

Prevention, testing, treatment and care of HIV, HCV and other infections in prisons and other closed settings

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People in prison

A systematically neglected part of community

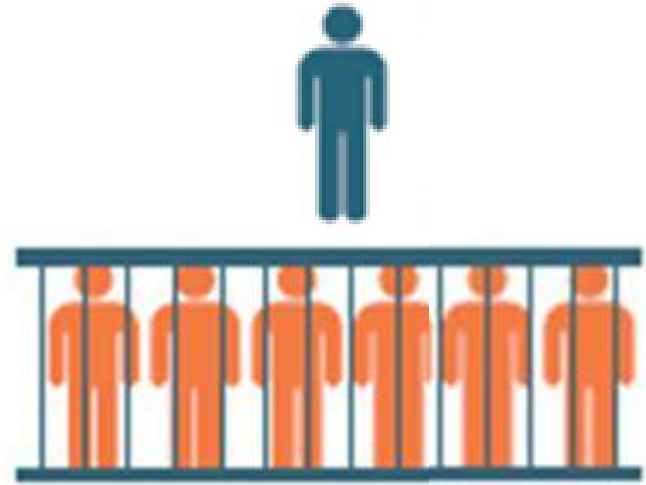
Vulnerabilities and risk factors

- Overcrowding
- Overrepresentation of key populations
- Weaker health profile
- Poor prison conditions
- Poor prison management
- Insufficient mental health support
- Limited access to health care services
- Isolation from public health system
- Stigma, discrimination and violence



Facts

- People in prison are **6 times** more likely to be living with HIV than adults in the community; HIV/AIDS and TB are among the main **causes of death** in prison
- In prison:
 - 4.3% HIV
 - 15.1% HCV
 - 4.8% chronic HBV
 - 2.8% active TB
 - ? COVID-19



Sources:

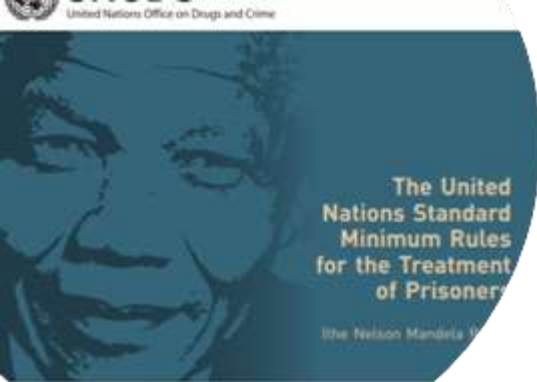
- UNAIDS GAM report 2020
- Dolan et al. (2016) Global burden of HIV, viral hepatitis, and tuberculosis in prisoners and detainees. *The Lancet*, 388, 1089-1102.
- Fazel, Yoon and Hayes (2017) Substance use disorders in prisoners: an updated systematic review and meta-regression analysis in recently incarcerated men and women. *Addiction* 112



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International standards for health and human rights for people in prison

- Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 3, 5, and 16)
- United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (**the Nelson Mandela Rules**)
- Outcome document of the 2016 UNGASS Special Session on the World Drug Problem
- United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (**the Bangkok Rules**)
- Global AIDS Strategy 2021-2026: End Inequalities. End AIDS
- 2021 Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: Ending inequalities and getting on track to end AIDS by 2030



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The Nelson Mandela Rules

- Treat all people in prison with respect
- Consider individual needs of prisoners
- Same standards of health care as in the community
- Organise health-care services to ensure continuity of care
- Qualified health-care professionals shall interview and examine everyone on admission and thereafter as necessary
- Medical examinations shall be undertaken in full confidentiality
- Same ethical and professional standards as in the community



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Guiding principles

- Access to medical treatment and preventive measures without discrimination
- Access to health services in prisons consistent with medical ethics
- Safe workplace and adequate occupational health services for prison staff
- Access to meaningful activity, recreation and sports, and contact with family
- Rights to freedom from violence or abuse by other people in prison
- Right to freedom from physical abuse, torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment at the hands of prison staff
- Access to accountability mechanisms
- All treatment should be voluntary, with informed consent
- Confidentiality of health information



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Global AIDS Strategy 2021–2026

End Inequalities. End AIDS

- Inequalities led to disparities in access, HIV infections and AIDS-related deaths
- COVID-19 brought inequalities to the forefront and exposed fragility of gains made
- Use inequalities lens to close gaps that prevent progress towards ending AIDS. **Strategic Priorities:**
 1. Maximize equitable and equal access to HIV services and solutions
 2. Break down barriers to achieving HIV outcomes
 3. Fully resource and sustain efficient HIV responses and integrate them into systems for health, social protection, humanitarian settings and pandemic responses.



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2021 Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS

Ending inequalities and getting on track to end AIDS by 2030 (*June 2021*)

- Key populations more likely to be exposed to HIV
- Stigma, discrimination, violence
- Restrictive and discriminatory laws and practices
- Commits to **prioritizing HIV prevention** and ensuring that by 2025, **95 per cent** of people at risk of HIV infection have **access** to and **use appropriate, prioritized, person-centred and effective combination prevention** options by tailoring HIV combination prevention approaches to meet the diverse needs of key populations including people in prison

UNODC promotes

- Reduce overcrowding:
- Prison health is public health: prison as an integral part of national response
- Promote compliance with international standards / Nelson Mandela Rules
- Consider populations with special needs
- Reduce stigma, discrimination and rights violations / Reporting measures
- Continuity and sustainability of HIV prevention, treatment and care services
- Ensure linkages to community health facilities
- Improve M&E

Comprehensive Package of Interventions: HIV prevention, testing, treatment and care in prisons and other closed settings



Prevention of HIV and HCV

HIV diagnosis and treatment

Prevention, diagnosis and treatment of hepatitis and TB

Gender responsive services

Occupational safety and health



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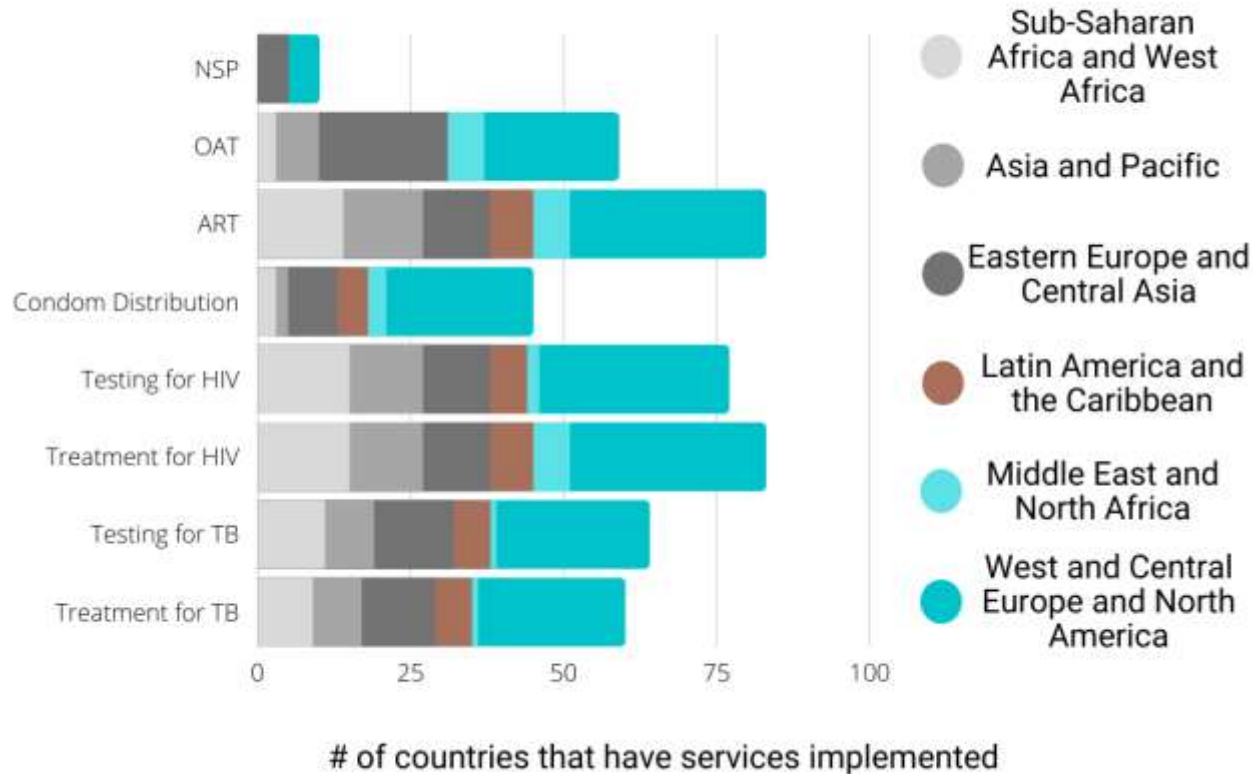


Testing and treatment

- Be voluntary and easily accessible
- Require informed consent
- Be confidential and accompanied by
 - high-quality pre-test information
 - quality assurance mechanisms
 - post-test counselling

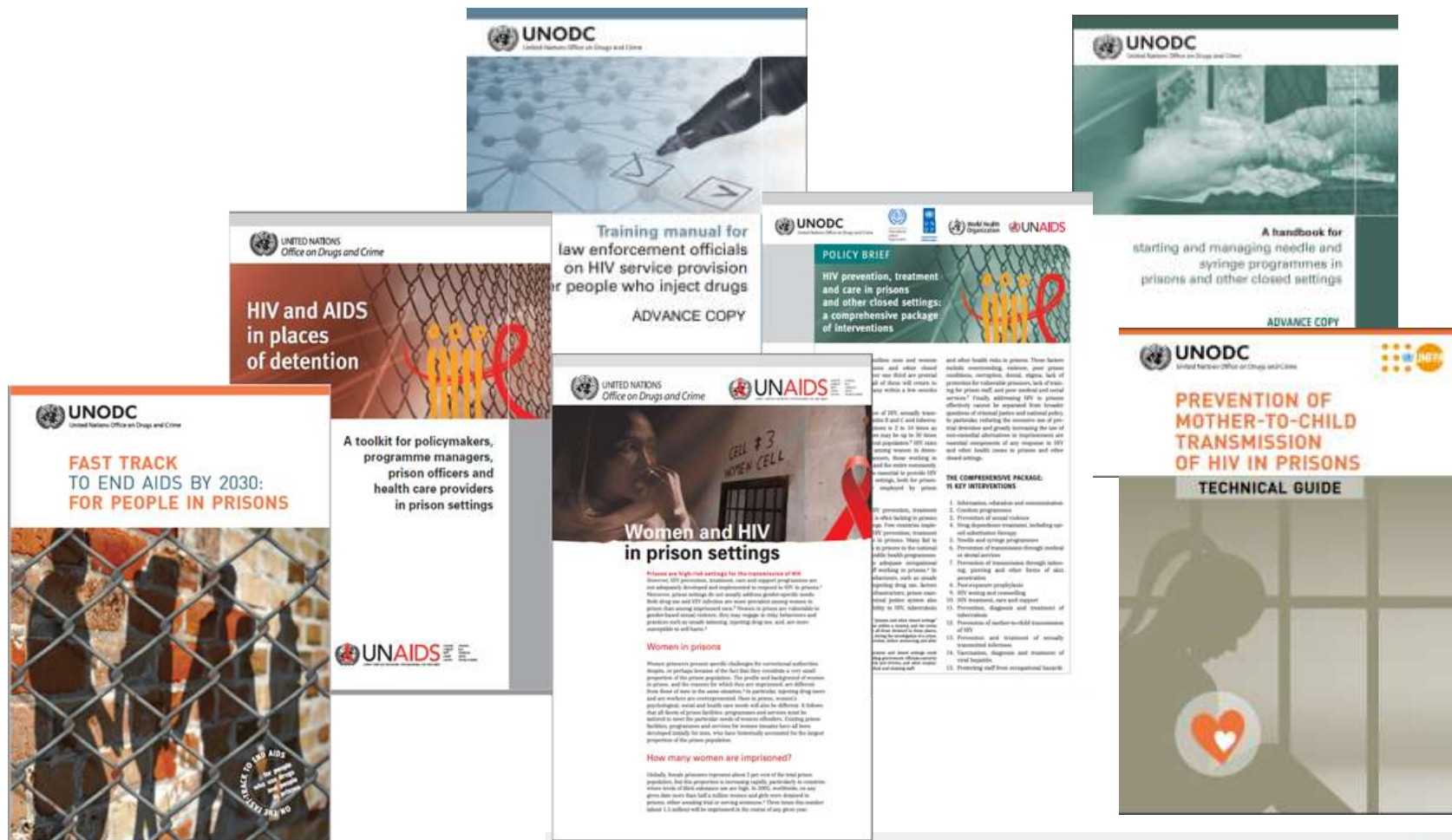
Service coverage

HIV services in prison worldwide



Data source: UNAIDS country reports 2017-2020 (GAM 2020); Global State of Harm Reduction (HRI) 2020

Technical guidance and tools



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COVID-19: Human rights considerations

- Decongest prison cells and improve prison sanitation
- Maintain prisoners' access to open air; use rotating system
- Ensure contact with the outside world. Provide alternatives to visits such as telephone or Skype calls
- Grant continued access to legal advisors and representatives of external inspection bodies
- Reduce stigmatization or discrimination
- Ensure continuity of services and commodities for people with special needs
- All the above apply equally to persons in medical isolation

Technical guidance and tools



UNODC, WHO, UNAIDS and OHCHR Joint Statement on COVID-19 in Prisons and Other Closed Settings

Rights in the time of COVID-19

Lessons from HIV for an effective, community-led response.



COVID-19 PREVENTION AND CONTROL AMONG PEOPLE LIVING IN PRISON

People in prison should enjoy quality health care that is at least equivalent to that available in the community, and should have access to necessary healthcare services free of charge without discrimination on the grounds of their legal status.

HOW DOES COVID-19 SPREAD?

- It is spread by direct contact with an infected person, or by contact with their saliva, blood, sweat, or tears.
- It is spread by contact with a contaminated surface, such as a doorknob or a piece of clothing.
- It is spread by contact with a contaminated object, such as a piece of clothing or a piece of furniture.

WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19?

- A fever or a cough.
- A loss of taste or smell.
- A sore throat.
- A runny nose.
- A headache.
- A fatigue.
- A chest pain.
- A difficulty breathing.

ADVICE FOR PRISONERS

- Stay at home as much as possible.
- Avoid public places.
- Avoid contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid contact with animals.
- Avoid contact with insects.
- Avoid contact with plants.
- Avoid contact with water.
- Avoid contact with food.
- Avoid contact with clothing.
- Avoid contact with shoes.
- Avoid contact with bags.
- Avoid contact with boxes.
- Avoid contact with containers.
- Avoid contact with vehicles.
- Avoid contact with buildings.
- Avoid contact with infrastructure.
- Avoid contact with services.
- Avoid contact with facilities.
- Avoid contact with equipment.
- Avoid contact with tools.
- Avoid contact with materials.
- Avoid contact with resources.
- Avoid contact with information.
- Avoid contact with communication.
- Avoid contact with technology.
- Avoid contact with media.
- Avoid contact with entertainment.
- Avoid contact with education.
- Avoid contact with training.
- Avoid contact with development.
- Avoid contact with innovation.
- Avoid contact with research.
- Avoid contact with knowledge.
- Avoid contact with wisdom.
- Avoid contact with understanding.
- Avoid contact with insight.
- Avoid contact with perception.
- Avoid contact with awareness.
- Avoid contact with realization.
- Avoid contact with recognition.
- Avoid contact with acknowledgment.
- Avoid contact with appreciation.
- Avoid contact with gratitude.
- Avoid contact with thankfulness.
- Avoid contact with praise.
- Avoid contact with honor.
- Avoid contact with respect.
- Avoid contact with esteem.
- Avoid contact with regard.
- Avoid contact with consideration.
- Avoid contact with regard.
- Avoid contact with respect.
- Avoid contact with esteem.
- Avoid contact with regard.
- Avoid contact with consideration.

COVID-19 PREVENTION AND CONTROL AMONG PEOPLE WORKING IN PRISON

People in prison should enjoy quality health care that is at least equivalent to that available in the community, and should have access to necessary healthcare services free of charge without discrimination on the grounds of their legal status.

COVID-19 IS A RESPIRATORY VIRUS

- It is spread by direct contact with an infected person, or by contact with their saliva, blood, sweat, or tears.
- It is spread by contact with a contaminated surface, such as a doorknob or a piece of clothing.
- It is spread by contact with a contaminated object, such as a piece of clothing or a piece of furniture.

WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19?

- A fever or a cough.
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- A fatigue.
- A chest pain.
- A difficulty breathing.

MAIN ROUTES OF TRANSMISSION

- Direct contact with an infected person.
- Indirect contact with a contaminated surface.
- Indirect contact with a contaminated object.

Symptoms of COVID-19

- Fever.
- Cough.
- Shortness of breath.
- Fatigue.
- Chest pain.
- Difficulty breathing.

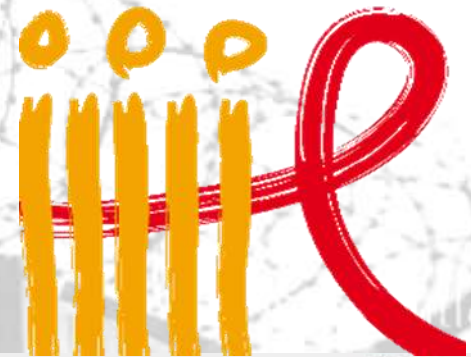
KEEP ABRIST OF THE LATEST GUIDANCE FOR COVID-19 IN PRISON AT THE UNODC WEBSITE: WWW.UNODC.ORG/UNODC/EN/NEWS/INDEX.HTML



THANK YOU



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