

# New: NAM's email bulletin of HIV prevention news

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The Department of Health has funded a new national programme of HIV prevention for gay men, other men who have sex with men, and African communities in England. It is called HIV Prevention England (HPE).

As part of the programme, NAM is providing a regular, concise update on the evolving evidence, news and policy of interest to people providing, commissioning or influencing HIV prevention work in England.

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## HIV prevention news England



17 December 2012

- HPA recommendations on HIV testing
- Patients dropping out of care and HIV prevention
- New evidence of treatment as prevention
- ART beliefs and risky sex
- Young people born with HIV
- Mother-to-child transmission
- MBARC's role in HIV Prevention England
- Other recent news headlines
- Editors' picks from other sources

### HPA recommendations on HIV testing

The Health Protection Agency (HPA) has released the latest epidemiological data on HIV in the United Kingdom, showing that in 2011 an estimated 96,000 people were living with HIV, but that 24% of them were unaware of their infection.

And, among those who were newly diagnosed with HIV, 47% were diagnosed late (with a CD4 count below 350). While this is an improvement on 2002's figure of 60%, several other countries do better in diagnosing people earlier. There are inequalities too, with heterosexual men and black African people most likely to be diagnosed late.

The HPA has found that few sexual health commissioners in high-prevalence areas have commissioned HIV testing in GP surgeries or in hospital admissions units, although BHIVA and NICE guidelines recommend this.

In the HPA's annual HIV report, six of its eight recommendations concern testing, including:

- Annual testing for men who have sex with men (MSM) – or every three months if having unprotected sex with new or casual partners
- "Regular" testing for black African and Caribbean people who have unprotected sex with new or casual partners.
- In high-prevalence areas, implementation of routine HIV testing for new GP patients and new hospital admissions.
- Clinicians outside of sexual health settings should take every opportunity to offer HIV testing to MSM and black African or Caribbean people.

#### Related links

[Read this news report in full on aidsmap.com](#)

[Read the headline findings on new diagnoses on aidsmap.com](#)

#### Local delivery partners

HIV Prevention England is inviting organisations to submit tenders to provide local HIV prevention work in England. The tender information and documents will be available on Monday 17 December at [www.mbarc.co.uk/hpe](http://www.mbarc.co.uk/hpe)

All enquiries about the programme should be emailed to [hpe@mbarc.co.uk](mailto:hpe@mbarc.co.uk)

#### New prevention bulletin



This is a new monthly bulletin, for anyone working in HIV prevention in England.

If you have any comments on this edition, or suggestions for future editions, please get in touch with us at [info@nam.org.uk](mailto:info@nam.org.uk).

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