

KAZAKHSTAN

STRATEGIC FOCUS

The partnership between the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Government of Kazakhstan began in 1995 to strengthen the capacity to detect, prevent and control disease and respond to public health threats in Central Asia. In 2005, CDC began implementing activities supported by the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). To help the country achieve HIV epidemic control, CDC directly supports the Kazakhstan Scientific Center for Dermatology and Infectious Diseases (KSCDID) to implement interventions and activities focused on key populations. CDC also works closely with a range of bi-and multi-lateral partners in-country (e.g., UNAIDS, WHO, and USAID).

CDC's support for HIV/AIDS epidemic control in Kazakhstan includes strengthening HIV prevention, care and treatment programs, and health systems' capacities. CDC implements evidence-based demonstration programs to identify cost-effective modes of service delivery and expands prevention and treatment services for high-risk populations such as people who inject drugs (PWID), men who have sex with men, prisoners, and commercial sex workers. It supports the Ministry of Health (MOH) in the following areas: HIV prevention, HIV counseling and testing, laboratory strengthening, HIV care and treatment, and strategic information systems.

KEY ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- In 2021, CDC, in collaboration with KSCDID, introduced pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) as an evidence-based method for HIV prevention among high-risk groups. Support includes technical assistance such as trainings and mentoring for providers and decision makers.
- To ensure access to high-quality HIV testing, CDC expanded existing and innovative HIV Index Testing, Social Network Strategies, and self-testing.
- CDC currently directly supports five PEPFAR HIV treatment centers, which provide care and treatment services to over 4,500 people living with HIV (PLHIV).
- With CDC support, treatment initiation for PLHIV has decreased from 14 to six days.
- Quality improvement through CDC supported "Granular Site Management" has helped identify and improve facility and community level gaps in service delivery. For example, over 12 months, viral load suppression in Ekibastus has increased from 77percent to 92percent due to constant monitoring and corrective actions.
- CDC supports interventions to improve treatment effectiveness (e.g., continuous quality improvement of adult HIV care and treatment services and routine clinical mentoring visits to the PEPFAR sites).
- CDC and KSCDID received permission from the international patent pool to purchase generic tenofovir, lamivudine, and dolutegravir (TLD), per international recommendations. With CDC's technical support, KSCDID registered TLD and generic Dolutegravir in Kazakhstan. KSCDID will start treatment with TLD in 2023.
- CDC established a nurse-led HIV treatment and adherence program for high-risk groups, including PWID, that provides home-based follow-up care for clients who are not virally suppressed. This program has led to a significant increase in viral suppression among enrollees.
- CDC strengthened laboratory services by supporting external quality assurance and assessments in all 17 HIV diagnostic and clinical monitoring laboratories in the country.
- CDC supported KSCDID in developing a new web-based Electronic HIV Case based Management System that is now used by all HIV/AIDS centers to assure quality patient care and data for decision making.
- CDC, in collaboration with UNAIDS and KSCDID, conducted recency surveillance in Kazakhstan and plans to implement recency surveillance within the routine HIV testing services. The data from 2021 showed that 18 percent of newly detected cases were recently acquired.

Key Country Leadership

President:
Kassym-Jomart Tokayev

Minister of Health:
Azhar Giniyat

Chargé d'affaires
Judy Kuo

CDC/DGHT Director:
Patrick Nadol

Country Quick Facts
(worldbank.org/en/where-we-work)

Per Capita GNI:
\$8,720 (2021)

Population (millions):
19 (2021)

Under 5 Mortality:
10/1,000 live births (2020)

Life Expectancy:
71.4 years (2020)

Global HIV/AIDS Epidemic
(aidsinfo.unaids.org)

Estimated HIV Prevalence
(Ages 15-49): 0.3% (2021)

Estimated AIDS Deaths
(Age ≥15): <200 (2021)

Estimated Orphans Due to
AIDS: 3,300 (2021)

Reported Number Receiving
Antiretroviral Therapy (ART)
(Age ≥15): 22,025 (2021)

**Global Tuberculosis
(TB) Epidemic**
(who.int/tb/country/data/profiles/en)

Estimated TB Incidence :
69/100,000 population (2020)

TB Patients with Known HIV
Status who are HIV-Positive:
6.5% (2020)

TB Treatment Success Rate:
90% (2019)

DGHT Country Staff: 4
Locally Employed Staff: 4
Direct Hires: 0
Fellows & Contractors: 0

Our success is built on the backbone of science and strong partnerships.

September 2022 | The CDC Division of Global HIV & TB activities are implemented as part of the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR); non-HIV related TB activities are supported by non-PEPFAR funding

