

# Managing AIDS

## Organizational Responses in Six European Countries

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In the last ten years, HIV/AIDS has become a challenge for public health, public policy and research. Reducing further HIV transmissions as well reducing the personal and social impact of HIV/AIDS requires a wide range of activities developed by a wide range of organisations - the supply of which varies widely between countries, regions and social groups.

The book describes the programmes which seem particularly effective in dealing with HIV/AIDS and the analyses try to explain the disparities in their distribution. It documents and tries to understand both the similarities in as well as the variety of national approaches taken to cope with HIV/AIDS in a number of European countries. On the basis of the welfare-mix model, six country studies and an introductory chapter draw particular attention to the different mixes of public policies and private non-profit, community-based activities; the functional mixes between different types of services in the areas of prevention, care, research, control and monitoring, interest representation, fund-raising. The mixes between specialised, so-called "exclusive" HIV/AIDS service organisations and services made available by general, comprehensive, or so-called "inclusive" institutions which provide AIDS-specific programmes among other activities will also be expanded upon. The whole range of HIV/AIDS activities, from professional services to self-help, in addition to the organisational response to HIV/AIDS is analysed in a comparative perspective.

The book is based on data from the European Centre / WHO Collaborative Study Managing AIDS. It is a comparative policy study on the role of non-profit organisations in public health and welfare policy, covering several thousands of organisations and HIV/AIDS programmes in six European countries.

Unexpected similarities and divergence in AIDS service organisations across Europe were found. The sheer multitude of programmes offered called a surprise to experts in the field, as did remaining conspicuous black spots or deficiencies in services. Degrees of AIDS policy coherence, prevention efforts, service density and quality, self-help and professionalisation, medicalisation vs. social integration of HIV/AIDS programmes, sectoral specialisation and institutionalisation all vary tremendously, as do the efficiency and effectiveness of organizational responses to HIV/AIDS. Interestingly, variations in the supply of activities can hardly be explained by epidemiological patterns and corresponding demand and needs.

AIDS management requires long-term institutional strategies and information which cannot be provided by epidemiological or behavioural analysis alone. An effective struggle against HIV/AIDS also means institution-expansion, inter-organisational development and policy-field analysis - all focusing on the development of various approaches as well as on the differentiated organizational response.

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- Managing AIDS in Flanders by Koen Matthijs / Hilde Degezelle
- Managing AIDS. Organizational Responses to HIV/AIDS in Austria by Patrick Kenis / Christiana Nöstlinger
- Managing AIDS in Italy by Emma Fasolo

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