

EUROPEAN HIV-HEPATITIS TESTING WEEK 2015

Results from the 2015 Evaluation

Summary: 417 partners from 46 of the 53 countries in the WHO European Region participated in the 2015 European Testing week, which for the first time included hepatitis testing. Of those, 47% submitted the evaluation survey. The majority were NGOs/CSOs (66%). The general population was most frequently targeted (66%), and 97% of survey respondents did HIV activities, 45% hepatitis C activities and 28% hepatitis B activities, including testing and outreach testing and awareness-raising. Many collaborated on a local level and made use of social media to increase awareness of ETW, their activities and the benefits of testing.

Background: The 2015 European HIV-Hepatitis Testing Week (ETW), third of its kind, took place from 20-27 November 2015. It expanded to include hepatitis testing for the first time. In the WHO European Region, around one in three of the **2.5 million people living with HIV are unaware that they are HIV positive**. It is estimated that **13.3 and 15 million live with hepatitis B and C, respectively**. The purpose of the ETW is to **promote HIV and viral hepatitis testing and optimal care in the WHO European Region**.

Methods: The ETW was evaluated via online surveys distributed to all participating partners.

Results: 417 participating partners from 46 of the 53 WHO European Region Member States had signed up for ETW and 47% submitted the evaluation survey (Figure 1).

Most, **66%**, of those who submitted the survey were **NGOs/CSOs** and 18% were healthcare clinics. Many participants reported HIV, HBV and HCV activities, including testing activities, during ETW (Figure 2).

Figure 1

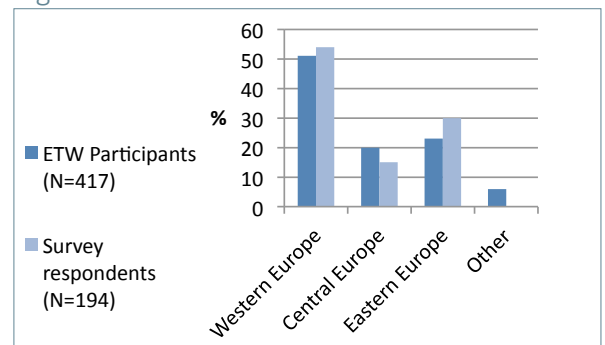
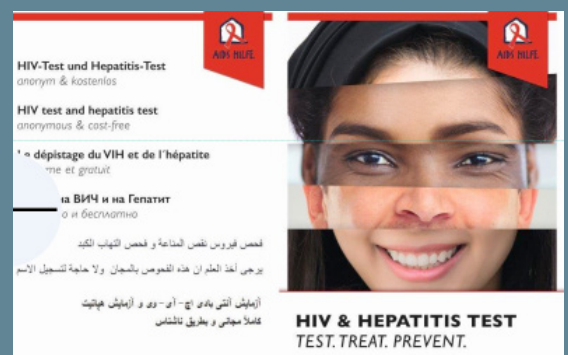
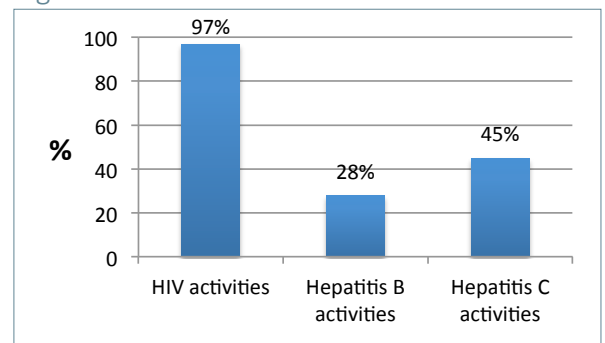
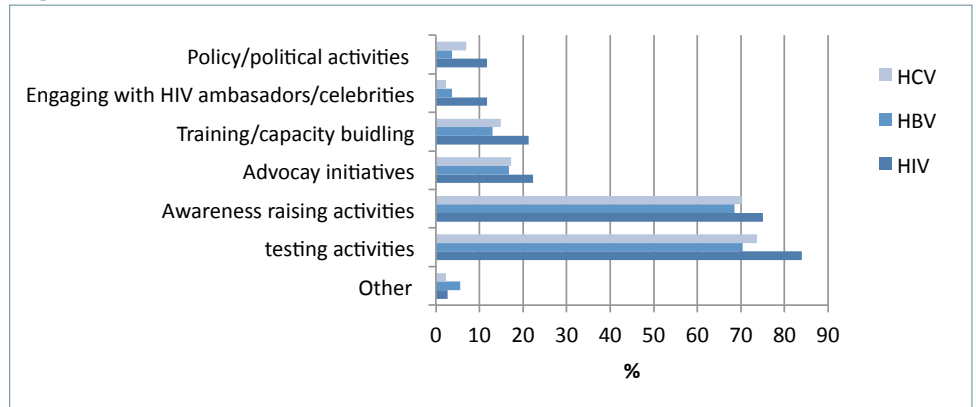


Figure 2



Most did **testing and awareness raising activities** (Figure 3). While many reported successes during ETW, some also reported challenges, primarily lack of resources (41%) and patient barriers (19%).

Figure 3

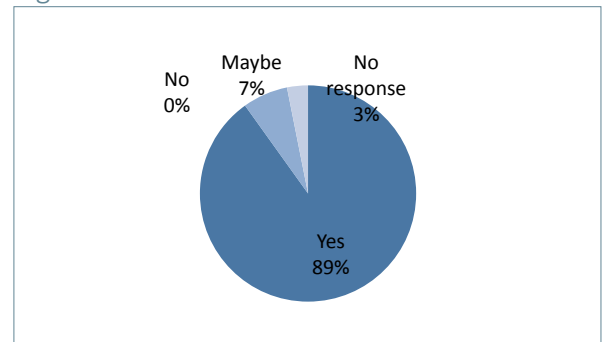


“..don’t have enough resources (people and finances) to plan and carry out more activities during the ETW, though we would like to. We had some ideas this year, but couldn’t implement all.”
[Central Europe]

Almost 30% of the survey respondents had heard about the **European HIV Testing Finder** and the collaboration with Grindr, Hornet and PlanetRomeo who have provided free advertising to promote the European HIV Test Finder. And, **almost 30%** who had heard about the collaboration, **reported that people came forward for testing as a result of seeing the advertising on either Grind, Hornet or PlanetRomeo.**

Most (89%) wanted to participate in next year’s ETW (Figure 4).

Figure 4



Lots of activities took place on social media during the 2015 ETW



A good opportunity to reach out to hidden and hard to find members of KAP
[Eastern Europe]



“It is an important initiative and it is good to work with European partners on this.”
[Western Europe]

