Cambodia Nears 2010 Goal of ARV Treatment for Most

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With more than 92 percent of HIV-positive Cambodians receiving antiretroviral (ARV) treatment in 2008, Cambodia is closer to its goal of making the drugs available to 97 percent of those who need them by 2010, Xinhua News Agency reports.

“We now cover 92 percent,” says Mean ChhiVun, director of the country’s National Center for HIV/AIDS, Dermatology and STDs. “The universal access target is about 85 percent, but for Cambodia, we want to provide antiretroviral treatment for all.”

According to the article, 31,989 patients were given treatment free of charge last year in 77 of Cambodia’s government-run health centers and partner organizations. The country has been able to reduce its HIV prevalence rate from its peak of 3.3 percent in 1997 to below 0.9 percent.

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