



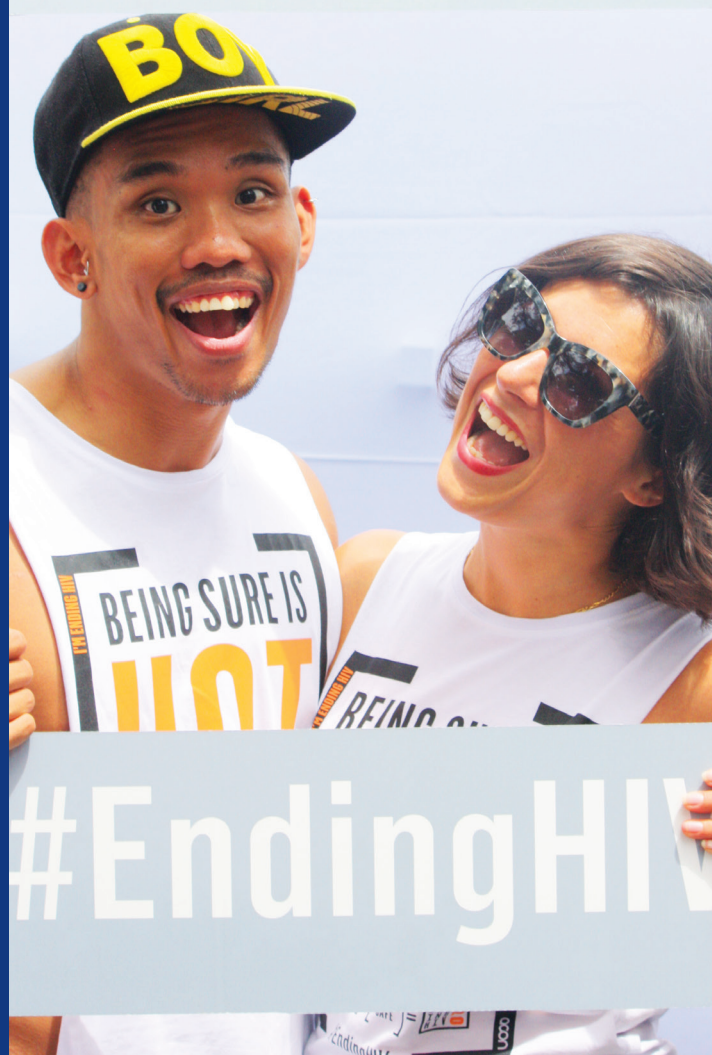
Health

NSW HIV STRATEGY

2016 ANNUAL SNAPSHOT



ENDING
HIV 2020



ENDING HIV

INTRODUCTION

The NSW HIV Strategy 2016-2020 continues the NSW Government's commitment to achieving the virtual elimination of HIV transmission in NSW by 2020, and sustaining the virtual elimination of HIV transmission in people who inject drugs, sex workers and from mother to child. The Strategy refines our efforts across prevention, testing and treatment, building on the actions that have proven successful in implementing the NSW HIV Strategy 2012-2015. The Strategy identifies key settings for action including publicly funded sexual health services, general practice and primary health care, Aboriginal community controlled health services, needle and syringe program outlets, antenatal care, drug and alcohol services, mental health services and emergency departments.

PROPORTION OF NEW DIAGNOSES IN 2016*



82%

gay and homosexually active men



15%

heterosexuals



3%

Aboriginal people



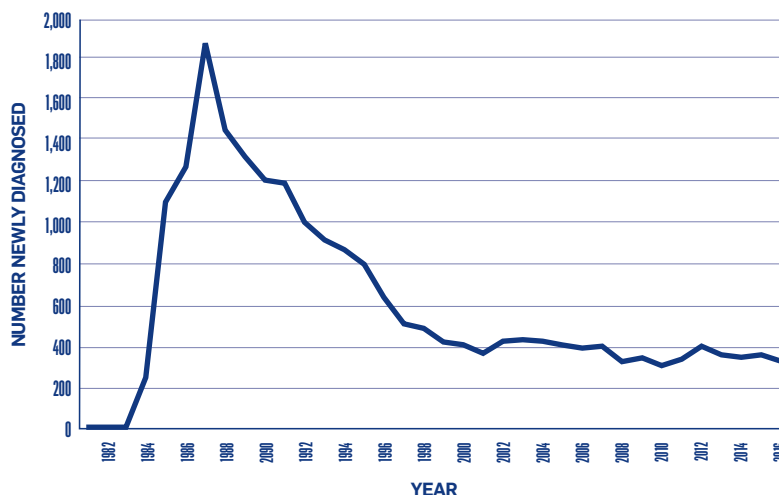
1%

injecting drug use

NEWLY DIAGNOSED HIV IN NSW 1981 – 2016

CURRENT SITUATION:

In 2016, there were 317 new HIV diagnoses, a 23% decrease compared with the 2012 diagnosis and the lowest standardised rate of new HIV infections on record in NSW (4.3 diagnoses per 100,000 population).



*Due to rounding, these figures add to more than 100%.

KEY PROGRAM ELEMENTS AND STATUS





[TEST OFTEN]

Continue to **increase testing frequency** in high risk populations and reduce late diagnoses of HIV:

- Deliver targeted community mobilisation initiatives such as NSW HIV Testing Week to encourage people at risk of HIV to test more often
- Support General Practice to deliver HIV testing as part of routine care
- Provide a mix of testing options and introduce new testing technologies where appropriate, including dried blood spot HIV testing
- Strengthen efforts to notify and support sexual and injecting partners of people newly diagnosed with HIV to have an HIV test.

PROGRESS

In 2016:

- 536,444 tests were performed. 7%  than in 2015. 28%  than in 2012.
- HIV testing in NSW public sexual health clinics remains high and well-targeted. 55,761 HIV tests were done in NSW public sexual health clinics; 24%  than in 2015.
- HIV tests among gay and homosexually active men in NSW public sexual health clinics  by 37% compared to 2015.
- The Dried Blood Spot (DBS) HIV test, a new, free, easy, private and accurate way to test for HIV without needing to visit a clinic, launched in December 2016.
<https://www.hivtest.health.nsw.gov.au/>

[TREAT EARLY]

Continue to **support rapid treatment** initiation among people newly diagnosed and increase the proportion of all people with HIV on treatment:

- Support linkage and retention in care for people with HIV by providing comprehensive support to both doctors and patients through the specialised NSW HIV Support Program
- Strengthen HIV services to support rapid treatment initiation, treatment adherence and retention in care
- Strengthen shared care arrangements between GPs and HIV specialists to support the health needs of people with HIV in the community setting.

CURRENT STATUS

 **93%**

of people with HIV who receive care in public sexual health and HIV services and 96% of people who receive care in high and medium case load GP practices were on treatment for HIV.

 **87%**

of the people newly diagnosed with HIV in NSW from January to June 2016 had commenced treatment within six months of diagnosis, with 60% on treatment within 6 weeks.

[PREVENT]

Make a full range of prevention tools and risk reduction options available in NSW.

- Rapidly expand access to and uptake of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) for all people at a high risk of HIV infection
- Deliver targeted and innovative community mobilisation and prevention interventions for priority populations including a focus on condoms
- Provide a responsive NSW Needle and Syringe Program, to reduce sharing of injecting equipment.

CURRENT STATUS

 **PrEP**


EPIC-NSW, a public health intervention to provide HIV PrEP to people at a high risk of HIV infection, was launched 1 March 2016 and has enrolled 4,385 people at high risk of HIV infection to 31 December 2016.

 **Men who have sex with men**

Among gay men with casual sexual partners surveyed, 63% reported practicing safe sex¹. This has remained stable since 2009. (SGCPS, 2016)

 **Sex Workers**

High rates of consistent condom use (Callander et al, 2016) and high levels of HIV testing with 93% testing for HIV in the last year.

 **People Who Inject Drugs**

20% of people who inject drugs reported receptive sharing of needles and syringes in the last month. (NSW NSP Enhanced Data Collection, 2016)

The Government will continue to actively monitor and report on HIV surveillance data in NSW, and will continue to make changes to programs and services that are necessary to strengthen our response to achieve the targets in the *NSW HIV Strategy 2016-2020*.

EPIC-NSW: AN INNOVATIVE NEW HIV PREVENTION PROGRAM



Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) is a new way for people to protect themselves from HIV



Including PrEP as part of routine care and preparing the system for after EPIC-NSW



EPIC-NSW provides PrEP to people at a high risk of HIV infection



EPIC-NSW is conducted as a partnership between NSW Health, the Kirby Institute (UNSW Australia), private and public sector clinicians and ACON



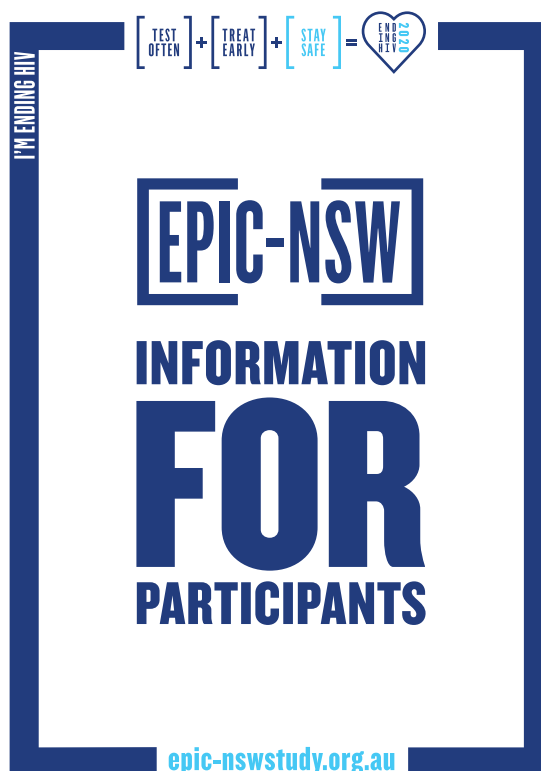
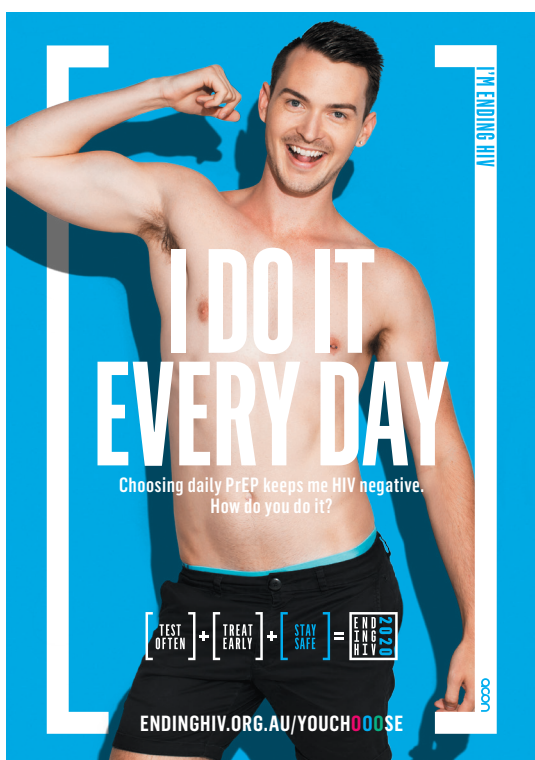
EPIC-NSW is the critical addition to help us reduce HIV transmission in NSW



<https://epic-nswstudy.org.au/>



4385 people got PrEP through EPIC-NSW from March to December 2016 (6154 people as of June 2017)



www.health.nsw.gov.au/endinghiv

Suggested citation: NSW Ministry of Health, NSW HIV Strategy 2016-2020, June 2017