

# Update Monitoring Committee

Sandra Van den Eynde

30 November 2021 - BREACH Symposium



# In brief

Proposition HIV Plan and content

Monitoring Committee

Priorities 2022

Political support

Promotion



**2014 - 2019** **.be**

## Previously in the HIV Plan...

- HIV Plan 2014-2019 developed bottom up:
  - From prevention to care
  - From clinicals to volunteers
  - From scientist to experience expert
  - From practice to policy
- Major accomplishments:
  - Reinforcement of multidisciplinary collaboration
  - Strengthening of combination prevention
  - Research and implementation of PrEP
  - Accelerate Test-and-Treat independent of CD4
  - Decentralised and demedicalised HIV testing
  - **90-90-90 ACHIEVED!**
- Recognised bodies:
  - Monitoring Committee
  - Positive Council

Proposal of the Monitoring Committee  
for a continued National HIV Plan  
2020-2026  
with particular attention to STI

---

Version 30<sup>th</sup> of January 2021

Content

- I. Introduction
  - 1. General principles
  - 2. Goals & targets
- II. Background
  - 1. HIV epidemic in Belgium
  - 2. Related STI epidemics
  - 3. Key populations
  - 4. Mapping HIV stakeholders
- III. Major achievements of the national HIV Plan 2014-2019
- IV. Towards a new HIV Plan: methods
- V. Priorities & actions
  - 1. Prevention pillar
  - 2. Testing pillar
  - 3. Care pillar
  - 4. Quality of life pillar
- VI. Monitoring of the implementation of the HIV Plan
  - 1. Monitoring bodies
  - 2. Monitoring indicators



Initiative of the Monitoring  
Committee

# Development new HIV Plan: methods

Belgian epidemiology  
as backdrop

Per pillar  
Working Groups and  
consultations: focus groups,  
**Delphi, workshops, surveys,...**  
Consensus on priorities and  
actions

Transversal **feedback**: Positive  
Council

Consultation regional  
authorities: Public Health and  
Prevention

Proposal of the Monitoring Committee  
for a continued National HIV Plan

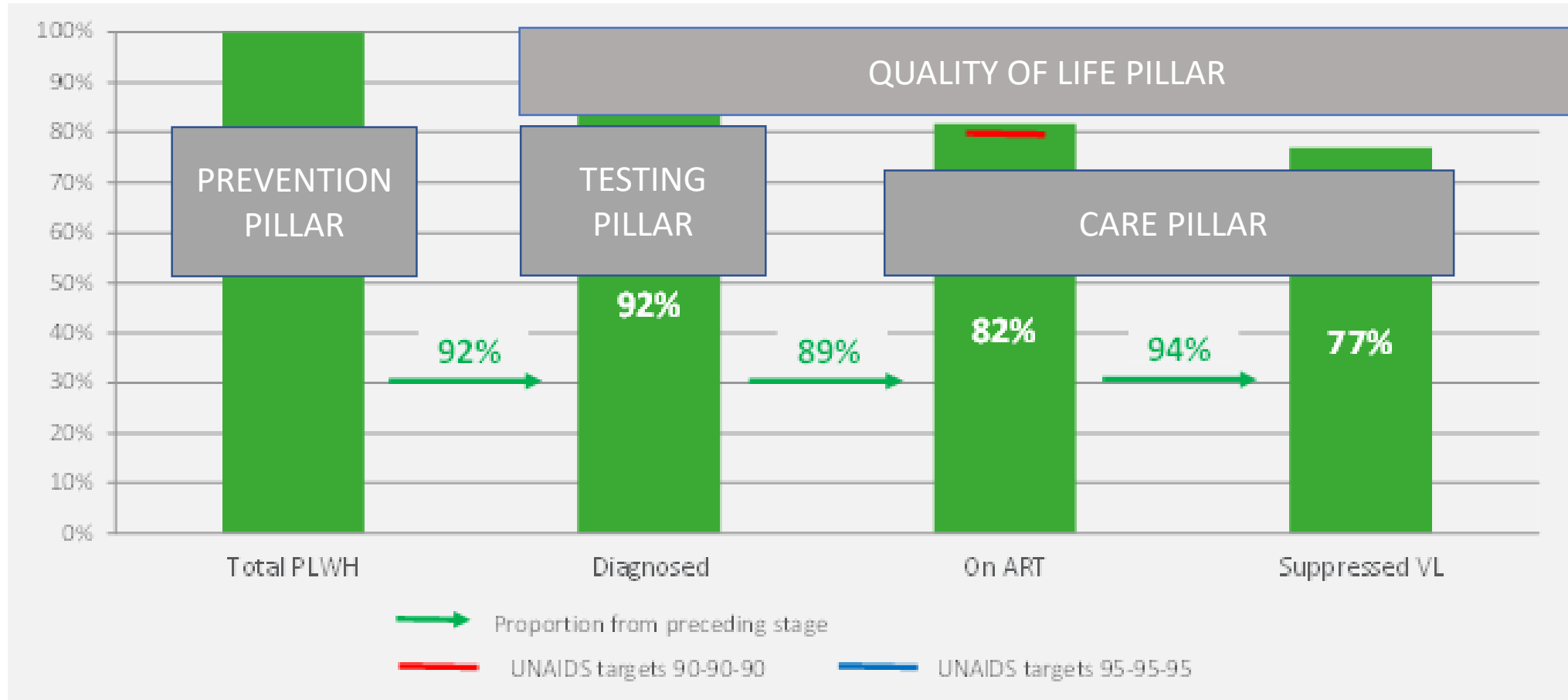
2020-2026

with particular attention to STI

Version 30<sup>th</sup> of January 2021

- HIV & STI as **syndemic** epidemics
  - Shared modes of transmission
  - Shared key populations
  - Co-infections
  - Integration prevention and screening
- BUT! **Differences** as to target group strategies for screening and treatment, resistance issues, ...
- Experts and involved organizations other than present in Monitoring Committee
- The Proposition for HIV Plan IS NOT an STI Plan

# Continuum of Care and the UNAIDS 2030 targets



# Targets per pillar

**PREVENTION:** reducing the risk of transmission of HIV and other STIs in the general population and in key populations by combining the available prevention strategies and resources

**TESTING:** Improving the frequency, regularity and targeting of HIV and STI testing in priority target groups to increase the share of early diagnoses, improve rapid treatment initiation and avoid transmission

**CARE:** to ensure multidisciplinary high-quality care for all people living with HIV while guaranteeing better health and a better quality of life for all people living with HIV and to contribute to the fight against the HIV epidemic in Belgium

**QUALITY OF LIFE:** ensuring that all MMH can achieve an optimal quality of life, including mental health and social assistance, in an environment free of stigma and discrimination in all aspects of their daily lives



# Key populations

The HIV plan focuses on key populations, which are defined as groups that are at higher risk of HIV and related STIs due to specific higher-risk behaviors and contextual vulnerabilities:

- Men having sex with men,
- Migrants (undocumented) from high prevalence countries,
- Transgenders,
- Sexworkers,
- People using drugs intravenously,
- Inmates.

Within each key population, young people have specific age or developmental needs and the HIV plan actions will take these into account.

# Monitoring Committee

PILLAR	COORDINATORS & SUB
PREVENTION	Thierry Martin Sandra Van den Eynde Charlotte Pézeril Christiana Nöstlinger
TESTING	Chris Verhofstede Jessika Deblonde Simon Englebert Anne-Sophie Sauvage
CARE	Agnès Libois Rémy Demeester Marie-Angelique De Scheerder Dominique Van Beckhoven
QUALITY OF LIFE	Grâce Ntunzwenimana Ria Koeck Anne De Vleeschouwer Wim Aernouts
POSITIVE COUNCIL	Axel Vanderperre

# Objectives Monitoring Committee

Strengthening **collaboration** to increase **impact**  
(e.g. removing structural and legal barriers)

Determining annual **priorities**

Gathering political **support** for the HIV Plan

Promotion of the implementation of the HIV Plan

# Prevention Pillar

1

Increase access and uptake of PrEP by key populations by reducing barriers at structural, provider and user level

2

Increase intersectoral collaboration between health care providers and actors outside the health field (e.g. education, migration, social welfare) to improve combination prevention interventions including structural prevention

# Strengthening collaboration

## Collaboration MC & PrEP Task Force

### 4 pillars

- Prevention
- Testing
- HIV care
- Quality of Life

Per year, priority setting : actions that need particular attention from the MC **to obtain policy action or support**

### Prevention priority 2022

Increase access and uptake of PrEP by key populations by reducing barriers at structural, provider and user level

- Access to PrEP for uninsured/undocumented people
- Opportunities for other service delivery models

Collaboration with PrEP Task Force

# Testing Pillar



1

Improve the communication skills and intercultural competences of healthcare providers -  
in particular general practitioners -  
and community workers to pro-actively offer  
HIV/STI testing

# Care Pillar

1

Ensure that all diagnosed people living with HIV receive adequate information on HIV care and multidisciplinary support

# Quality of Life Pillar



  European AIDS Treatment Group



Help us eliminate  
**HIV / AIDS STIGMA**  
& discrimination

 **take this survey**





# Positive Council

---



expansion to other communities :  
trans, sex workers, women

## Update political support

- HIV plan introduced to the Inter-Cabinet Working Group Prevention with the aim to have the HIV Plan validated as a policy document at all political levels (federal & regional). Process is ongoing.
- Update other political support
  - German representation (& translation)
  - Wallonia & Brussels
  - Flanders

<b>Prime Minister De Croo</b>	
<b>Minister Vandenbroucke Public Health</b>	Letter sent to Cabinet VDB Meeting planned with Tina Van Havere on the 5 <sup>th</sup> of July 2021
<b>Saskia Van den Bogaert, FOD Volksgezondheid, IKW preventie</b>	First contact in October 2020 Proposition HIV Plan NL/FR sent in January 2021
<b>Minister Beke Health Flanders</b>	First round in December 2019 with administration (AZG): Dirk Wildemeersh, Wouter D’Haeze en Iris De Schutter. Joelle Konings was apologized. Follow up meeting with Joelle Konings, Dirk Wildemeersch on 29 maart. Joëlle Konings informed Minister Beke on 20 April 2021.
<b>Secretary of State      Barbara Trachte Commission Communautaire Française (COCOF)</b>	First round in Januari 2020 with Barbara Trachte (Cabinet) + Emmanuelle Caspers (administration)
<b>Minister Elke Vandenbrandt Vlaamse Gemeenschapscommissie (VGC)</b>	First round in Februari 2021 with Charlotte Horemans (Cabinet) + Christine Jacobs (administration): positive reaction.
<b>Minister Christie Morreale Health Wallonia</b>	First round in Februari 2020 with Emilie Detaille (Cabinet) + Marie Lefebvre (AVIQ)
<b>Minister Van Quickenborne Justice</b>	
<b>Secretary of State Sarah Schlitz Egalité des Chances</b>	Meeting planned 3 December 2021
<b>Secretary of State Sammy Mahdi Asylum &amp; Migration</b>	
<b>Kabinet Maron Commission Communautaire Commune COCOM</b>	First round in January 2020 with Julie Papazoglou (included in COCOF meeting – see above)

# Promotion

- Development website:  
[www.hiv-plan.be](http://www.hiv-plan.be)
- Fr/NL/De
- One central place:
  - Monitoring Committee and Positive Council are presented;
  - HIV plan and related documents can be stored and accessed/disseminated by the interested (professional) audience
- aimed at a professional audience in HIV/STI field (but open to all), eg. HIV service providers, prevention organizations, policy makers, and other stakeholders, and people living with HIV





- Thank you on behalf of the Monitoring Committee!
- Questions & comments can be sent to:
  - [Sandra.vandeneeynde@sensoa.be](mailto:Sandra.vandeneeynde@sensoa.be)
  - [Jessika.Deblonde@sciensano.be](mailto:Jessika.Deblonde@sciensano.be)