

HIV and syphilis annual reports now published!

We are pleased to announce that the latest [HIV](#) and [syphilis](#) data reports have been published on gov.uk covering pregnancies booked in 2021-22. Key highlights are presented here:

HIV

There were **536 pregnancies in women living with HIV** booked for antenatal care in 2021-22.

- **89%** of pregnancies were in women **diagnosed before pregnancy**.
- **Median maternal age was 35 years**, with 1 in 5 pregnancies to women over 40.
- 1 in 5 pregnancies were in women born in the UK and two-thirds to women born in Africa.
- **Most women (95%) diagnosed before pregnancy were on ART before pregnancy** (Figure 1)
- **91%** of deliveries were in women with **undetectable viral load (<50copies/ml)**.
- The vertical transmission rate remains below 0.4%. Where transmissions occur late booking and adherence to ART are factors.

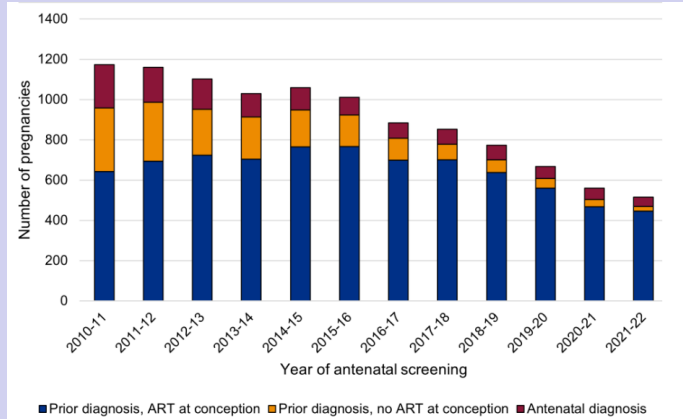


Figure 1: Timing of maternal HIV diagnosis and ART (2010-22)

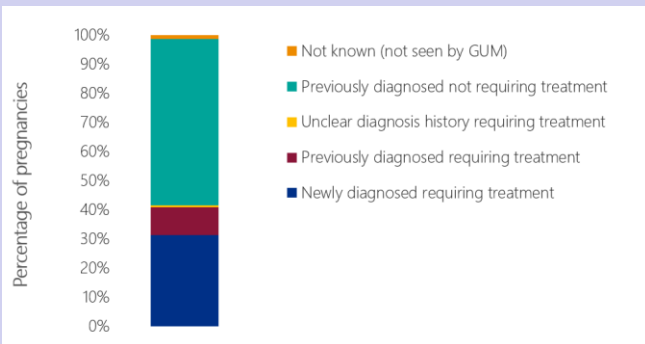


Figure 2: Diagnosis and treatment status of syphilis screen positive pregnancies booked in 2021-22

Syphilis

There were **931 syphilis screen positive pregnancies** in women booked for antenatal care in 2021-22.

- **41%** of women **required treatment** for syphilis (Figure 2)
- Median maternal age was 30 years with a fifth of pregnancies in women under 25 years.
- 70% of pregnancies in women of white ethnicity; 47% UK-born and 25% from Eastern Europe
- **90%** of women requiring **treatment received** it and the majority (99%) received benzathine penicillin
- **55 infants with congenital syphilis** have been reported to date (2015-23) with 16/55 reported since Jan 2022.

Annual Standards submission

A **BIG thank you** to all our maternity respondents for **submitting 100% of 2023-24** pregnancy reports required for this year's IDPS Standards by the end of June. All of you have reviewed and approved your Standards data (S05, S06 and S07) and we have had excellent feedback on the ISOSS dashboard and process. The data will soon be published on gov.uk.

Over the **next quarter** we will be pulling together your data for **S06 Q1** (HBV higher infectivity/new diagnosis booked 1 Apr 2024- 30 Jun 2024) and **S08 annual** (HBV lower infectivity/existing diagnosis booked 1 Apr 2023- 31 Mar 2024). Data will be available on your dashboard to **review from early September** so please ensure all **eligible HBV pregnancies** are up to date by the **end of August**. These notification forms will be highlighted in yellow on your dashboard.

Maternity reporting tips

In the **last two months** (May – July 2024) we have collectively managed to **reduce the number of data queries by 22%**. All of the recent improvements to our forms and your continuous support have helped us to keep the queries to a minimum. Thank you!



To **continue to keep queries to a minimum**, please, keep the following tips in mind:

- All **test results and measurements** have specific **units of measure** (e.g. height in cm, weight in kilos, viral load in IU/ml). Please make sure that the units are correct.
- **Syphilis reporting: Sexual Health** should be providing the date seen, details and dates of any treatment given, and whether full treatment course was completed by delivery. If you are experiencing any issues obtaining this information, please get in touch with the team so we can provide support.

ISOSS at conferences: BHIVA and BASHH

The ISOSS/CHARS team enjoyed attending and presenting at the British HIV Association (BHIVA) and British Association for Sexual Health and HIV (BASHH) annual conferences where we hosted stands and met with colleagues from sexual health and HIV.

The team presented posters on [ART in pregnancy](#), [Mobility in pregnancy](#) and [Paediatric HIV](#) at **BHIVA in Birmingham** in April. We continue to work closely with BHIVA Chair, Prof Yvonne Gillece and BHIVA Pregnancy Guidelines Chair, Dr Laura Byrne (pictured below).



In June the team attended **BASHH in Bournemouth**.

Helen Peters presented on [Congenital syphilis among women screening negative in pregnancy](#) and [Pregnancies to women with vertically acquired HIV](#). Emily Dema won the prize for **best poster** for [Coinfections in pregnancy in HBV screen-positive women](#). We enjoyed catching up with current BASHH President, Prof Matt Philips, and past President, Dr Claire Dewsnap (pictured above).

Paediatric reporting

CHARS updates:

We are seeing an **increase** in children and young people seen for HIV care **arriving from abroad**. Please remember to **report any diagnosed children new to your clinic** as soon as possible including those already diagnosed abroad or elsewhere in the UK.

Emily from the CHARS team presented at BHIVA on [ART, immune response and clinical outcomes among children & young people seen for paediatric HIV care in England in 2022-2023](#) and was awarded a highly commended poster.



Coming up: Look out for the new CHARS pharma module collecting enhanced data on specific drugs of interest

ISOSS Updates:

HIV follow-up: This quarter we will be pursuing any reports for children missing infection status born 2022 or before. This is vital data as it is used to produce our national vertical transmissions rate. A reminder that submitting this data is part of the NHS Standard Contract.



Case eligibility for syphilis: We only require paediatric forms for cases where the mother required treatment for syphilis during the pregnancy. If you can't see a notification form for a baby you are following up, please contact us before generating a form so we can check that the infant is eligible for inclusion in surveillance. NB: we generate paediatric forms every quarter so there may be some delay to reports appearing on your account