Does the guideline recommend detection of LTBI in all people living with HIV? (n=39)



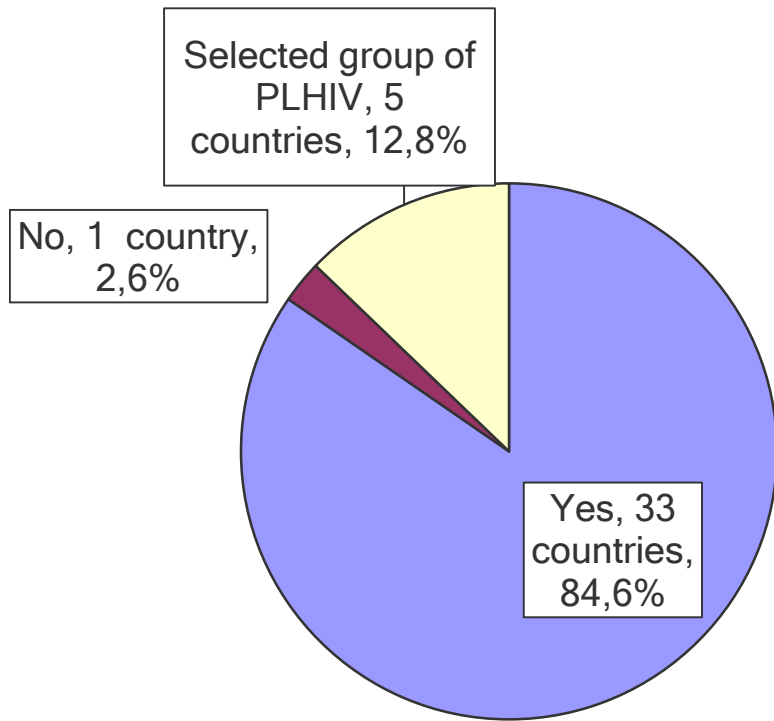
Q14: If the recommendation is not to screen all people living with HIV for LTBI: What criteria are used to select people living with HIV for LTBI screening? (More answers possible)

- Low CD4 cell count (<350 cells/mm³) (4x)
- Patients from high TB-endemic countries (6x)
- Patients who have been in contact with infectious TB patients (8x)
- Other (children with HIV; high CD4 count; based on country of origin)

Q15: What diagnostic tests are recommended? (n=34)

Diagnostic LTBI tests	Countries	Percentage
	N	%
Tuberculin Skin Test (TST)	7	20.6
Interferon Gamma Release Assay (IGRA)	10	29.4
TST and if positive followed by IGRA	5	14.7
TST and IGRA simultaneously	8	23.5
Other, please specify	4	11.8

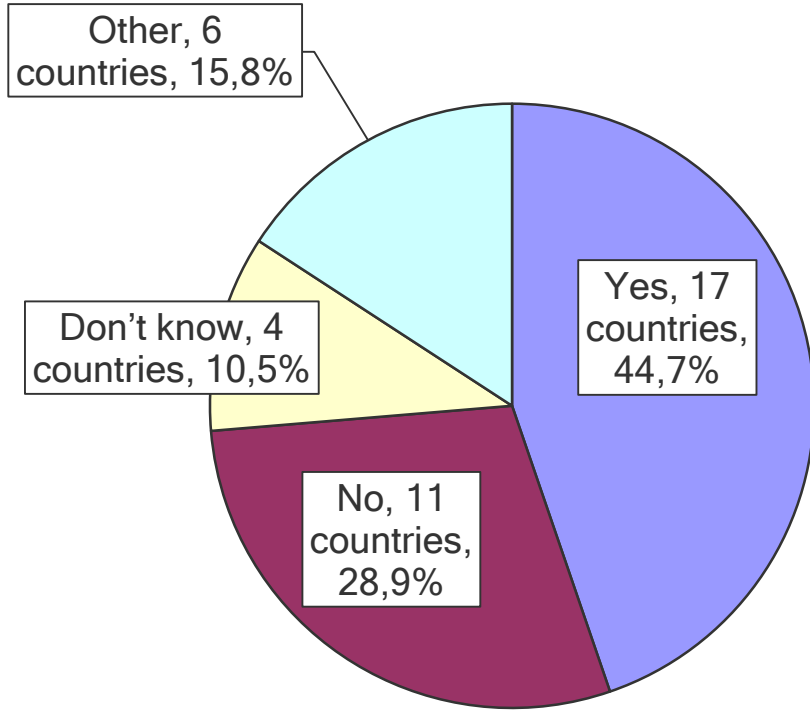
Q16: Does the guideline recommend to start antiretroviral treatment (ART) of all patients living with HIV with a new diagnosis of TB if the patient is not yet on ART? (N=39)



Q17: If the recommendation is to provide ART to a selected group of people living with HIV and TB: What criteria are used to select people living with HIV and TB for ART? (One answer)

- a. CD4 <200 or 250 mm³ (2x)
- b. CD4 <350 mm³ (2x)
- c. CD4 <500 mm³ (1x)

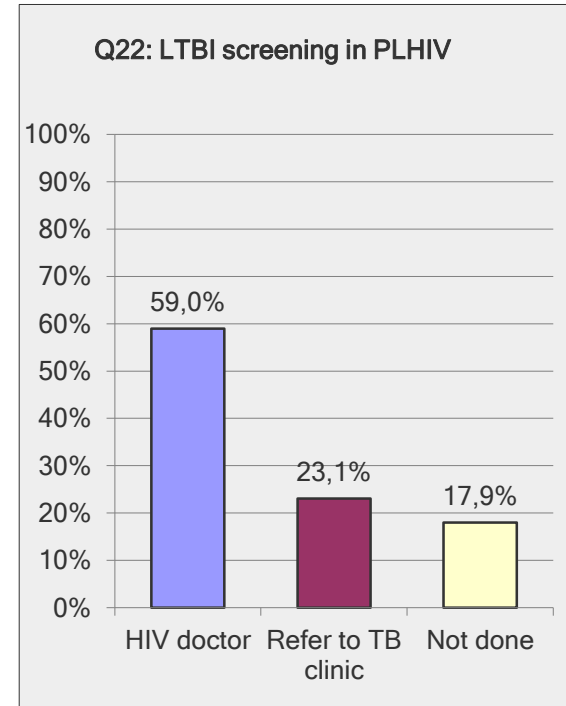
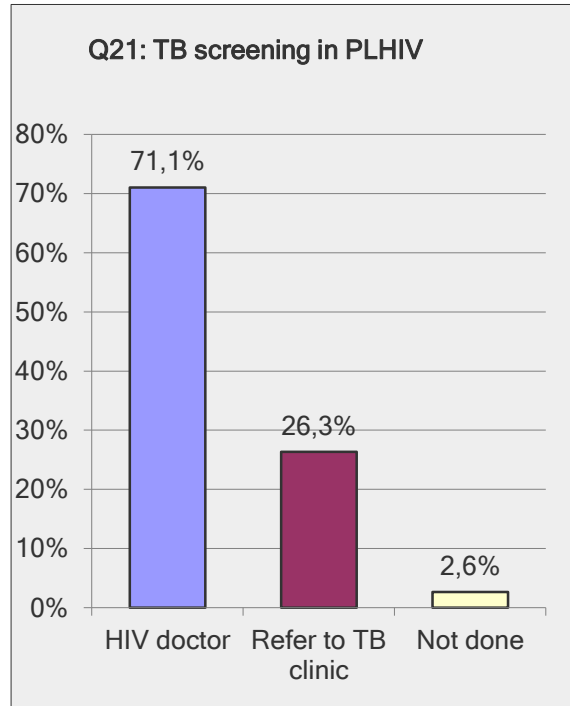
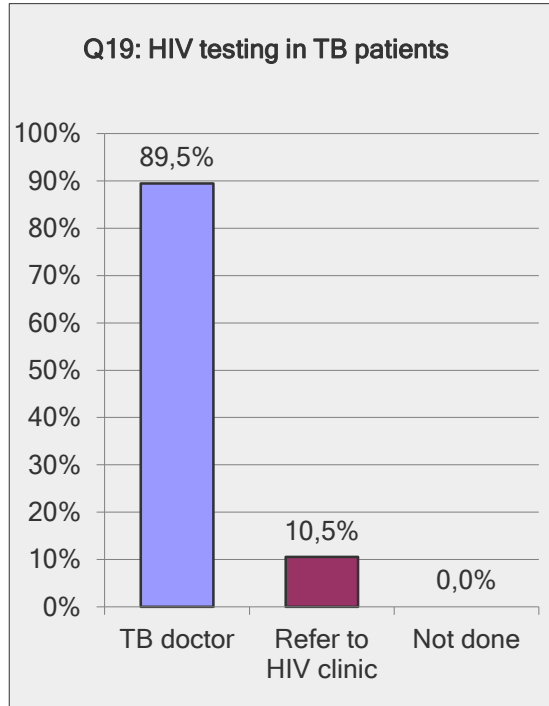
Q18: Does the guideline recommend co-trimoxazole preventive treatment of all TB/HIV patients? (n=38)



Q18d (Other), specify:

Mainly depending CD4 count (<200 mm³) (3x)

Who is performing testing/screening?



Three countries reported that TB/LTBI screening was done by a visiting TB specialist to the AIDS center

Where is testing/screening done?

Q20: Where is HIV testing of TB patients done in your country?

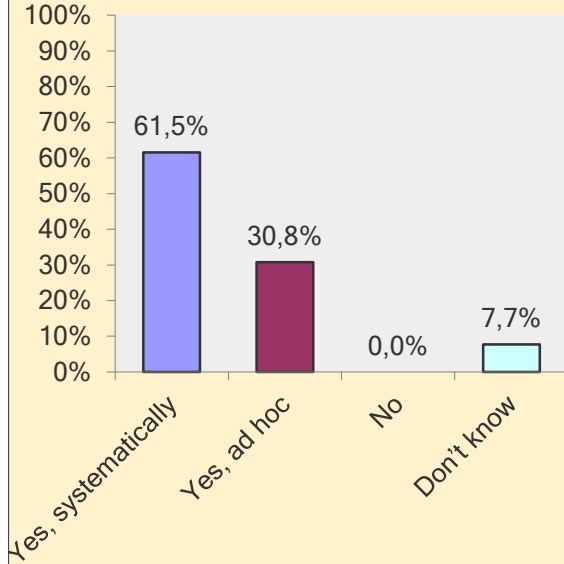
- 33 countries (87%): always or frequently in the same facility where TB was diagnosed
- 5 countries (13%): frequently or always in another facility than where TB was diagnosed

Q23: Where is TB screening of HIV patients done in your country?

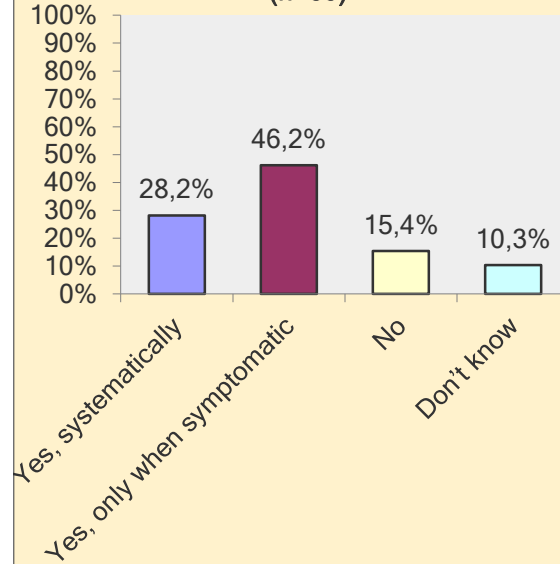
- 33 countries (92%): always or frequently in the same facility/hospital
 - 3 countries (8%): frequently or always in another facility/hospital
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HIV/TB/LTBI testing and intravenous drug (IDU) dependency

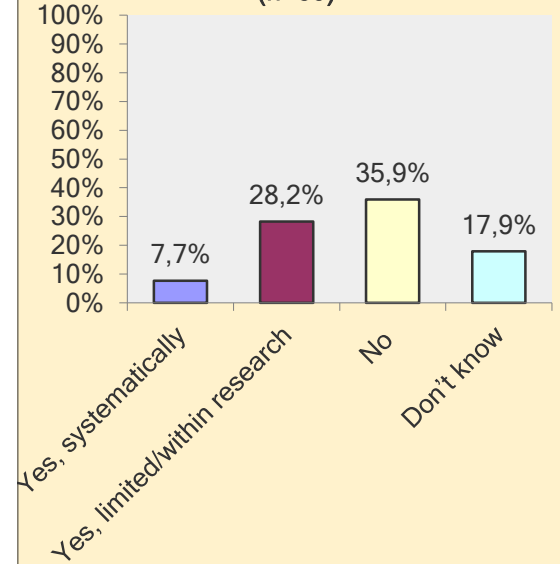
Q24: HIV testing of people with IDU dependency (n=39)



Q25: Screening for active TB offered to people with IDU dependency (n=39)

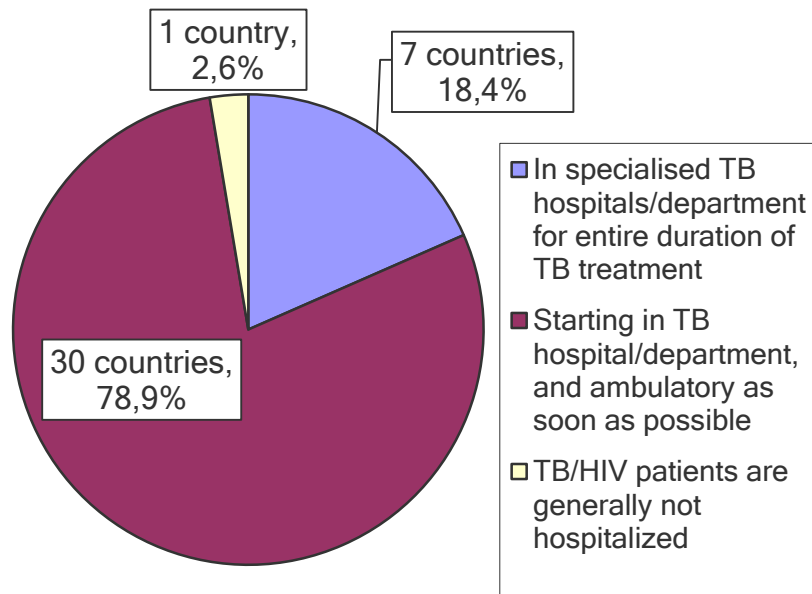


Q26: Screening for LTBI offered to people with IDU dependency (n=39)

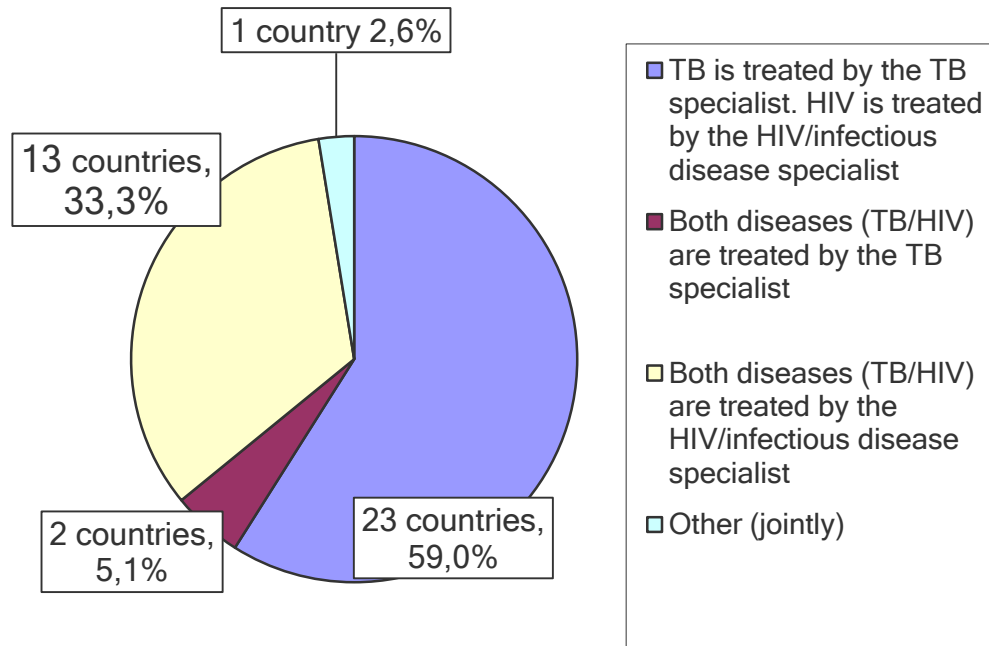


Treatment

Q27: Where are TB/HIV patients hospitalized? (n=38)



Q29: Who is treating patients with combined TB/HIV disease when the patient is on ambulatory TB/HIV treatment (most common pathway)? (n=39)



Other

Q30: Where do patients get their TB and HIV medication?

- 22 countries: always or frequently in the same facility/hospital
- 11 countries: frequently or always in a different facility/hospital

Q31: Where are both diseases monitored, e.g. CD4 counts and sputum examination?

- 28 countries: always or frequently in the same facility/hospital
- 8 countries: frequently or always in a different facility/hospital

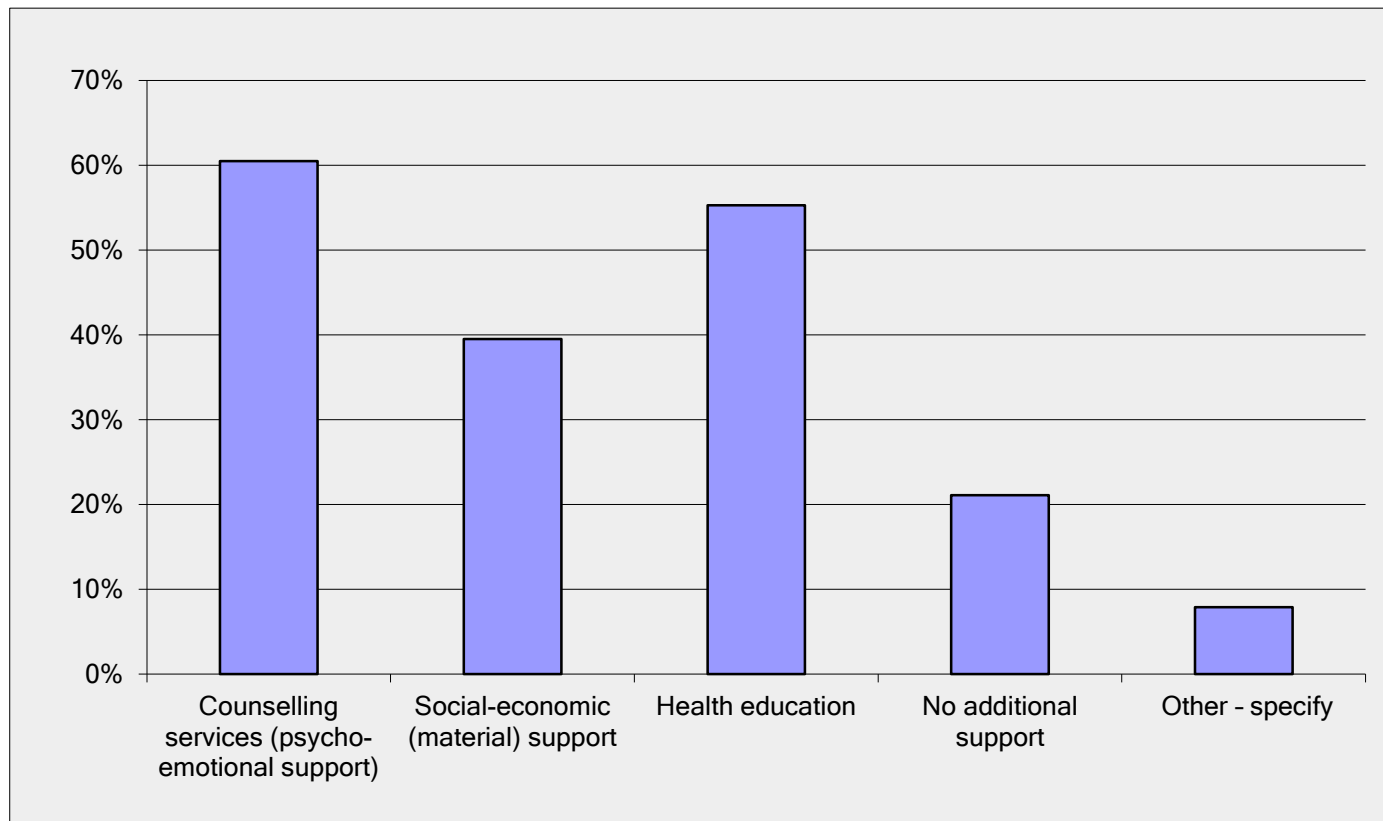
Q32: Is opiate substitution therapy (OST) available for TB/HIV patients with IDU dependency?

- 22 countries: unlimited for all in need; 10 countries limited, e.g. in research projects, and 7 don't know

Q33: Where do TB/HIV patients receive OST?

- 22 countries: in the OST departments/community pharmacies
 - 5 countries at TB hospital/department and 1 country at HIV department/hospital
 - Remaining countries: elsewhere or don't know
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Q34: What support (other than for non-HIV co-infected TB patients) is given to TB/HIV patients to adhere to treatment? (Tick all options that apply)



Surveillance

Q35: What is the coverage of LTBI testing among PLHIV newly enrolled in care in 2015?

- 77% of responding countries didn't know the coverage.
- 8 responding countries (23%) knew the (estimated) coverage, varying from 0%, 80% to more than 90% in 5 countries.

Q36: What is the proportion of LTBI among PLHIV newly enrolled in care in 2015 and tested for LTBI?

- 5 countries knew the (estimated) proportion of testing: 0%, 0%, 30%, 50% and 100%.

Q37: What is the proportion of PLHIV (newly enrolled in care) and tested positive for LTBI in 2015 starting TB preventive treatment?

- 7 countries knew the (estimated) proportion of starting treatment: 0%, <10%, 25%, 50%, 90%, 100% and 100%.
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Conclusions

1. Almost all countries had guidelines (national or based on WHO guidelines), which includes
 - screening TB patients for HIV,
 - treating HIV-infected TB patients with ARVs, and
 - screen PLHIV for TB and HIV
 - In most countries this is done by the diagnosing physician
 - and in 90% of the countries frequently or always at the same facility/hospital.
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Conclusions

2. In most countries IDUs are screened for HIV, but less often for TB/LTBI. Opiate substitution therapy was available in most countries for IDUs with TB/HIV, but not very often dispensed at the TB/HIV treatment clinics.
 3. In 7 countries (18%) treatment of HIV/TB is in the hospital for the whole period of treatment.
 4. In most countries patients get some kind of non-medical support.
 5. Few countries know the LTBI screening coverage and the proportion of PLHIV diagnosed with LTBI in their countries.
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Acknowledgement: survey respondents of European countries; Sarah van den Berg, junior consultant, KNCV Tuberculosis Foundation
