

WP5: Bridging research on HIV/STI prevalence and risks to evidence-based practice

Specific Objective 2: Bridge research to practice:

To advance by 2012 the state of research and evidence of HIV/STIs risks through outline of comparable risk behavioural indicators among vulnerable groups and to bridge to effective HIV combination prevention.

Research Component: Second Generation Bio-behavioural Surveillance

Implementation of behavioural second generation HIV/STIs surveillance among sex workers, incl. IDUs in 6 EU MS :

- Bulgaria,
- Estonia,
- Germany/Poland,
- Latvia,
- Romania,
- Slovak Republic.

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Rationale and objectives of Second Generation Surveillance:

- to bridge gaps in collection of comparable epidemiological and behavioural data in the group of Sex Workers throughout Europe;
- to augment the evidence on HIV/STIs prevalence and analysis of risk factors;
- to outline comparable indicators for behaviour change in the group of SWs to be addressed in prevention/diagnostic/treatment offers

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Description of Research Task : Second generation HIV/STI behaviour surveillance on sub-population group of SWs incl. IDUs among them

I. Biological and behavioural surveillance through face-to-face interview:

1) **Sample size:** between 200 and 300 respondents in each survey location;

2) **Sampling method:** combination of service- and respondent- driven sampling methods based on snow-ball technique;

-Service-driven:

- sex workers STI services,
- mobile medical units,
- outreach visits in prostitution scene.

- Respondent-driven:

- initial contacts with between 3 to 5 respondents will trigger several different chains of a snow-ball to study the context of risk and the social network of the group;

3) **Behavioural Indicators** (among others): transactional sex, condom use, HIV/STI testing and prevalence, access to care

II. Qualitative in-depth narrative interviews

- up to 5 in survey location on social determinants, access to social (re)-integration services and quality of life of the affected groups.

Tasks of SPI team:

- 1) Development of research protocol and instruments (M12);
- 2) Provision of supporting the associated partners in implementing the second surveillance surveys and qualitative survey;
- 3) Compiling the data, data entry and report writing (M30);
- 4) Presenting and discussing results in international SC and overall project meetings
- 5) Dissemination and publishing the results (M33);

Tasks of 6 partners:

- 1) Participating in the development of the research protocol
- 2) Desk and literature review on prostitution (national)
- 3) Fulfilling the ethical principles for research in vulnerable groups (M14)
- 4) Recruiting and training of interviewers
- 5) Carrying out the survey including laboratory test, documentation and reporting
- 6) Provide SPI with the data sets, laboratory results and survey documentation according to the research protocol (M22)
- 7) Preparing presentations and discussions on model region level (regional committees) and national level

Study Design Basics: Research Protocol (1)

Survey location	Sample size	Sample method	SW Scene	Blood Tests	Ethical Commission Approval by	Time for Survey Administration	Duration of Survey Administration in Months	Incentives
Sofia (BG)	150-200 FSW (100-130), MSW (50-70)	RDS + SDS	Indoor and outdoor,	Rapid /Whole blood Tests HIV/Syph./ HBV/HCV for FSW, HIV/Syph./ Chlam/Go for MSWs	HESED has own ethic board	April-June 2011	3 months	Ca. 7.5 EUR p. P. as a gift
Tallinn (EE)	250	RDS + SDS	Indoor and outdoor	Whole Blood Test: HIV/Syph./ HBV/HCV, Price 21.7 EUR	2-3 weeks needed from submission	March-June 2011	4 months	6.4 EUR gift card for participating and the same for recruiting other respond.
Berlin/Brandenburg (DE)	200 2/3 Berlin, 1/3 border/PL	SDS+RDS	Indoor / Outdoor	Whole Blood Tests HIV/Syph./ HBV/HCV	Berlin: max. 2 weeks needed Brandenburg: Lubuskie?	April-August 2011	5 months	10 EUR as a gift voucher Douglas/Rossmann

Study Design Basics: Research Protocol (2)

Survey location	Sample size	Sample method	FSW Scene	Blood Tests	Ethical Com Mision Approval by	Time for Survey Administration	Duration of Survey Administration in Months	Incentives
				Rapid /Whole blood Tests	Feb 2011 (M14)	from March 2011 on till end August		
Riga (LV)	200	RDS + SDS	indoor	Whole Blood Test: HIV/Syph./ HBV/HCV, Chlamyd/ Herpex simplex II	There are 3 differ. commissions, cost - ca. 70 EUR	April-June 2011	3 months	Ca. 7.2 EUR p.P. as a voucher for cosmetic
Bucharest (RO)	200	RDS + SDS	outdoor	Rapid: HIV/Syph./ HBV/HCV, cost ca. 4.6 EUR	Situated at MoH	April-August 2011	5-6 months	Ca. 5-6 EUR p.P. as a „social value voucher“
Bratislava (SK)	300	RDS + SDS	outdoor	Whole blood: HCV (kat. c. 07-9864), HBsAg (kat. c. 07-9893), HIV and syph. (hexagon)	No special permission needed for NGOs	April-August 2011	5-6 months	Ca. 3 EUR p.P.

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Code of survey location:

Bratislava - 01

Bucharest -02

Potsdam-03

Riga - 04

Sofia -05

Tallinn -06

Code of respondents:

1st letter of first name, month of birth, date of birth, 1st letter of mother's name

Example: V0402J (Vanessa, born on 2 April, mother's name Jane)

Unique respondent's code will be put on the paper questionnaire and on the vacutainer with blood sample