

EuroTEST Annual Report

2025



EuroTEST

Working together for integrated
testing and earlier care

Addressing Hepatitis, HIV, STIs and TB

A Message from the EuroTEST Co-Chair

Looking back on 2025, I am struck by how much **EuroTEST** continues to achieve — and by the extraordinary people who make it possible.

This has been a year of meaningful progress. European Testing Week reached 30 countries across the wider European region, the European Test Finder connected more people than ever to nearby testing services, and our scientific work on late HIV diagnosis and consent requirements is now entering the peer-reviewed literature. In Brussels, we brought that evidence to the European Parliament. And in Dublin next year, we look forward to welcoming the broader community to HepHIV2026.

Behind every activity and number in this report are people — community workers running testing events and building trust with underserved key populations, clinical and public health colleagues and patients advocating for change. It is their dedication that makes EuroTEST what it is.

I want to express my sincere gratitude to everyone who contributed in 2025: the members of our working groups and steering committee, our partners at ECDC, WHO/Europe, EACS, IUSTI and EASL, the organisations that joined European Testing Week, and the country colleagues who engaged in consultancies. Your commitment is the foundation on which this initiative stands.

Testing gaps persist and too many people across Europe are still diagnosed too late. But the collective expertise and energy gathered under the EuroTEST banner gives genuine cause for optimism.

Thank you for being part of this work.

Jürgen Rockstroh

EuroTEST Co-Chair



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European Testing Week

A Strong Campaign Season

European Testing Week (ETW) celebrated another successful year in 2025. A total of **139** organisations and institutions from **30** countries signed up to participate in the **autumn campaign**, representing a diverse mix of civil society organisations, healthcare providers, and public health institutions. The **spring campaign** was affected by a technical issue, resulting in a lower-than-expected sign-up figure of **70** organisations from **22** countries.

Despite this setback, both campaigns generated substantial testing activity with a strong and positive present on social media. Data from the COBATEST network organisations participating in ETW confirmed a 44% increase in tests performed during Spring ETW and a striking 169% increase during Autumn ETW, compared to the week before the campaign.



Reaching Migrants and Mobile Populations

The 2025 campaign theme — reaching migrants and mobile populations with testing services — gave participating organisations a clear focus and practical guidance. A dedicated theme statement was produced and widely disseminated, offering concrete suggestions for how to reduce the structural and individual barriers that prevent migrants and mobile populations from accessing testing and linkage to care.

To support this theme, a webinar was held in May featuring an overview of the current epidemiological picture from ECDC alongside practical country examples from organisations working with these communities across Europe. The webinar materials are available on the ETW website.



Growing the Campaign Network

Sustained promotion efforts throughout 2025 attracted 40 new organisations and institutions that had never previously participated in ETW, bringing the total cumulative number of unique participants since the campaign's launch in 2013 to 869. Promotion took place across multiple channels, including social media (Facebook, Instagram and YouTube), the ETW website and newsletters, and through in-person engagement at major European conferences. New materials —

including an introductory campaign pamphlet and a flyer with campaign ideas — were produced and distributed at events and through an ETW booth at both the IUSTI-Europe Congress in Athens and the European AIDS Conference in Paris. At the European AIDS Conference in Paris, the ETW booth attracted strong interest from conference delegates, with visitors invited to take part in a social media photo opportunity that extended the campaign's reach across organisational networks.



Strengthening Partnerships with STI Physicians

In 2025, EuroTEST deepened its collaboration with IUSTI (International Union Against Sexually Transmitted Infections) to engage STI clinicians more actively in ETW. The secretariat hosted a dedicated ETW session titled "How to organise a testing campaign — experiences from European Testing Week". The session featured practical

presentations from ETW-participating organisations in Greece, Georgia and the Netherlands, and included an insightful contribution from Malta on the work with testing migrants and mobile populations.

Find out more about ETW here www.testingweek.eu

European Test Finder

More Services, More People Reached

The European Test Finder continued to grow in 2025, with the number of registered testing services increasing from 438 at the end of 2024 to 495 in 42 different countries by the end of 2025. The total number of services (testing and treatment) reached 855. The average monthly visitor count reached 14,280, reflecting the platform's growing role as the go-to tool for people searching for nearby HIV, hepatitis B and

C, and STI testing services across Europe. Continued partnership with Grindr4Equality further increased reach among the app users. Outreach to testing providers was carried out through social media, ETW newsletters, direct email contact, and the ETW sign-up process, where participants offering testing services are prompted to register on the website. The secretariat also added information about national test finders to strengthen coverage.



European Test Finder
testing for HIV, hepatitis & STIs

G4E
GRINDR FOR EQUALITY

World Hepatitis Day is here!
Early detection saves lives!
Get tested today!

[Find a testing site](#)

Find the European Test Finder here www.testfinder.info

L'Arc de Triomphe

Find the nearest place to get tested

European Test Finder
testing for HIV, hepatitis & STIs

www.testfinder.info

Great to see the European Test Finder being promoted on the streets of Paris 🙌

Guidance on Blood-Borne Virus Testing in EDs

Drawing on the well-documented success of opt-out blood-borne virus (BBV) screening in UK emergency departments (EDs), EuroTEST initiated a project in 2025 to develop practical public health guidance supporting implementation of integrated BBV screening across European EDs. An advisory group was established comprising representatives from ECDC, IUSTI and EASL, alongside infectious disease specialists, emergency medicine physicians, virologists, epidemiologists and patient organisations. Three thematic subgroups conducted a rapid literature review across three databases,

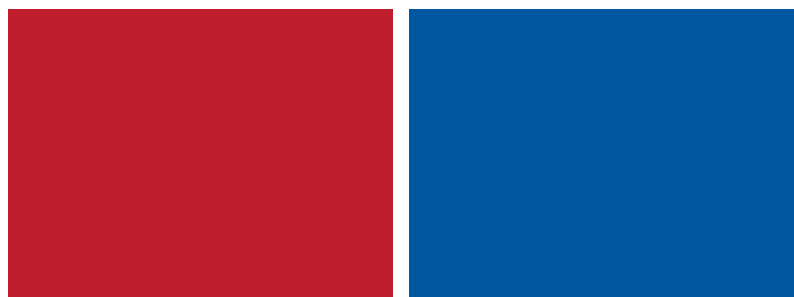
supplemented by grey literature, extracting and structuring relevant data into thematic decision-making tables. Based on this evidence and expert consensus, 11 practice recommendations were formulated covering the key steps for implementation — from BBV prevalence assessment and cost-benefit evaluation to consent requirements, staff training and patient pathways. The draft recommendations were presented at a dedicated session at the EACS Conference in Paris in October 2025. A public consultation is planned for 2026, with stakeholder feedback incorporated into the final guidance document.



Implementing the Revised 2022 HIV Late Diagnosis Definition

The 2022 updated definition of HIV late diagnosis introduced the possibility of re-classifying individuals diagnosed with low CD4 cell count during seroconversion as 'not late', based on three markers of recent infection: laboratory evidence of recent infection, a negative HIV test within 12 months of diagnosis, or clinical evidence of acute seroconversion illness. To translate this into operational use, EuroTEST conducted a multi-country pilot study in nine European countries during 2024–2025, estimating country-specific correction factors and producing updated national late diagnosis estimates. After applying the revised definition, the overall HIV late diagnosis rate decreased from 56% to 50%, with an overall correction factor of 10%

ranging from 3% to 25% across countries. The correction factor was consistently higher for younger individuals and for men who have sex with men. Availability of recent infection markers varied substantially across countries, underscoring the need for systematic improvement in data collection at clinic and national surveillance levels. Key results were presented as an oral presentation at the 20th European AIDS Conference in Paris in October 2025, and a manuscript has been accepted by Eurosurveillance.



Self-Testing and Self-Sampling: A Scoping Review



In 2025, a newly established EuroTEST working group on self-testing and self-sampling initiated a scoping review to address a core evidence gap: the extent to which self-testing and self-sampling for HIV, HCV and STIs are available and accessible across Europe and Central Asia. The scoping review followed established methodology and was designed to provide an up-to-date, comprehensive overview of the current landscape across the WHO

European Region, including mapping national policies, available products and accessibility for key populations. Finalisation and submission of the results to a peer-reviewed academic journal is planned for 2026. Findings will directly inform the working group's future priorities and contribute to ongoing European policy discussions around decentralised and person-centred testing approaches.

Country Support Activities

EuroTEST partners, in collaboration with EACS, delivered a full programme of country support activities in 2025, combining peer learning, expert advice, and direct technical assistance. Two publicly accessible webinars were hosted in partnership with EACS and ECDC on building partnerships between civil society and clinical services for STI prevention among MSM, and on raising STI awareness among adolescents and young adults. Both are available as recordings on the ECDC learning platform. Technical consultancies were initiated to support Germany in defining which real-world data on doxy-PEP

use for bacterial STI prevention should be collected across clinical settings, and to assist Belgium in developing a strategic framework for an integrated national HIV, STI, and hepatitis strategy.



HepHIV2026 Conference: Dublin in the Planning



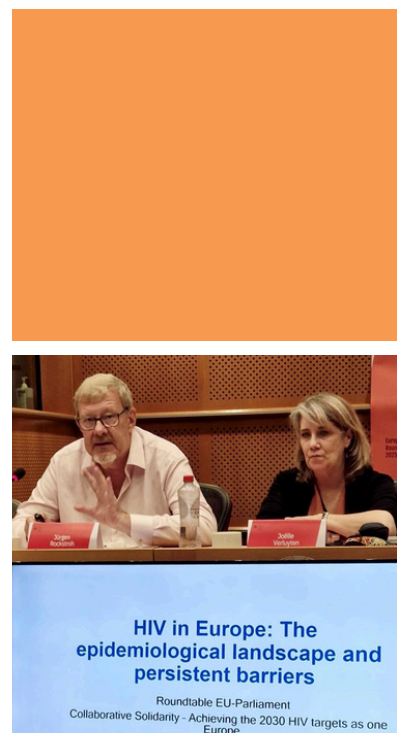
In 2025, preparations were started for HepHIV2026, EuroTEST's biennial conference, which will take place on 2–3 November 2026 in Dublin, Ireland, coinciding with the Irish Presidency of the Council of the EU. The conference has been a cornerstone of EuroTEST's work since its first edition in Brussels in 2007, providing a unique platform where clinical, community, and public health perspectives converge around the latest evidence on testing and linkage to care. A 19-member Organising Committee was established, bringing

together HIV, hepatitis and STI experts, pan-European networks and representatives from European institutions. The central theme — "Progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals and other global targets related to testing and linkage to care for HIV, viral hepatitis, STIs and TB" — will anchor a programme that addresses sustainable testing strategies, innovative prevention approaches, and the intersection of implementation research with policy and programme delivery.

Speaking up at the European parliament

EuroTEST was invited to present at a high-level EU Roundtable at the European Parliament in Brussels on 30 June 2025, organised by the European AIDS Clinical Society and hosted by MEP Krzysztof Smiszek. The roundtable brought together scientific evidence, community insights and the current political context to review challenges and strategies for ending the HIV epidemic in Europe. EuroTEST co-chair Jürgen Rockstroh used the platform to advocate for expanding PrEP eligibility criteria beyond men who have sex with men, calling for inclusion of people who inject drugs, prisoners, sex workers, transgender people, undocumented migrants, women and pregnant individuals. The EuroTEST consent mapping findings — which demonstrate that written consent remains a barrier to HIV testing in more than a third of European countries — were

specifically highlighted as a systemic obstacle requiring urgent political attention. The event was a valuable opportunity for EuroTEST to contribute its evidence and perspective to European HIV policy discussions.



Publications and Presentations

2025 Presentations

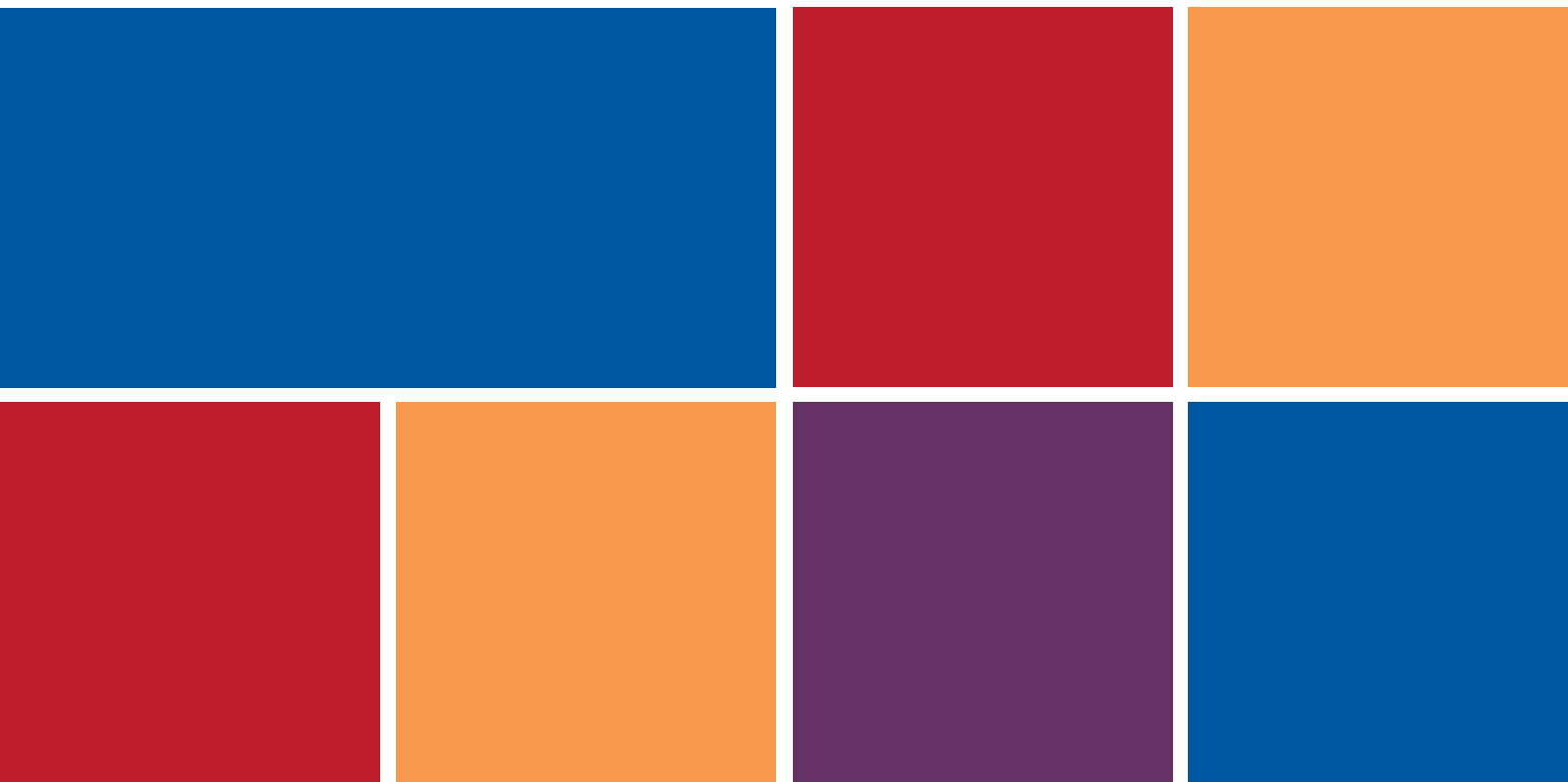
- Kirwan P, Stengaard A, Brännström J, Van Beckhoven J, van Sighem A, Op de Coul E, Bartmeyer B, Koppe U, Martins HC, Maly M, Wessman M, Tsiara C, Ferentinos G, Suligoi B, Grabar S, Sullivan AK, Reyes J, Pharris A, Kuchukhidze G, Kirk O, Croxford S, Delpech V, Raben D, EuroTEST Steering Committee. **Impact of a revised late HIV diagnosis definition on late HIV estimates in Europe: A multi-country pilot study.** Abstract O2.3. 20th European AIDS Conference; 15–18 October 2025; Paris, France.
- Stengaard AR. **Time to Revert Increasing Epidemics: Epidemiology of Viral Hepatitis and HIV in Central and Eastern Europe.** 9th Central and Eastern European Meeting on Viral Hepatitis and HIV 2025; 5–6 November 2025; Bucharest, Romania.

Publications in Preparation

- Stengaard AR, Sullivan AK, Simões D, Diderichsen J, Raben D, Rockstroh JK, for the EuroTEST Steering Committee. **An overview of consent requirements for HIV and viral hepatitis B and C testing in Europe.** HIV Med [in press].
- Kirwan P, Stengaard A, Brännström J, Van Beckhoven J, van Sighem A, Op de Coul E, et al. **Impact of a revised consensus definition of late HIV diagnosis in Europe: A multi-country study.** Euro Surveill [under review].

Financial statement

EuroTEST is grateful for the financial support received from Gilead Sciences, ViiV Healthcare, Merck/MSD, and the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC), without which this work would not be possible. All funders are acknowledged for their support while having no influence over the initiative's activities, priorities or outputs.



EUROPEAN TESTING WEEK
TEST.TREAT.PREVENT.
www.testingweek.eu



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-  www.eurotest.org
-  eurotest@regionh.dk
-  www.facebook.com/EuroTESTorg/



EuroTEST
 Working together for integrated testing and earlier care
 Addressing Hepatitis, HIV, STIs and TB

EuroTEST Steering Committee

The Steering Committee is an independent group of experts in HIV, viral hepatitis and sexually transmitted infections. The Committee is instrumental in helping achieve the aims and objectives of EuroTEST.

European Testing Week Working Group members

The ETW Working Group brings together experts from across the WHO European Region on HIV, viral hepatitis and STIs, supporting the campaign by shaping its direction, decisions and materials.