

# Romania's HIV epidemic

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## HIV history in Romania

- HIV in Romania can be traced back in the second half of the 1980s, with an epidemic affecting, during a first phase, the paediatric population, non-vertically infected.
- Starting with 2000s, HIV began to expand among the young adult population, the main transmission way being unprotected sexual contact.
- Romania's incidence has been kept at a low rate, in the adult population, among Central European EU countries, according to national and international evaluations.
- Romania's effort to ensure universal access to HIV treatment and care has begun since the early 1990s, with a main focus, at the time, on the paediatric cohort- non-vertically infected- between the late 1980s and early 1990s, **an effort which concretized in 2001 with specific care and therapy to all patients irrespective of CD4 count or viral load threshold.**

- In the same context, the rate of survival of the former children infected between 1988 and 1990, who are currently adults with their own families, continues to maintain high even now, 30 years after their HIV diagnosis.
  
- In what concerns pregnant women infected with HIV, the national mother-to-child transmission programme, initiated in 1999, managed to reduce the rate of perinatal HIV transmission to 0%.

# HIV epidemic in Romania

## 1985-2020



### Type of epidemic:

Long terms survivors' cohort (non-vertically infected in the late 1980 and early 1990s):  
41% from the overall PLWHA  
60% from YPLWHA 29-35 years

New wave:  
young heterosexual adults, MSMs, IDUs,  
MTCT from the new cases  
<2%

Cumulative HIV/AIDS cases 1985-2020:  
25486

Approximately 10.000 non-vertically infected children  
1988-1990 (at the date of diagnostics)

PLWHA registered in the national HIV/AIDS data base:  
16848  
YPLWHA:19-34 years (registered in the National Data Base)  
55,53%

HIV testing is provided with pre and post test counselling through the National ART Programme, ensured by MOH  
19 testing categories of testing

PLWHA UNAIDS estimates 2020:  
19.000

In active surveillance:  
13594 (80% from the overall PLWHA)

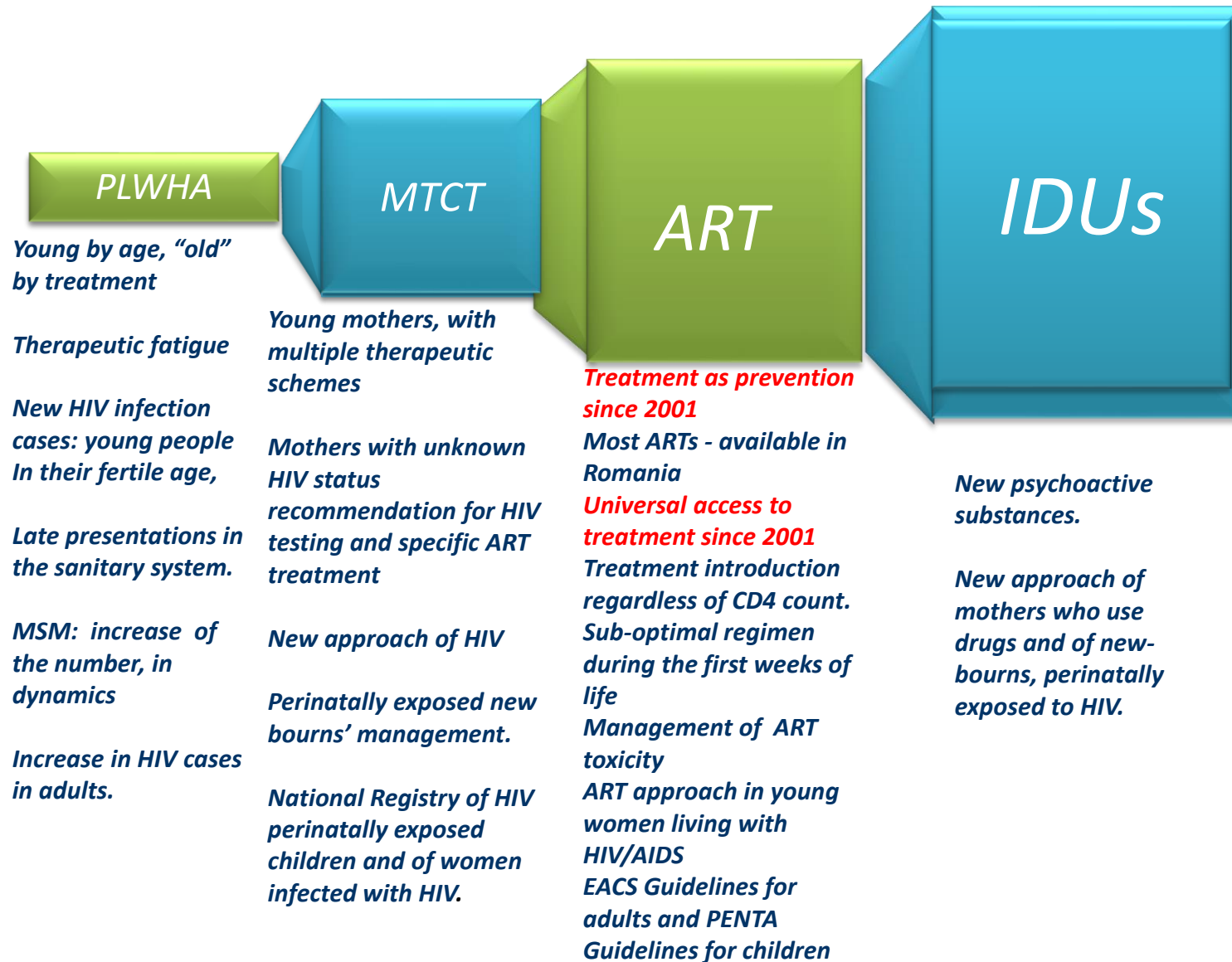
Patients under treatment:  
13487 (99% from those in active surveillance)  
ART treatment is provided by the National HIV programme of MoH  
Access to treatment in Romania is universal

Pts. V.L.\* <200 copies from pts. under treatment that were tested:  
76% (from the those under treatment)

# Traits of new HIV cases diagnosed in Romania in 2020

Gender	Age: Young age	Heterosexuals	MSM	IVDU	Viral load	CD4 count
Male- 76%	15-24 yrs: 15%	60% from the overall new cases	28% from the overall new cases	8% from the overall new cases HIV/HCV: 7%, HIV/TB: 13%, HIV/STIs: 6%	52% of new cases (both men&women): detectable viral load: 10.000-100.000 copies/ml	Male:55%<350 cell/mmc
Female- 24%	25-35 yrs: 34%					Female: 44% <350 cell/mmc
<p>HIV Subtype Distribution:</p> <p>Co-infected HIV/HBV in the Romanian cohort</p>			<p>Historically: F1 = 95%</p> <p>New cases: F1 = 77%<sup>1</sup>, B = 6.3%<sup>2</sup>, C and A = 16.7%</p> <p>CRF14_BG = 20.3% in IDU<sup>3</sup></p> <p>43.4%</p>			

# Current standards of care for HIV in Romania



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