No Evidence of Deliberate HIV Self-Infection by Greeks

December 6, 2013

The World Health Organization (WHO) has apologized for a report that seemed to imply injection drug users in Greece were deliberately exposing themselves to HIV, according to a WHO statement. The report said: “HIV rates and heroin use [in Greece] have risen significantly, with about half of new HIV infections being self-inflicted to enable people to receive benefits of €700 per month and faster admission on to drug substitution programmes.” What the report should have said was that slightly more than half of new HIV cases in Greece are among those who inject drugs.

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