

dHTS: Where are we now?

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Leveraging DSD Strategies to Optimize HIV Testing and Linkage Services

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We are at a pivotal moment in the HIV epidemic and countries need to re-consider and re-define the role of testing

There is growing global consensus around the expanded role of testing. Countries are grappling with questions on how to operationalize testing strategies that meet needs across the treatment and prevention cascades within available resources and healthcare worker capacity.

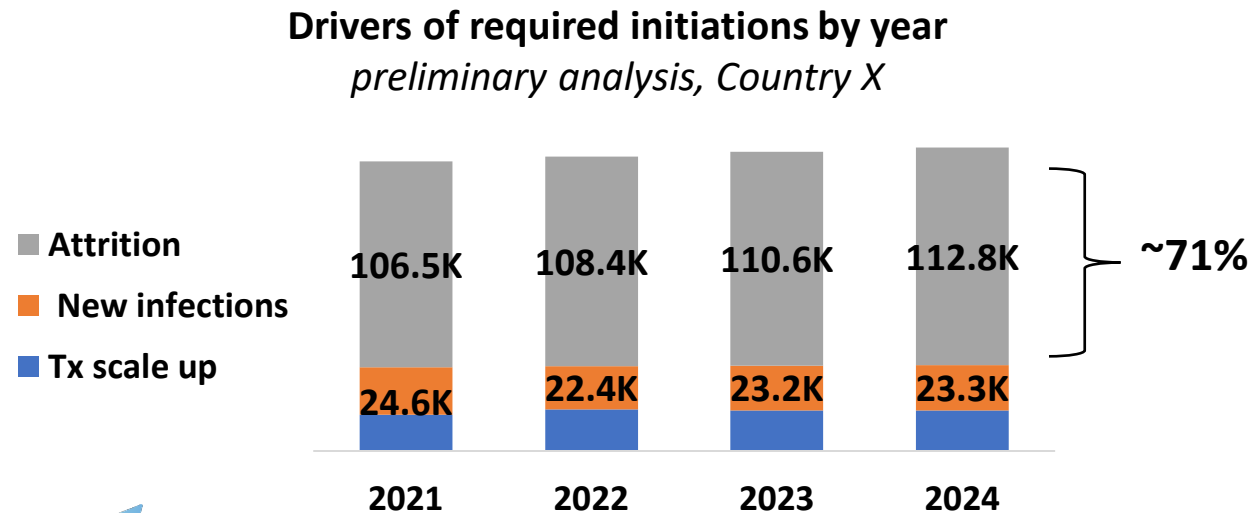
- How do you prioritize testing resources across linkage to treatment and prevention, re-engagement, and prevention monitoring?
- How can we introduce greater efficiencies into testing programs, including lower priced commodities and reduced healthcare worker burden?
- How can highly effective, but resource-intensive strategies, like index and social network testing be implemented within the constraints of national systems?

Testing plays a critical role across the HIV treatment and prevention cascades and it is critical to define effectiveness and efficiency beyond yield rate

Narrow view of testing exclusively for case finding and hyper focus on yield has justified declining testing and commodity budgets over the last few years, resulting in resource gaps and fewer PLHIV identified. Testing programs must consider:

- ✓ Are we reaching enough clients in line with our HIV program goals across prevention and treatment?
- ✓ Are we reaching the right people?
- ✓ Are we maximizing impact with available resources?

Does the mix of testing strategies and targets align to overall program goals, including prevention and treatment?

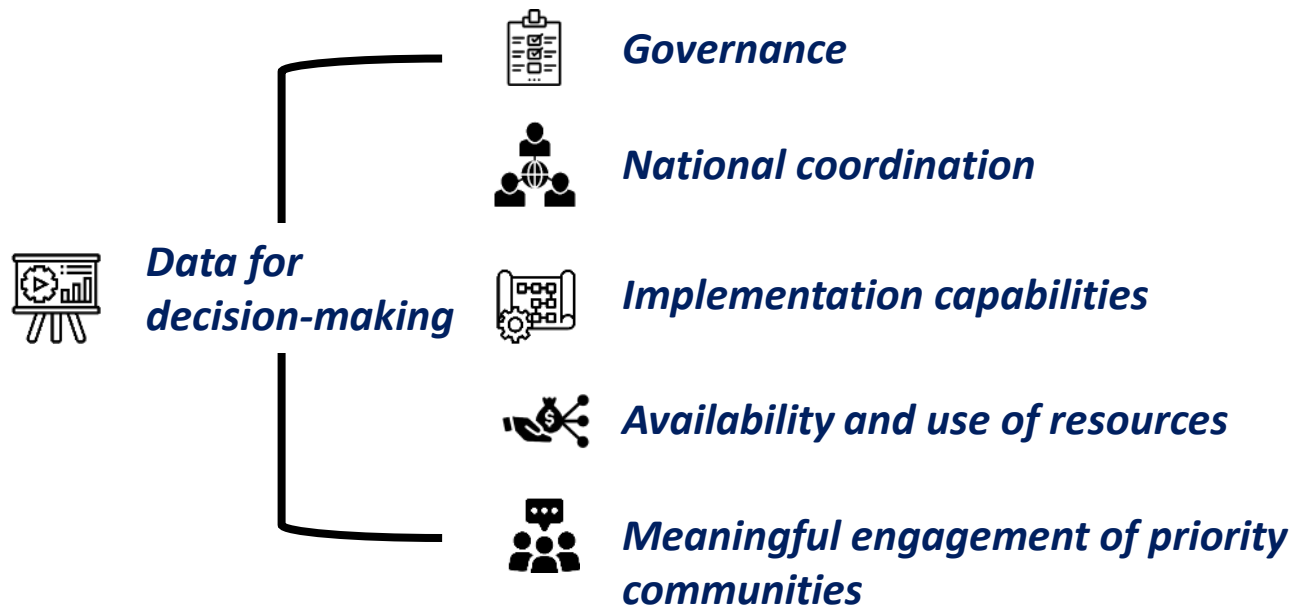


Testing programs must recognize and reflect the critical role of HTS as a pathway for re-engagement into care.

Ministries of Health need to be fully capacitated and positioned to own and drive HTS programs in line with national goals and responsive to a changing epidemic

There is a need to strengthen national HTS programs so that they can deliver effective, evidence-driven, and sustainable strategies today and in the future.

CAPACITATION OF CORE ELEMENTS OF NATIONAL TESTING PROGRAMS:



Ministries must also be positioned and empowered to lead national programs.

Partners need to support nationally-defined and driven responses and to ensure global strategies reflect the evidence, experience, and best practices in countries.

Thank you!

