

We are pleased to invite all delegates at the XV International AIDS conference to a satellite meeting on

# HIV Treatment for Drug Users – A Realistic Goal

**Date:** Thursday, July 15

**Time:** 18:00-20:00

**Place:** Room G, the IMPACT Exhibition and Convention Centre

Every tenth person living with HIV/AIDS worldwide was infected by a dirty needle. Access to life-saving HIV treatment, already limited globally, is even more limited for drug users. Even where they are the majority of HIV infections, drug users are routinely excluded from HIV treatment. Authorities excuse the gap by mentioning adherence problems and low motivation among drug users, but available research tells a different story. Research and treatment practice clearly show that drug users, including injectors, receive the same benefits from antiretroviral therapy as other people with HIV.

Join international experts, people living with HIV, and special guests for a session to share scientific evidence and practical lessons learned, to discuss problems and solutions to scaling up HIV treatment for drug users.

## Satellite program

Chair: Jim Kim, Director, HIV/AIDS Program, World Health Organization

Co-chair: Karyn Kaplan, Thai AIDS Treatment Action Group

- WHO 3by5 initiative and scaling up HAART to drug users  
*Jim Kim, Director, WHO HIV/AIDS Program*
- Drug users' right to life: Prioritizing healthcare over punitive policy  
*Paisan Suwannawong, Founding member, Thai Drug Users Network and Thai AIDS Treatment Action Group*
- Access to HIV treatment for injecting drug users in Eastern Europe and former Soviet Union  
*Konstantin Lezhentsev, Program Officer, International Harm Reduction Development Program, Open Society Institute*
- Obstacles and successes in getting HAART to IDUs in high-income countries  
*Gerald Friedland, Professor of Medicine and Epidemiology and Public Health, Yale School of Medicine, and Director, AIDS Program, Yale New Haven Hospital, New Haven CT, USA*
- Needs of drug users living with HIV/AIDS: A treatment activist agenda  
*Mauro Guarinieri, Chairperson, European AIDS Treatment Group*
- Linking harm reduction, drug and HIV treatment: Argentina experience  
*Mario Pecheny, professor and researcher, University of Buenos Aires and National Council on Science and Technology CONICET in Argentina*
- Living with double stigma  
*Dmitry Samoilov, Head, Russian Community of People Living with HIV/AIDS*

## Refreshments served after the satellite

**Session in English; translation into Russian will be available to a limited number of participants**

**Organizers:** Central and Eastern European Harm Reduction Network  
European AIDS Treatment Group  
Gay Men's Health Crisis  
International Harm Reduction Development Program of the Open Society Institute  
Thai AIDS Treatment Action Group  
Thai Drug Users' Network



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