

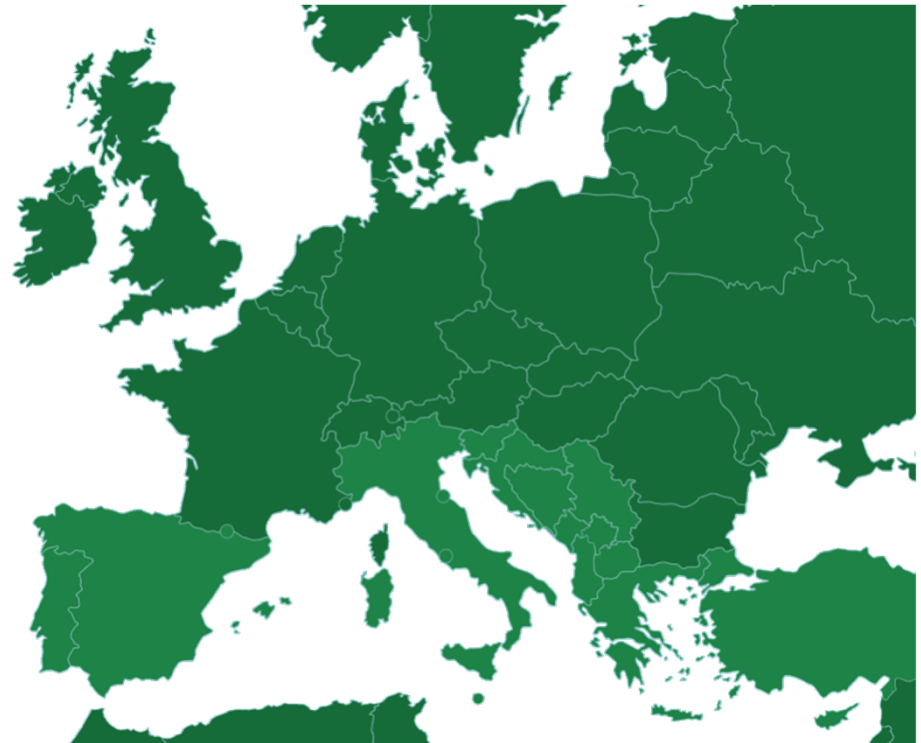
High contribution, low public funding: Southern European Checkpoints' role in HIV detection in 4 countries

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Checkpoints, definition

Definition: Community-based and peer-led centres tailored for HIV combined prevention, testing and linkage to care, targeted for men who have sex with men (MSM).



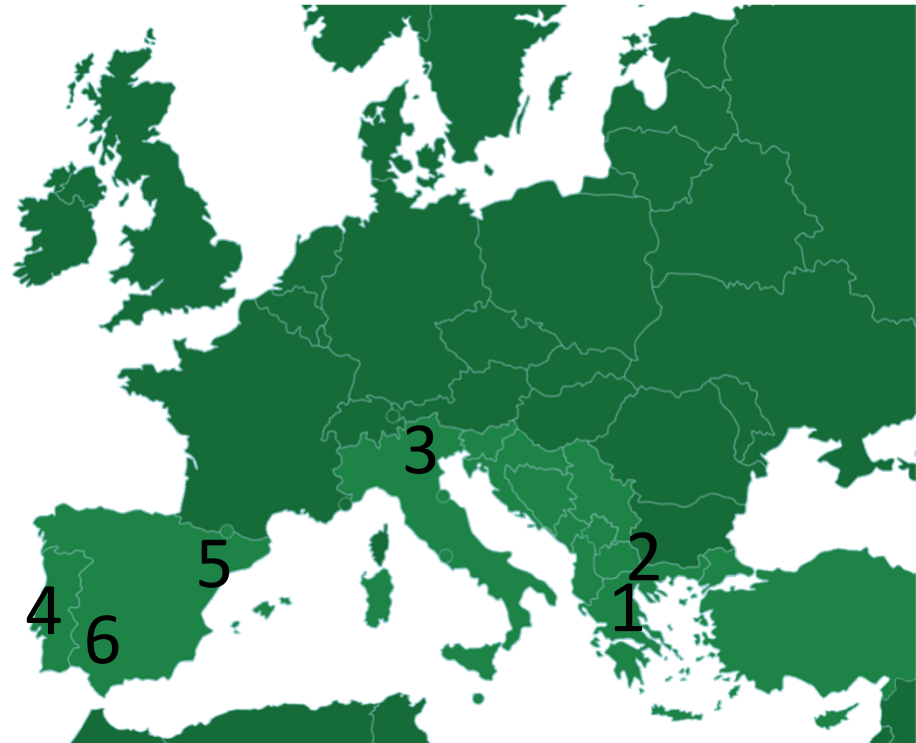
Background

- HIV epidemic in EU/EEA affect mostly men ([ECDC, 2018](#)):
 - rate of new HIV diagnoses was higher among men (9.0 vs. 2.8 per 100 000 population);
 - overall male-to-female ratio was 3:1;
 - predominant mode of transmission in these countries was sex between men.
- Checkpoints have proven to:
 - increase the acceptability and uptake of rapid HIV testing among MSM ([Campbell et al 2018](#));
 - be cost-effective in HIV detection ([Perelman et al 2016](#));
 - have high user satisfaction ([Préau et al 2016](#));
 - identify patients at an earlier stage of HIV infection than testing in clinical settings ([Freeman-Romilly et al 2017](#)).

Checkpoints, location

Southern European Checkpoints:

1. Greece, Athens, Aths Checkpoint
2. Greece, Thessaloniki, Thess Checkpoint
3. Italy, Bologna, BLQ Checkpoint
4. Portugal, Lisbon, CheckpointLX
5. Spain, Barcelona, BCN Checkpoint
6. Spain, Sevilla, Sevilla Checkpoint



Objective

To demonstrate the contribution of Checkpoints from Southern Europe in the detection of new HIV cases in MSM in 2015, 2016 and 2017.

Method

New HIV cases in MSM reported to ECDC were compared with new HIV cases in MSM detected at 6 Checkpoints - years 2015 to 2017.

Both 100% linkage to care and 100% report of the new HIV diagnosis to ECDC were assumed.

Result A: %HIV cases in MSM per MSM tested at checkpoints per year

Checkpoints (country)	Column 1 #MSM tested for HIV			Column 2 #MSM confirmed positive for HIV			Column 3 %HIV cases per MSM tested		
	2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017
Aths and Thess (Greece)	4940	6011	5661	182	118	127	3,68	1,96	2,24
BCN and Seville (Spain)	5580	6346	6710	196	174	174	3,51	2,74	2,59
BLQ (Italy)	232	517	685	3	7	7	1,29	1,35	1,02
LX (Portugal)	2009	2352	2696	107	98	114	5,33	4,17	4,23
All checkpoints	12761	15226	15762	488	397	422	3,82	2,61	2,68

Result B: % of contribution of checkpoints to total number of new HIV diagnostics reported to ECDC

Checkpoints (country)	Column 1 % of country overall cases			Column 2 % of country cases in Men			Column 3 % of country cases in MSM			
	2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017	
Aths and Thess (Greece)	23,45	15,19	19,72	26,49	22,18	24,42	28,54	38,06	43,49	≈ 37 in 100 MSM
BCN and Seville (Spain)	4,46	4,16	4,39	5,45	5,20	6,36	8,46	8,07	9,99	≈ 9 in 100 MSM
BLQ (Italy)	0,08	0,19	0,19	0,11	0,25	0,27	0,21	0,50	0,53	≈ 4 in 100 MSM
LX (Portugal)	8,04	7,30	8,68	10,82	10,40	14,84	20,66	20,63	29,16	≈ 23 in 100 MSM
All checkpoints	4,73	4,01	4,41	6,06	5,20	6,35	10,30	9,17	11,26	≈ 10 in 100 MSM

Conclusions

From 2015-2017, 6 Checkpoints detected:

- ≈4% of 4 country overall HIV cases;
- ≈6% of 4 country male HIV cases;
- ≈10% of 4 country MSM HIV cases.

No Checkpoint being fully funded with public funds, and some receiving no public funds to support their responses;

Reaching the goals by 2030 will likely not be feasible if private funding is responsible for sustaining some of our most effective responses.

Checkpoints, affiliation



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