

LIVING CONDITIONS AND QUALITY OF LIFE 2005

Hiv-Danmark is a nationwide organisation for all people living in Denmark with HIV/AIDS, irrespective of method of infection, gender, sexuality, political affiliations or nationality.

Hiv-Danmark is a nationwide organisation for relatives, bereaved and other affected by HIV/AIDS.

Hiv-Danmark is an umbrella-organisation for individuals, self-help groups and other societies for PLWH/A as well as user-groups attached to HIV/AIDS wards at hospitals.

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SURVEY OF THE LIVING
CONDITIONS AND
QUALITY OF LIFE OF
PERSONS INFECTED
WITH HIV

HIV
DANMARK

Remember your questionnaire about the living conditions for people with HIV

In April 2005 Hiv-Danmark started a survey about the living conditions and quality of life of people with HIV living in Denmark. The survey has been initiated by Danish organisations for people living with HIV and AIDS.

The survey includes a questionnaire which will be followed up by, among other things, a number of interviews with people with HIV.

The whole survey is expected to be completed by the end of 2006. The purpose of the survey is to identify the needs for improvements or alterations in the efforts to help and support people with HIV in Denmark.

Who is taking part?

We are asking all people with HIV aged 18 or older, and who attend examinations at the Danish HIV-out-patient clinics, to fill out this questionnaire. The questionnaire will be distributed from the HIV-out-patient clinics from September 2005 to April 2006.

We hope that you will take the time to fill out the questionnaire. The questionnaire gives you a unique

opportunity to point out in which areas you find it difficult to be HIV-infected, and where you therefore think there is a need for extra focus.

And maybe your experiences can help other people with HIV!

We hope that as many as possible will take part in the survey to ensure that the following results can help us to get a clear picture of in what areas there is a special need for further help and support to improve the lives and living conditions of people with HIV.

What questions will you find in the questionnaire?

The questions concern different themes.

You will find questions about general issues in your life e.g. your educational background, your financial situation and your employment situation.

And there will be questions about your social life. And about other peoples reactions when you tell them that you are HIV-infected.

There will also be questions about your health, sexual problems and difficulties, your treatment, and your contact to the social service and the health service.

Focus on life "today"

The survey is intended to reveal the current problems of people with HIV in Denmark – i.e. what is life like right now.

Accordingly, many of the questions relate to the current situation rather than 'the old days'.

The purpose of the survey is to identify the specific problems and difficulties encountered by people with HIV in their daily lives, with the purpose of being able to propose improvements or alterations in the efforts to help and support people who are HIV-infected.

How?

There will be both a Danish and an English version of the questionnaire available.

You can choose either to complete the questionnaire at the out-patient-clinic and return it to day using the special questionnaire letter-box. You can also take it with you home to fill it out and submit it post free in the reply envelope, which will be supplied.

Participation is voluntary, and if you choose not to take part it will have no influence on your treatment. You can also withdraw your participation at any time.

It will take you about 30-40 minutes to fill out the questionnaire.

Confidentiality and registration

Your responses to the questionnaire are confidential. Neither your doctor nor your nurse at the out-patient clinic will see your responses to the questionnaire. If you wish, you can talk to them about your responses.

The survey has been approved

The survey is being carried out jointly by the HIV-patients' association HIV-Danmark and the Danish HIV-Cohort. The survey has been submitted to the Danish National Committee on Biomedical Research Ethics, which had no objections. The Danish Data Protection Agency has approved the survey and has laid down conditions to protect the private lives of those taking part in the survey.

Help and further information

In the questionnaire you will find a detailed patient information, which can guide you further.

If you have any doubt or questions, you are welcome to contact Mie Carstensen or Anders Dahl of HIV-Danmark, tel. +45 33 32 58 68 or email: anders@hiv-danmark.dk and mie@hiv-danmark.dk

Yours sincerely,

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