

Success stories profile

Denmark

HIV prevalence in Denmark

Denmark has a population of 5.6 million people, with approximately 5,800 people living with HIV (**prevalence 0.1-0.2%**). **In recent years, HIV prevalence has increased** gradually and the number of people living with HIV in Denmark has significantly increased.¹

Testing week 2014

Near the end of 2014, the organisation Aids Fondet (a Danish HIV prevention and treatment organisation) took part in European HIV Testing Week (ETW).

During ETW, AIDs Fondet extended their opening days at their Copenhagen Checkpoint and offered some flex tests outside opening hours. By this method 87 people were tested. Testing was also available onsite around the city in locations where high risk populations might gather, for instance a support facility for sex workers, a community centre for ethnic minorities and a sex club for men who have sex with men (MSM). **There was also a HIV testing party organised called 'Festival', which was held for ethnic minorities.**

In Aarhus there was in-house testing available as usual as well as onsite testing in MSM and ethnic settings. In total 36 people were tested, with no HIV positive results but one person testing positive for syphilis.

Using broadcast messages on Grindr to recruit new MSM and promote ETW activities proved to be very successful. Also, producing posters and flyers promoting actions, distributing vouchers for testing, and posters encouraging healthcare workers to recommend testing were all deemed to have a significant positive impact.

Looking ahead

There was a disappointing lack of understanding of safe sex and general sexual health by young people, despite many of them being sexually active. In future years, the campaign will aim to counteract this.

In the next testing week, the successful cooperation between the public healthcare institutions and civil society organisations will be continued as it successfully allowed a more comprehensive approach to HIV testing during ETW 2014.

References

1. <http://www.unaids.org/sites/default/files/epidocuments/DNK.pdf>