

# Google Searches for HIV Tests Soar by 5,000% After Russian Blogger's Doc

February 13, 2020



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**Moskva News Agency**

Russians flocked to Google for information about HIV tests after an influential YouTuber's documentary shed light on the scale of the country's HIV epidemic this week.

Journalist Yury Dud's two-hour documentary [addresses](#) what he refers to as an ignored issue that "affects each and every one" of his millions of subscribers. Almost 8 million people viewed Dud's HIV documentary in the 48 hours since it went online Tuesday.

**Related article:** [HIV Cases in Russia Surpass 1 Million – State Watchdog](#)

"We filmed this episode to add knowledge and make life a little easier for those with HIV," Dud says in the video.

The number of searches for Russian-language terms relating to HIV tests was up by a

combined 5,500% around the world by Wednesday evening, according to a Google Trends screenshot [shared](#) by Ukrainian HIV campaigner Inna Gavrilova. She attributes the spike in users' interest to Dud's popularity.

**Embed:**

HIV was Russia's second-most-searched term on Tuesday, the day Dud's documentary came out.

More than 1 million people in Russia [live](#) with HIV and a record 37,000 people died from HIV-related illnesses there in 2019.

The World Health Organization [warned](#) that Russia risked developing an out-of-control HIV epidemic after data showed a record number of new cases in 2017. Most came from heterosexual sex as the disease spread outside high-risk groups.

Russia's Health Ministry has argued that the increase in Russia's HIV-positive population indicates that fewer people die from complications linked with the disease.

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