

Implementing HIV Status Neutral Testing Approach- Opportunities and Challenges

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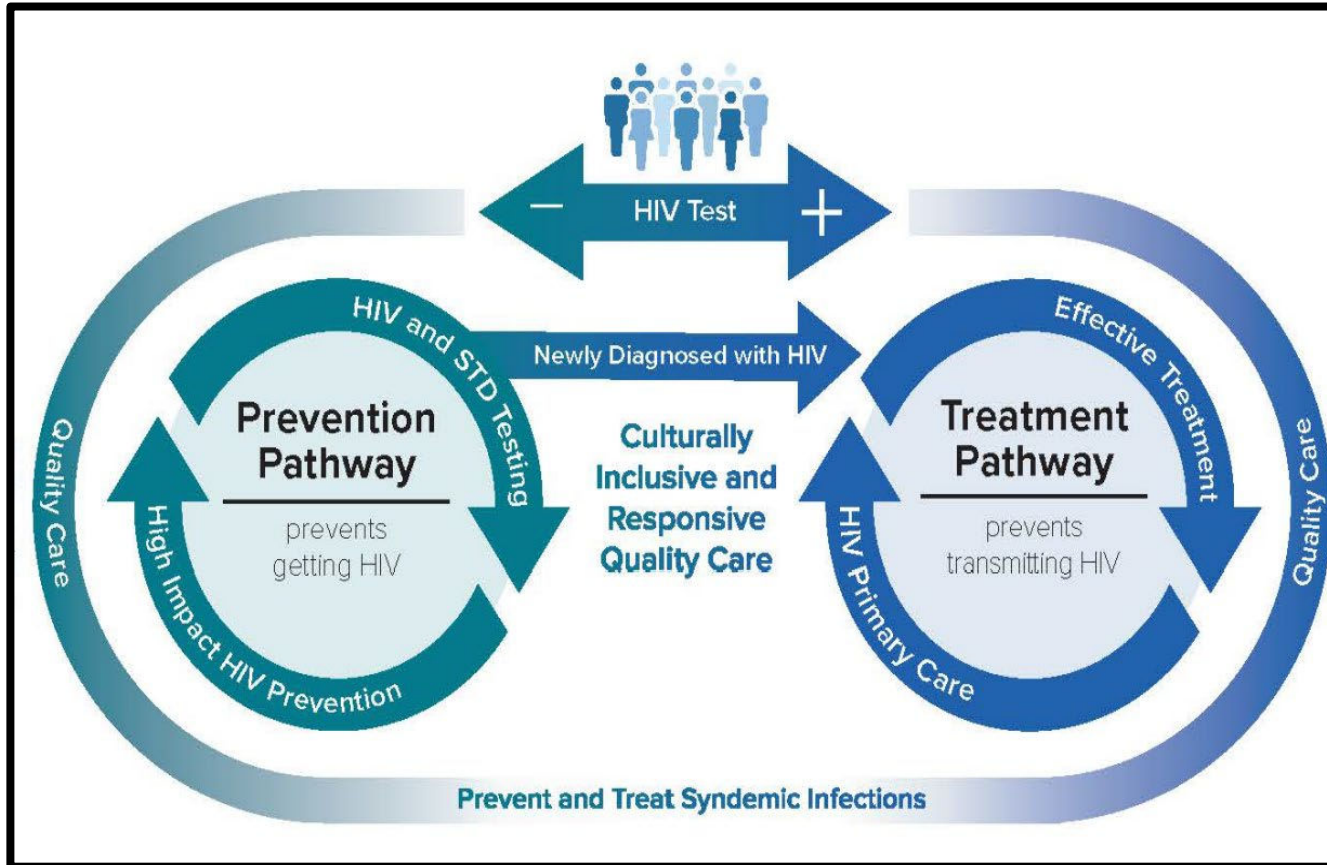
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Outline

- **Status Neutral Testing approach as a vehicle to end HIV/AIDS**
- The ICAP CQUIN dHTS CMM and Status Neutral Testing
- Status Neutral Testing: challenges highlighted by CQUIN member countries
- Introducing session 8c

Status Neutral Testing approach is vital to achieve global HIV targets



Test, Identify PLHIV, link and maintain in care

- Identify PLHIV and Initiate them on ART
- Maintain RoC on ART (including re-engagement) to attain U=U

Test, link to prevention

- Offer voluntary HTS as a vehicle for HIV prevention
- Identify people who test HIV negative and are at ongoing risk of acquiring HIV
- Link and maintain people at risk on effective HIV combination prevention services as long as risk remains

https://targethiv.org/sites/default/files/media/documents/2022-03/TAP_in_Status_Neutral_Slides_1.pdf

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The dHTS Capability Maturity Model (CMM) embraces Status Neutral Testing

Domain	BUR	CAM	CDI	DRC	ESW	ETH	GHN	KEN	LES	LIB	MAL	MOZ	NIG	RWA	SEN	SL	SA	TZ	UG	ZAM	ZIM	
Meaningful community engagement	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Green	Red	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Monitoring and Evaluation	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green
Linkage to Rx 1: Timely Linkage	Green	Red	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Linkage to prevention and other services	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
Impact 1: Knowledge of HIV status	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Yellow	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red
Impact 2: Linkage to treatment	Red	Yellow	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Yellow	Red	Red	Green	Red	Green	Green	Yellow	Red	Green	Red	Red	Red
Impact 3: Linkage to prevention	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Yellow	Red	Red	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Green	Red	Red	Red

- Timely Linkage to both treatment and prevention ensures early engagement of PLHIV, and people at ongoing risk of acquiring HIV
- Monitoring and Evaluation provides the program with timely information needed for decision making
- Without meaningful community engagement, little can be achieved in the treatment and prevention engagement arms

Status Neutral Testing: challenges highlighted by CQUIN member countries

Country Action Plans:

1. Linkage to prevention
2. Differentiated mobilization
3. Linkage to treatment
4. Implementation/scale-up plan
5. Private sector engagement
6. Testing for re-engagement (re-diagnosis)

Country-to-Country Visits:

1. M&E of dHTS
2. Triple elimination
3. HIV self-testing
4. Linkage
5. Private sector engagement
6. Social network testing services

Webinars:

1. Status neutral testing
2. Use of digital platforms
3. HIV self-testing
4. Linkage to prevention
5. M&E of dHTS
6. Target-setting for dHTS

- Country priorities were based on the CMM results, and lessons from the dHTS meeting (March 2023)
- Domains related to Status Neutral Testing were among the top 6 priority areas identified by the CQUIN network countries
- ICAP CQUIN, in collaboration with other stakeholders has provided TA to countries to address the highlighted gaps

Leveraging TA support from different stakeholders to address country dHTS gaps

1) Provide Country specific-domain focused TA:

- ✚ Prioritize domains which are achievable, and change can be documented

TA provided through:

- ✚ Direct technical support by CQUIN-eg reviewing tools, sharing tools, etc
- ✚ C2C, dHTS focused webinars, dHTS CoP Calls,

2) Identify stakeholders with interest in particular domains to lead TA support

- **CQUIN**
 - Implementation and scale up plan
 - M&E (shared discussion with other stakeholders)
 - Training
 - SoPS
- **WHO**
- **PEPFAR**
- **SLLN**
- **CHAI**
- **IAS**
- **ITPC**
- **LabCoPs**

3) Co-create solutions for cross-cutting challenges

- ✚ Of the existing dHTS indicators, which ones can be tracked in the context of status neutral?
 - M&E of dHTS
- ✚ Quarterly CoP calls addressing cross-cutting themes
- ✚ dHTS-focused webinars addressing cross-cutting themes

Three dHTS community of practice calls focused on Linkage from HIV testing to combination prevention services

Linkage from HIV testing to combination prevention services was a cross cutting challenge

- **Call 1 July 2023**
 - Availability of operational guidance on *Linkage from HIV testing* to combination prevention services
- **Call 2: August 2023**
 - Best practices for *implementing Linkage from HIV testing* to combination prevention services
- **Call 3: October 2023**
 - Monitoring and Evaluation of *Linkage from HIV testing* to combination prevention services

About today's session (8c)

Implementing status neutral HIV testing services: Challenges and lessons learned

- **Session objectives:**
- Discuss policy and implementation challenges network countries face in implementing Status Neutral HIV testing
- Discuss strategies that network countries can embrace to address the above challenges
- Presenters from Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe
- Round table discussion from global panelists

More discussions about the ICAP CQUIN CMM: Plenary session 10 tomorrow morning

- What's new in the upcoming WHO guidelines 2024?
- What's new in the upcoming IAS HTS decision framework 2024?
- What innovations are countries implementing with regards to Status Neutral Testing Approach?

Thank you!

