

GLOBAL HIV AND TB: HOW WE WORK OVERSEAS

OVERVIEW

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Division of Global HIV & TB (DGHT) works in more than 50 countries to support the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and TB control globally. CDC carries out this mission primarily through:

- Expert U.S. and local staff assigned to CDC offices at U.S. Embassies or Ministries of Health;
- Technical assistance provided by CDC headquarters in Atlanta and by CDC regional offices; and
- Financial resources provided strategically to partners to achieve the U.S. Government's mission while helping strengthen the capacity of partner countries to manage these epidemics in the future.

CDC'S ROLE

CDC is the public health and disease prevention agency of the United States and has, in the United States and globally, an unparalleled staff of technical experts in HIV and TB, as well as deep expertise in the public health application of laboratory science, disease surveillance, and infectious disease control and prevention. Through PEPFAR, the U.S. Government has deployed CDC expertise in an expanded and strategic way to complement the traditional Foreign Service agencies in the largest global health initiative ever mounted in response to the global HIV epidemic. The CDC global program model involves greater direct technical assistance by CDC staff, rather than by international contractors or grantees, and greater proportionate funding support for partner nation organizations. CDC works especially closely with national Ministries of Health, counterpart agencies to CDC and central partners in long term sustainability. As partner nations emerge from poverty and require fewer financial resources, CDC remains a key collaborative partner on critical health issues such as disease surveillance, quality services, and prevention activities.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS / RESULTS

- CDC, through PEPFAR, supported 5.8 million people on antiretroviral treatment in 2015. These high-quality HIV treatment programs have helped reduce deaths from HIV and lead to a substantial decline in new HIV infections in Africa from 2004 to 2015.
- In 2015, CDC supported approximately 1.3 million voluntary medical male circumcisions in 11 countries with severe HIV epidemics, reducing the HIV risk of circumcised men by two thirds.
- From 2004 to 2015, CDC funding to partner country organizations increased more than eight-fold and from 39 percent to 55 percent of all extramural funding.
- All 32 research projects funded under implementation science initiatives initiated since 2012 have a partner country national institution as the prime recipient of funding.
- CDC provided TB technical assistance and helped develop evidence-based policies for TB and multidrug-resistant TB control in 25 countries contributing to global progress against TB.
- None of the countries with established DGHT programs experienced sustained outbreaks of Ebola virus disease during the recent epidemic, and highly trained and deployed DGHT staff were major contributors to the control of Ebola in West Africa.
- Completed three, two-year rounds of efforts to continually strengthen business and program accountability in CDC overseas operations.

FUTURE EFFORTS

CDC continues to strengthen multiple elements of its technical and financial assistance strategies for global HIV and TB to achieve higher impact, accountability, and sustainability. Greater predictability in staff deployment and rotation between assignments will reduce gaps in staffing. Greater development of national CDC staff will ensure greater continuity of operations and a broader U.S. Government platform for health diplomatic initiatives. Strengthening national disease control agencies in partner countries provide a basis for mutual collaboration.



BENEFITS OF OUR WORK

In addition to DGHT programs' fundamental humanitarian and diplomatic missions, they are also vital to preventing and reducing antimicrobial resistance in both HIV and TB. Highly-resistant pathogens can cross borders and become a threat to the U.S. Ultimately, health cooperation reduces death and suffering around the world, and strengthens global diplomatic partnerships.