



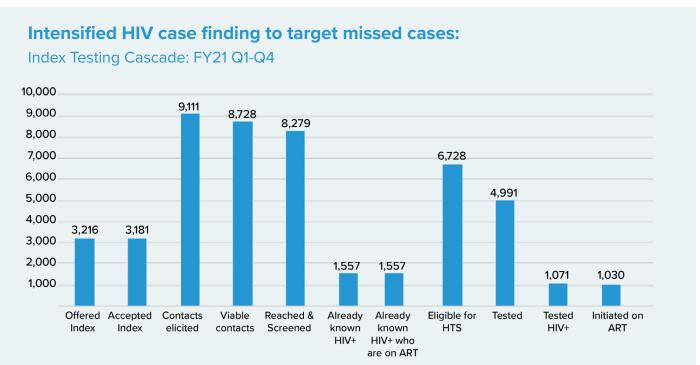






Eswatini HIV Prevention and Clinical Services (EHPCS)

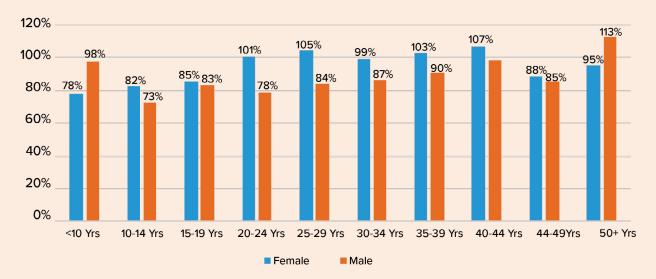
In September 2020, Eswatini became the first country in Africa to achieve the United Nations HIV targets with 96% of people living with HIV aware of their status, 94% on antiretroviral therapy (ART), and 91% virally suppressed. The imminence of these milestones placed sustained epidemic control firmly in the nation's reach, and strategies had to evolve accordingly. The Eswatini HIV Prevention and Clinical Services (EHPCS) project served to foster epidemic control by addressing the remaining barriers to prevention and treatment continuity. This required the use of technically sound, coordinated approaches that were linked high-level objectives and complimented national strategic plans.



- Index case testing and partner notification services
- Refined provider-initiated testing and counseling in selected facility entry points
- HIV self-testing and peer-driven testing
- Recency testing / case-based surveillance
- Follow-up and HIV diagnosis (early infant detection) for exposed infants

Enhanced linkages to treatment:

Proxy ART Linkage by Age and Sex



- Several mentorship, training, and support activities were undertaken to refine the linkage case management abilities, activities, and approaches of the 65 supported facilities in the Hhohho and Shiselweni regions
- Expert clients received technical guidance and practical support to engage in active follow-up initiatives that facilitated immediate ART initiation
- Collaborative relationships with local partner organizations were used to track community linkages, and availed data that helped illuminate the reasons for non-linkage in the supported areas

Ensuring retention in care and viral suppression:

Viral Load Suppression_FY20 Q1 - FY21 Q4



- EHPCS helped expert clients foster treatment continuity through targeted counselling, education, improved patient tracking, support groups for key populations, enhanced ART client follow-up, scaled-up of differentiated care models, and accelerated enrollment
- Systems mentorship and support helped initiate and transition eligible patients to optimized regimens and formulations
- Targeted mentorship served to scale up viral load testing and ensure the successful communication, documentation, and use of patient results

Improved coverage of biomedical prevention services:

PrEP Cascade for pregnant and breastfeeding women

Indicator	Hhohho	Shiselweni	Total
Seen at ANC/PNC	8,171	2,471	10,642
Tested	3,435	988	10,642
% tested @ ANC/PNC	42%	40%	100%
Tested Negative at ANC/PNC	3,371	973	4,344
% tested negative	98%	98%	41%
Number already on PrEP	539	221	760
% already on PrEP	16%	23%	17%
Eligible for PrEP offer	2,832	752	3,584
Total Offered PrEP	904	552	1,456
% offered PrEP	32%	73%	41%
Number Offered and Accepted PrEP	533	311	844
% acceptance rate	59%	56%	58%
Number Offered and Refused PrEP	371	241	612
% refusal rate	41%	44%	42%
Number Referred for PrEP	522	149	671
% number referred for PrEP	98%	48%	80%
Linked to PrEP (PrEP New)	559	132	691
% Linked for PrEP (among referred)	107%	89%	103%

- Mentorship and trainings / refresher trainings for healthcare workers, facility managers, and other key groups (such as correctional officers) strengthened pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) service provision. Facilities also benefitted from drug procurement support, as well as tool distribution and orientation.
- Technical assistance on PrEP scale-up was provided at the national level, along with updated national monitoring tools, materials, and guidelines including the drafting of the PrEP communication strategy
- Supporting voluntary medical male circumcision (VMMC) scale-up through active client recruiting and mentorship / virtual training for healthcare workers and VMMC community mobilizers

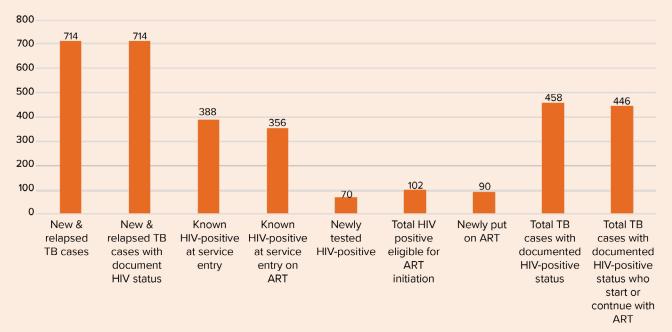
Expanded sexual and reproductive health services, particularly:

- Cervical cancer screening and treatment of pre-cancerous lesions
- Post-gender-based violence care
- Family planning / ART integration
- Condom promotion and distribution



Improved TB / HIV Prevention and Treatment Service integration by prioritizing:

TB/HIV HIV testing and ART Cascade (FY21 Q1-Q4)



- TB / COVID-19 infection prevention and control
- TB case finding and diagnosis
- · TB case management
- TB / HIV collaborative activities

Intensified support and capacity building for the Ministry of Health in several high-priority areas, including:

- COVID-19 mitigation
- · Ongoing quality improvement
- · Monitoring, evaluation, and learning
- Partnership and collaboration
- Communication and advocacy



Photo: Muzi Yende, 2020

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