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|  | HIV MONITORING PLAN |
| Measuring progress against the National HIV Action Plan for Aotearoa  New Zealand 2023–2030 |
| June 2024 |

Background pattern

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# Overview of the HIV Monitoring Plan

## Purpose

The HIV Monitoring Plan has been developed to support and measure progress towards achieving the goals and targets of the National HIV Action Plan for Aotearoa New Zealand 2023–2030 (the HIV Action Plan).

## Background – the HIV Action Plan

Published in March 2023, the HIV Action Plan has the vision of ‘an Aotearoa New Zealand where HIV transmission is eliminated and all people living with HIV have healthy lives free from stigma and discrimination’.

The HIV Action Plan has five overall goals:

* + - 1. reduced number of new locally acquired HIV infections
      2. improved Māori health and wellbeing in relation to HIV by delivering on our Tiriti o Waitangi obligations
      3. decreased mortality and the negative consequences of HIV on health and wellbeing
      4. decreased experiences of stigma and discrimination for people living with HIV
      5. increased equity in relation to all HIV goals and objectives.

Within some of the goals, the HIV Action Plan outlines the following targets to meet by 2030:

* locally acquired infections reduce by 90% compared with the 2010 baseline[[1]](#footnote-1)
* the low incidence of HIV is sustained among sex workers and people who inject drugs
* cases of mother-to-child transmission are maintained at zero
* 95% of people who are at risk of HIV use combination prevention
* 95% of people living with HIV know their status
* 95% of people who are diagnosed with HIV are on treatment
* 95% of people who are on HIV treatment have viral suppression
* no AIDS-related deaths occur
* no people living with HIV experience stigma and discrimination.

This HIV Monitoring Plan outlines the indicators that are used to monitor progress towards achieving these goals and targets by 2030.

## Developing the HIV Monitoring Plan

The HIV Monitoring Plan Working Group, which included members from Health New Zealand - Te Whatu Ora, Te Aka Whai Ora - Māori Health Authority, Ministry of Health -Manatū Hauora, and people with lived experience of HIV, developed the HIV Monitoring Plan draft indicators. Then the Sexually Transmitted and Blood Borne Infections (STBBI) Technical Advisory Group assessed each indicator for priority and feasibility. This assessment was based on the availability of data and how useful each indicator would be to monitor progress towards achieving the five goals of the HIV Action Plan.

All indicators included in this Monitoring Plan are priority indicators as determined by the STBBI Technical Advisory Group. For some indicators, monitoring is not currently feasible because insufficient data is available, but the STBBI Technical Advisory Group still considered monitoring them is a priority so they are included in this Monitoring Plan. There will be ongoing work to access the data needed to monitor those indicators.

## Future review of the HIV Monitoring Plan and updates to indicators

The HIV Monitoring Plan will be reviewed periodically to ensure it is up to date and aligned with the latest priorities and available data. Any future updates to the Monitoring Plan will be made publicly available.

# HIV Monitoring Plan indicators

## Monitoring Goal 1: Reduced number of new locally acquired HIV infections

### Targets for 2030

* Locally acquired infections reduce by 90% compared with the 2010 baseline.[[2]](#footnote-2)
* The low incidence of HIV is sustained among sex workers and people who inject drugs.
* Cases of mother-to-child transmission are maintained at zero.
* 95% of people who are at risk of HIV use combination prevention.

#### Priority indicators that are currently feasible to monitor:

| **No.** | **Indicator** | **Data source** | **Frequency** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Count of new diagnoses of HIV acquired in Aotearoa New Zealand | AIDS Epidemiology Group (AEG) | Annually |
| 2 | Count of new diagnoses of HIV acquired in Aotearoa New Zealand among gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men (GBMSM), people who inject drugs (PWID), sex workers and prisoners | AEG | Annually |
| 3 | Count of late HIV diagnoses (<350 cell/µL) | AEG | Annually |
| 4 | Count of HIV-positive infants born in Aotearoa New Zealand among HIV-positive pregnant people | AEG | To be confirmed (TBC) |
| 5 | Count of HIV tests in the past 12 months among GBMSM | Sex and Prevention of Transmission Study (SPOTS) | Three-yearly (TBC) |
| 6 | Count of GBMSM using combination prevention among GBMSM with casual sexual partners in the past six months | SPOTS | Three-yearly (TBC) |
| 7 | Count of people dispensed one or more Pharmaceutical Management Agency Ltd (Pharmac)-subsidised HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) prescriptions in the past 12 months among those who are eligible | Pharmac | Annually |
| 8 | Count of respondents who received PrEP in the past 12 months among all those who are eligible | SPOTS | Three-yearly (TBC) |
| 9 | PrEP cascade (similar to treatment cascade): suitability, awareness, willingness, use (disaggregated by, eg, age, ethnicity, number of partners, region) | SPOTS | Three-yearly (TBC) |
| 10 | Count of PWID who report reusing another person’s used needle and syringe among all PWID attending the New Zealand Needle Exchange Programme (NZNEP) | NZNEP | TBC |

#### Priority indicators that are not currently feasible to monitor until further work is complete

| **No.** | **Indicator** | **Data source** | **Frequency** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 11 | Percentage of new HIV diagnoses contact-traced annually (ie, stopping chains of transmission or clusters) | To be decided (TBD) | TBD |
| 12 | Count of antenatal HIV tests among those who have given birth in the past 12 months | TBD | TBD |
| 13 | Count of PrEP users who had a sexually transmitted infection (STI) test in the past 12 months | TBD (indicator currently limited to GBMSM data from SPOTS) | TBD |
| 14 | Count of active PrEP prescribers in the past 12 months (disaggregated by region and population) | Burnett Foundation, Pharmac | TBD |

## Monitoring Goal 2: Improved Māori health and wellbeing in relation to HIV by delivering on our Tiriti o Waitangi obligations

#### Priority indicators that are currently feasible to monitor

| **No.** | **Indicator** | **Data source** | **Frequency** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 15 | Count of new diagnoses of HIV acquired in Aotearoa New Zealand among Māori | AEG | Annually |
| 16 | Count of new diagnoses of HIV in Aotearoa New Zealand among Māori GBMSM, PWID, sex workers and prisoners | AEG | Annually |
| 17 | Count of late HIV diagnoses (<350 cell/µL) for Māori | AEG | Annually |
| 18 | Count of HIV-positive infants born in Aotearoa New Zealand among HIV-positive pregnant Māori | AEG | TBC |
| 19 | Count of GBMSM using combination prevention among Māori GBMSM with casual sexual partners in the past six months | SPOTS | Three-yearly (TBC) |
| 20 | Count of people dispensed one or more Pharmac-subsidised PrEP prescriptions in the past 12 months among all eligible Māori | Pharmac | Annually |
| 21 | Count of respondents who received PrEP in the past 12 months among all eligible Māori | SPOTS | Three-yearly (TBC) |
| 22 | PrEP cascade (similar to treatment cascade) for Māori: suitability, awareness, willingness, use | SPOTS | Three-yearly (TBC) |
| 23 | Count of Māori diagnosed with AIDS | AEG | Annually |
| 24 | Count of AIDS-related deaths among Māori diagnosed with AIDS | AEG | Annually |
| 25 | Count of Māori whose viral load is less than 200 copies/mL[[3]](#footnote-3) among all people receiving anti-retroviral treatment (ART) | Pharmac, AEG, lab test, data linking | TBC |
| 26 | Count of Māori people living with HIV (PLHIV) dispensed ART through Pharmac among all notified PLHIV | Pharmac, AEG, data linking | TBC |

#### Priority indicators that are not currently feasible to monitor until further work is complete

| **No.** | **Indicator** | **Data source** | **Frequency** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 27 | Count of antenatal HIV tests among Māori who have given birth in the past 12 months | TBD | TBD |
| 28 | Count of Māori PrEP users who had an STI test in the past 12 months | TBD (indicator currently limited to GBMSM data from SPOTS) | TBD |
| 29 | Count of diagnosed PLHIV among all Māori PLHIV | AEG, denominator TBD | TBD |
| 30 | Proportion of Māori PLHIV who report quality of life (QoL) to be high (score: 45–53) and very high (54–65) among all Māori PLHIV in the Quality of Life in PLHIV in Aotearoa New Zealand (PozQoL) study[[4]](#footnote-4) | PozQoL study | TBD |
| 31 | Count of Māori survey participants who experienced any stigma or discrimination in relation to their HIV status in the past 12 months and more than 12 months ago | Stigma Index, [[5]](#footnote-5) SPOTS | TBD |
| 32 | Count of Māori survey participants who experienced any stigma or discrimination in relation to their HIV status in a health care setting in the past 12 months and more than 12 months ago | Stigma Index, SPOTS | TBD |
| 33 | Count of Māori survey participants who experienced any stigma or discrimination in relation to their sexual orientation in the past 12 months and more than 12 months ago | Stigma Index, SPOTS | TBD |
| 34 | Count of Māori survey participants who experienced any stigma or discrimination in relation to their workplace, or experienced employment change or employment refusal, in the past 12 months | Stigma Index, SPOTS | TBD |

## Monitoring Goal 3: Decreased mortality and the negative consequences of HIV on health and wellbeing

### Targets for 2030

* 95% of people living with HIV know their status.
* 95% of people who are diagnosed with HIV are on treatment.
* 95% of people who are on HIV treatment have viral suppression.
* No AIDS-related deaths occur.

#### Priority indicators that are currently feasible to monitor

| **No.** | **Indicator** | **Data source** | **Frequency** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 35 | Count of people diagnosed with AIDS | AEG | Annually |
| 36 | Count of AIDS-related deaths among people with AIDS | AEG | Annually |
| 37 | Count of people whose viral load is less than 200 copies/mL[[6]](#footnote-6) among all people receiving ART | Pharmac, AEG, lab test, data linking | TBC |
| 38 | Count of PLHIV dispensed ART through Pharmac among all notified PLHIV | Pharmac, AEG, data linking | TBC |

#### Priority indicators that are not currently feasible to monitor until further work is complete

| **No.** | **Indicator** | **Data source** | **Frequency** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 39 | Count of PLHIV among Aotearoa New Zealand population | TBD | TBD |
| 40 | Count of diagnosed PLHIV among all PLHIV | AEG (denominator TBD) | TBD |
| 41 | Count of PLHIV among priority populations and settings | SPOTS | TBD |
| 42 | Proportion of PLHIV who report QoL to be high (score: 45–53) and very high (54–65) among all PLHIV in the PozQoL study[[7]](#footnote-7) | PozQoL study | TBD |
| 43 | Proportion of study participants able to meet basic needs among all study participants | PozQoL study | TBD |
| 44 | Count of participants diagnosed with a mental health condition (eg, anxiety, depression, insomnia) among all study participants | PozQoL study | TBD |
| 45 | Count of participants who have accessed counselling services among all study participants | PozQoL study | TBD |
| 46 | Count of participants with people close to them who have been supportive on disclosure of HIV among all study participants | PozQoL study | TBD |

## Monitoring Goal 4: Decreased experiences of stigma and discrimination for people living with HIV

### Target for 2030

* No people living with HIV experience stigma and discrimination.

#### Priority indicators that are not currently feasible to monitor until further work is complete

| **No.** | **Indicator** | **Data source** | **Frequency** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 47 | Count of participants experiencing any stigma or discrimination in relation to their HIV status in the past 12 months and more than 12 months ago among all survey participants | Stigma Index[[8]](#footnote-8), SPOTS | TBD |
| 48 | Count of participants experiencing any stigma or discrimination in relation to their HIV status in a health care setting in the past 12 months and more than 12 months ago among all survey participants | Stigma Index, SPOTS | TBD |
| 49 | Count of participants experiencing any stigma or discrimination in relation to their sexual orientation in the past 12 months and more than 12 months ago among all survey participants | Stigma Index, SPOTS | TBD |
| 50 | Count of participants experiencing any stigma or discrimination in relation to their workplace, or experiencing employment change or employment refusal, in the past 12 months among all survey participants | Stigma Index, SPOTS | TBD |
| 51 | Count of general population expressing stigma or discrimination towards PLHIV among all survey participants | Verian Survey[[9]](#footnote-9) | TBD |
| 52 | Survey participants with an understanding of Undetectable = Untransmittable (U=U) among all survey participants | Verian Survey | TBD |

## Monitoring Goal 5: Increased equity in relation to all HIV goals and objectives

Where possible, disaggregate all indicators by sexual identity/behaviour, age, gender, ethnicity, deprivation, disability, rurality and refugee/migrant status.

1. The 2010 baseline for locally acquired HIV infections was 85 cases. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. The 2010 baseline for locally acquired HIV infections was 85 cases. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. A viral load of less than 200 copies/mL means there is no risk of HIV transmission to sexual partners. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. McAllister S, Iosua E, Hollingshead B, et al. 2022. Quality of Life in People Living with HIV in Aotearoa New Zealand: An exploratory cross-sectional study. *AIDS Care* 35(10). 1518-25. DOI: 10.1080/09540121.2022.2082359 (accessed 6 March 2024).

   The Quality of Life in People Living with HIV in Aotearoa New Zealand: An exploratory cross-sectional study (McAllister et al 2022) will provide data for indicator 30. However, it will not be feasible to monitor this indicator until a similar quality of life study using the PozQoL scale has been completed. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. The Aotearoa New Zealand People Living with HIV Stigma Index 2020 Report and the Aotearoa New Zealand People Living with HIV Stigma Index Māori Participant Report 2021 will provide data for indicators 31–34. However, monitoring for these indicators will not be feasible until a similar stigma index has been repeated. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. A viral load of less than 200 copies/mL means there is no risk of HIV transmission to sexual partners. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. The Quality of Life in People Living with HIV in Aotearoa New Zealand: An exploratory cross-sectional study (McAllister et al 2022) will provide data for indicators 42–46. However, it will not be feasible to monitor for these indicators until a similar quality of life study using the PozQoL scale has been completed. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. The Aotearoa New Zealand People Living with HIV Stigma Index 2020 Report will provide data for indicators 47–50. However, it will not be feasible to monitor for these indicators until a similar Stigma Index has been repeated. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. Previously the Colmar Brunton survey. Colmar Brunton merged with Kantar in 2021 and rebranded to Verian in November 2023. [↑](#footnote-ref-9)