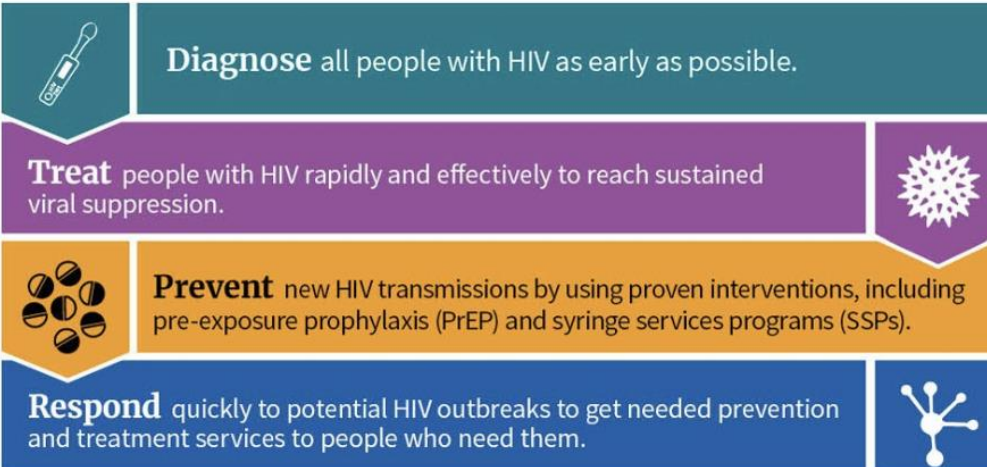


# Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America

To achieve the goal of reducing new HIV infections in the United States by 75% by 2025 and 90% by 2030, *Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America* focuses on four key strategies that together can end the HIV epidemic in the U.S.:

**Diagnose, Treat, Prevent, and Respond.**



## Diagnose all individuals with HIV as early as possible after infection.



More than 160,000 Americans are unaware they are living with HIV. Early detection coupled with rapid linkage to care is critical and can lead to improved individual and community health outcomes. Improved, more accessible, and routine HIV testing, immediately connecting people with HIV to care services, and connecting those who test negative to appropriate prevention services are important activities supporting this strategy. CDC, HRSA, IHS, SAMHSA and other agencies are working in collaboration with communities to increase local capacity to expand the availability of HIV testing in health centers, emergency departments, substance abuse prevention and treatment programs, mobile units, as well as community-based organizations and non-traditional settings such as bars, parks, and during community festivals.

## Treat people with HIV rapidly and effectively to reach sustained viral suppression.



Current HIV treatment guidelines recommend all people with HIV begin treatment as soon as possible after receiving a diagnosis. Today, people with HIV who take HIV medication as prescribed and stay virally suppressed can live long, healthy lives and have effectively no risk of sexually transmitting HIV to a partner. Increasing the proportion of people with HIV who are virally suppressed is a key strategy to prevent new HIV transmissions. Using innovative new models of service delivery, including building on the success of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program, we seek to increase viral suppression to 90 percent nationally by 2030. Currently, CDC estimates the overall viral suppression rate in the United States is 53 percent. Achieving this target requires:

- Promptly linking individuals newly diagnosed with HIV to care and treatment, including through rapid start treatment programs;
- Finding innovative and effective ways to re-engage the estimated 250,000 individuals who are aware of their infection but not receiving HIV care and treatment; and
- Supporting those already in care who have not yet achieved viral suppression to achieve control of the virus.

HHS agencies are working with healthcare providers, Ryan White clinics and health centers, health departments, and other partners to expand capacity, strengthen systems, establish new programs and services, and forge new partnerships to tailor and implement these approaches as appropriate in their communities.

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## Prevent new HIV transmissions by using proven interventions, including pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and syringe services programs (SSPs).



Since the HIV epidemic affects communities differently, plans developed locally with community member input will guide the scale-up of proven prevention interventions and strategies. This will increase the access to and availability of PrEP and SSPs, in the communities where these services are needed most.

PrEP is a pill that reduces the risk of getting HIV when taken as prescribed. However, of the estimated 1 million Americans at substantial risk for HIV who could benefit from PrEP, fewer than 1 in 4 actually use it. HHS agencies will support states and local communities to implement strategies to increase access to and use of PrEP—especially among African American and Latino gay and bisexual men, African American women, and other populations disproportionately affected by HIV. In addition, health centers will expand PrEP services. In May 2019, HHS and Gilead Sciences announced that the pharmaceutical company had agreed to donate PrEP medication for up to 200,000 individuals each year for up to 11 years. In December 2019, HHS launched [Ready, Set, PrEP](#), a nationwide program that provides PrEP medications at no cost to thousands of individuals who qualify.

SSPs are another effective component of a comprehensive, integrated approach to HIV prevention for people who inject drugs. Nearly 30 years of research has proven SSPs are a safe, effective, cost-saving intervention that does not contribute to illegal drug use or crime. SSPs play an important role in reducing the transmission of viral hepatitis, HIV, and other infections. Comprehensive SSPs dramatically reduce HIV risk and can provide an entry point for a range of services to help stop drug use, overdose deaths, and infectious diseases. CDC will work with SAMHSA to increase access to and use of comprehensive SSPs, and will work with local communities to implement SSPs where they are needed and permitted by state and local laws.

## Respond quickly to potential HIV outbreaks to get needed prevention and treatment services to people who need them.



New laboratory methods and epidemiological techniques allow us to see where HIV may be spreading most rapidly, thereby allowing CDC to help local public health officials to quickly develop and implement strategies to stop ongoing transmission. Real-time response systems are key to ending the HIV epidemic in the United States. HHS agencies are working with impacted communities to ensure they have the additional expertise, technology, personnel, and prevention resources to follow up on all HIV cases and to intervene to stop chains of transmission, and to get those impacted into appropriate care and treatment.

In implementing these strategies, the Plan's major areas of action include:

- **Increasing investments in geographic hotspots** through existing programs such as the [Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program](#) as well as establishing new programs through [community health centers](#) to provide outreach, HIV testing, pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), and care coordination.
- **Using data** to identify where HIV is spreading most rapidly and guide decision-making to address prevention, care, and treatment needs at the local level.
- Supporting the jurisdictions to **establish local teams committed to the success of the Initiative** who will work with the community to design locally developed, locally tailored plans to expand HIV prevention and treatment services.

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## INITIATIVE'S GOALS:

REDUCE NUMBER OF NEW TRANSMISSIONS BY

75%  
by 2025



90%  
by 2030

### Six EHE indicators:



Incidence



Knowledge of  
status



Diagnosis



Linkage to HIV  
medical care



PrEP coverage



Viral  
suppression