



health

Department:
Health
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



MEDIA STATEMENT

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Health Department welcomes latest HIV Survey Findings

Pretoria: The Department of Health welcomes the results of the South African National HIV Prevalence, Incidence, and Behaviour Survey released by the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) and believes these will assist the country to strengthen the interventions in response to epidemic.

These show that the country is on track to achieve a new set of ambitious targets to ensure 95 percent of all people living with HIV to know their HIV status, 95 percent of all people with diagnosed HIV infection receive sustained treatment, and 95 percent of all those on treatment have viral suppression by 2025.

The reduction in the percentage of all people living with HIV in South Africa from 14.0% in 2017 to 12.7% in 2022, which translates to almost 7.8 million people living with HIV in South Africa in 2022 compared to 7.9 million in 2017 can be attributed to collaborative efforts by various stakeholders involved and interventions introduced to curb the rate of transmission and treatment adherence. The results will also assist the department and stakeholders in resource mobilization and allocation, especially in gaps identified to be in a better position to rearrange our landscape so that we plug the holes where the gaps are greatest.

While the results show clearly that the prevalence of HIV is declining, there is some worrying patterns regarding the age group 25–49. This requires us to change our tactics because this age band can be complicated to manage given the social and economic dynamics. The results in some way, support our case of the implementation of the differentiated model of care or Differentiated Service Delivery (DSD) which is a person-centered approach to HIV prevention, testing, and treatment. Through this approach of DSD, the services are tailored to meet the needs of the users.

Lastly, we have also embarked on various prevention methods, which are also tailored for each population group. Since prevention is and will always be better than cure, we also offer prevention interventions within our public health services which include Pre-exposure Prophylaxis (PreP), Post Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) male and female condoms and compatible water-based lubricant.

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