

STRATEGIC FOCUS

Active Strategic Scale-up of Comprehensive HIV Services to Close Geographic and Sub-population Gaps:

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Nigeria office was established in February 2001 and provides technical leadership and assistance to the Federal Ministry of Health (MOH) and implementing partners to scale-up comprehensive HIV services to general and key populations, tuberculosis (TB) services, and related laboratory services, while mitigating the impact of HIV on affected families through the orphans and vulnerable children program.

Strengthening Laboratory Systems and Networks: CDC provides technical leadership and assistance to the Government of Nigeria and stakeholders for in-country capacity building for optimized laboratory networks and improved access to quality laboratory diagnostics services, including molecular diagnostic services for HIV, TB, and associated diseases and conditions. This ensures patient management decisions and public health actions are informed by sound laboratory evidence. CDC also supports partnership building with key donors, governments, and communities for laboratory systems investments for high-impact interventions.

Strengthening National Public Health Institute(s) and Public Health Systems: CDC supports institutional capacity building and overall health systems strengthening for a robust surveillance system for diseases of public health importance, as well as capacity for the early detection and response to outbreaks and overall pandemic/epidemic preparedness. CDC's support includes, but is not limited to, strengthening epidemiology, surveillance, laboratory systems, medical informatics, operational research, and workforce capacity. These areas of work are essential in a robust, sustainable public health system. In addition, CDC supports the National HIV Clinical Mentorship Program to build clinicians' capacity and ensure program sustainability.

KEY ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Nigeria Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) Surge and Retention Revolution: CDC supports Nigeria in rapidly identifying people living with HIV (PLHIV) and ensuring they are linked to and sustained on treatment, accelerating progress toward achieving HIV epidemic control. The ART Surge initiative commenced in April 2021 and has changed the treatment landscape in Nigeria, with nearly two million PLHIV on ART as of March 2023, of which 1.2 million are supported by CDC. Sixteen out of the 18 states and Federal Capital Territory supported by CDC have attained treatment saturation (≥ 81 percent ART coverage). Additionally, since the implementation of the Retention Revolution Program in 2021, treatment interruptions across CDC-supported states were successfully reduced from eight percent in March 2020 to one percent by March 2022.

HIV Testing Services and ART Services: CDC supports implementing partners to provide targeted, high-quality, differentiated HIV testing, treatment, and other related services with increasing efficiency. Between April 2022 and March 2023, CDC, through its partners, provided HIV testing services to close to 6.2 million people in Nigeria, of which 149,244 were HIV positive and 145,685 were linked to treatment. In addition, 691,246 orphans and vulnerable children received one or more services through CDC implementing partners at the end of March 2023 (PEPFAR Nigeria, 2022). CDC is implementing a Recent Infection Public Health Response Strategy to improve HIV case finding and break the chains of HIV transmission. CDC also initiated HIV/TB/COVID-19 integrated services to increase access to care.

Biometric capture for deduplication: As part of a national data quality improvement exercise, CDC, working with other U.S. Government agencies, helped the government establish an automated biometric identification system within the National Data Repository (NDR). By the end of June 2023, the system allowed CDC-supported facilities to collect fingerprints for 1,268,880 (98.4 percent) clients that receive treatment across about 1,200 CDC-supported sites. Fingerprint templates were uploaded to the NDR, linked to client records, and through information exchange, the deduplication of fingerprints was done in an automated biometric information system. The automated biometric system identified about 1,234,646 (97 percent) of the clients' records as unique, while about 34,234 (3 percent) were duplicates.

Prevention of Mother-to-Child HIV Transmission (PMTCT): CDC worked with local stakeholders and partners to establish 1,044 clinical sites offering PMTCT services. According to PEPFAR Nigeria data (April 2021 – March 2022), 1,136,852 pregnant women knew their HIV status at antenatal clinics. Of these, 21,267 women with HIV diagnosis received ART to reduce or prevent mother-to-child transmission. In addition, the 27,033 babies born to women with a HIV diagnosis received early infant diagnosis within the first 12 months of life (PEPFAR Nigeria, 2022).

TB/HIV: CDC strengthens TB/HIV activities by providing technical guidance to five implementing partners. Between April 2022 and March 2023, CDC partners screened 1,202,090 (>97 percent) HIV patients receiving ART for symptoms of TB. Further, 15,721 (100 percent) TB patients knew their HIV status, and 99 percent of those co-infected with HIV started ART. Additionally, 121,215 PLHIV began TB preventive treatment (TPT), and 98 percent completed TPT (the highest among all PEPFAR countries, alongside Cote d'Ivoire). In addition, CDC implemented bi-directional screening and testing for TB and COVID-19 for patients and healthcare workers, supporting early detection of community-acquired and healthcare-associated TB.

Key Country Leadership

President:
Bola Ahmed Tinubu

CDC/DGHT Director:
Adetunke (Mary) Boyd

Country Quick Facts
(worldbank.org/en/where-we-work)

Per Capita GNI:
\$2,140 (2022)

Population (millions):
218.54 (2022)

Under 5 Mortality:
110.8/1,000 live births (2021)

Life Expectancy:
52.7 years (2021)

Global HIV/AIDS Epidemic
(aidsinfo.unaids.org)

Estimated HIV Prevalence (Ages 15-49): N/A

Estimated AIDS Deaths (Age ≥15): N/A

Estimated Orphans Due to AIDS: N/A

Reported Number Receiving Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) (Age ≥15): N/A

Global Tuberculosis (TB) Epidemic
(who.int/tb/country/data/profiles/en)

Estimated TB Incidence: 219/100,000 population (2021)

TB patients with known HIV status who are HIV positive: 5.9% (2021)

TB Treatment Success Rate: 90% (2021)

DGHT Country Staff:108
Locally Employed Staff: 94
Direct Hires: 14

Our success is built on the backbone of science and strong partnerships.

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