

## ***EXPERIENCE SHARINGS***

### **SUPPORTS TO IDU RELEASEES TO ACCESS CARE AND TREATMENT SERVICES AT DISTRICT 8 COMMUNITY-BASED COUNSELING & SUPPORT CENTRE**

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## **I – BACKGROUND**

- Ho Chi Minh community reintegration program → Increase of number of people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) to District 8 Community-based Counseling & Support Centre (Dist. 8 CCSC)
- IDU releasees can access themselves to care and treatment program (C &T program) or by introduction from PLWHAS support groups.
- Number of IDU releasees accessed to C &T program, as of April, 2007: 126 persons (in which 12 persons have their medical profiles transferred from 06 centre)

## **II – COORDINATION TO SUPPORT IDU RELEASEES ACCESS TO C & T PROGRAM**

### **❖ IDU Releasees with medical profiles**

- 06 centres directly hand over its residents' medical profiles to CCSC.
- CCSC: Receiving profiles. Collaborating with case managers at ward level to contact those IDU releasees.
- Releasees with HIV positive will be directly contacted by support officer in the releasee office.
- Releasees with not good health conditions: receiving emergency ART.

### **❖ IDU Releasees with no medical profiles: Register to C&T program as the policies.**

## **II – COORDINATION TO SUPPORT IDU RELEASEES ACCESS TO C & T PROGRAM**

### **❖ Residents on ART at 06 centres**

- 06 centres: Send by post referral forms (as MOH form), photocopies of related test results,... and call CCSC to check and receive feedback.
- CCSC:
  - If clients wants to receive treatment at CCSC: they and their family will attend counseling sessions on treatment and CCSC operation procedures. ART is free of charge. Clients registered will be on the list screened by Selection Committee.
  - If clients prefer others CCSC: Their medical documentation will be sent by post to the destination as requested.

### **III – ADVANTAGE & CHALLENGES**

#### **1. Advantage**

- Releasees with medical profiles will be supported and followed up easily.
- The process of shipping and receiving releasees' profiles/documentation is well facilitated by the 2-way response and feedback.
- Good coordination between releasee office, network of local case managers and CCSC.

### **III – ADVANTAGE & CHALLENGE**

#### **2. Challenge**

- Redo the tests for HIV positive releasees who their test results and HIV card are not sent.
- Releasees don't bring home their HIV cards.
- Releasees already receive treatment at 06 centres but their medical profiles are not transferred to CCSC.
- It is difficult in assessment of adherence for releasees with not good health conditions after discharging.

## **IV – RECOMMENDATION**

- Include releasees's HIV card numbers in the profiles/documentation transferred.
- Transfer medical books for releasees who are on care and treatment at the centres.

In order to effectively support ARV adherence, the following situations need specific guidelines from HCM city authorities:

- PLWHAs in 06 centres who are already referred to city hospitals for treatment come to register at CCSC.
- Releasees with HIV positive who are on leave escape
- PLWHAs who are granted to receive jail sentence.
- Releasees who are on emergency treatment relapse.

***THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION !***