

REVOLUTIONIZING CARE

POINT-OF-CARE VIRAL LOAD MONITORING FOR PWID IN PAKISTAN

An outreach-based innovation transforming ART outcomes in high-risk populations



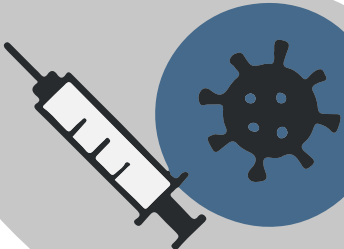
NAI
ZINDAGI
COMMUNITY. COMPASSION. CHANGE.

BACKGROUND

Nai Zindagi Trust (NZT), supported by the Global Fund, provides a comprehensive range of prevention, testing, treatment, and care services to People Who Inject Drugs (PWID) and their families in Pakistan.

5500-6000

Individuals reached daily



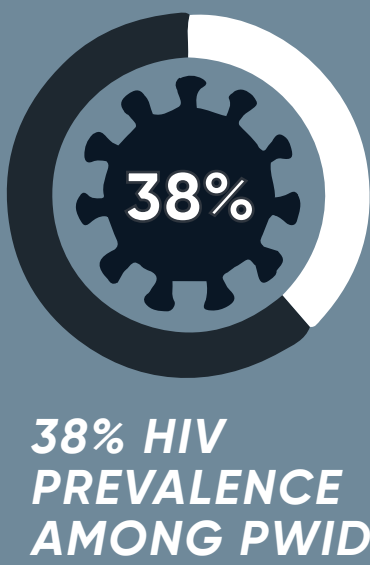
Sterile
Syringes



Mobile HIV
Testing



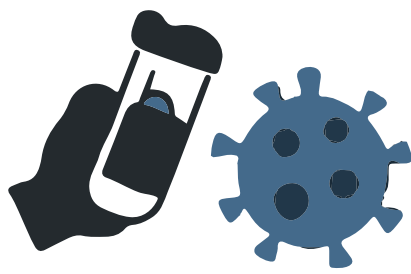
Referrals for
Medical care



HIV

VIRAL-LOAD MONITORING CRUCIAL

to ensure effective treatment
and prevention



BARRIERS

- Reluctance to visit clinics.
- Logistic hurdles in sample transport.
- Limited testing capacity.

DESCRIPTION

An innovative point-of-care (PoC) VL approach.

MARCH 2021: NZT INTEGRATED POC VL MONITORING

4 Portable Cepheid
GeneXpert machines

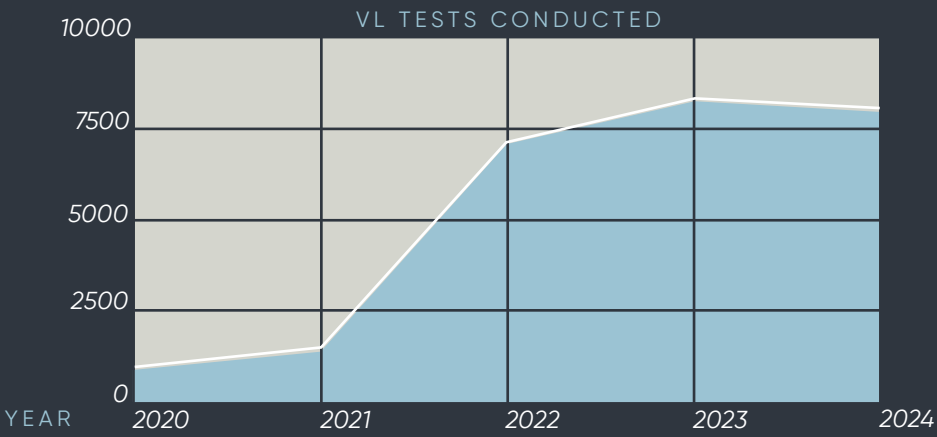
5 trained technicians
following WHO guidelines,
execute the testing.

Data-Driven Targeting –
Using NZT’s MIS

Flexible Testing –
Conducted at hotspots,
homes, NZT intervention
Sites

Fast Results –
Delivered in ~92 minutes

RESULTS



This integrated approach led to a **9-fold increase** in service uptake in 2024, with 8,007 PoC tests conducted compared to just 900 in 2020

68%
of (n)6,930

73%
of (n)1,077

VL results showed 68% of male PWID and 73% of their female spouses achieved viral suppression

Enhanced VL
Testing Uptake

Improved VL
Monitoring &
Effective Treat-
ment Decisions

Facilitated
Timely Referrals

CONCLUSION

“Point-of-care testing is not just a tool—it’s a turning point in equitable care delivery.”



Improves ART
outcomes



Efficient Information shar-
ing to Health Care Provi-
dors



Fills evidence gaps and
supports decision making
in treatment plans



Scalable in similar
context globally