

TWG Subgroup Meeting

Brief Report

Sub-group:...Care and Treatment.....

Date: 28 January 2008

Venue:.....Global Fund HIV project CPMU office, 14 Lang Ha

Chairperson ...Dr Nguyen Van Kinh, VAAC and Dr Masami Fujita, WHO

Major Discussion Points

1. ARV and lab commodities: Procurement and supply management update (SCMS)

SCMS team reported information on ARV and CD4 tests-related procurement and supply management for PEPFAR-supported projects. At PEPFAR supported sites, 10,337 persons were on ART at the end of December. Most adult and pediatric first line ARV formulations are sufficient for anticipated demand for 17500 adults and 1750 children. The adult d4T and ZDV triple FDCs have been available at all treatment sites. By the end of December 2007, 80% of patients on the d4T/3TC/NVP regimen and 30% of those on the ZDV/3TC/NVP regimen have been converted to the FDC formulation. As for CD4 tests, current PEPFAR stock is enough until end of March 2008. The next importation of CD4 test reagents is awaiting approval from VAAC and is expected to be delivered to Viet Nam in Feb 2008.

2. Providing family-centered care through continuum of care (by Dr Rachel Burdon, FHI)

Dr Rachel Burdon of Family Health International (FHI) presented family-centered care model that FHI has been implementing. Family-centered care is defined as a set of systems and services which enable coordinated HIV care, support and treatment for families, and aims to address the needs of whole family and to provide care for parents and children together as much as possible. To operationalize this approach, FHI have promoted case management, continuum of care and children adult communication as key elements. Dr Burdon reported that adult HIV doctors had been willing to take on pediatric ART and suggested the model expanded ART access to children who may not be able to receive otherwise. FHI's experience also indicated the need for pediatric specific clinical record forms and detailed pediatric HIV/ART guidelines. In discussion, Dr Kinh briefed the progress in developing National Action Plan for children.

3. Report from Ethiopia: Task-shifting conference (Dr Nguyen Van Kinh, VAAC)

Dr Nguyen Van Kinh of VAAC reported his participation in International Conference on Task-Shifting held on 7-10 January 2008 in Addis Ababa. To address shortage of human resources providing health care, the Conference discussed how health care tasks could be delegated from doctors to non-physician clinicians, and then to nurses, nursing assistant and community health workers. At the end of presentation, Dr Kinh also reported the project in HCMC, Viet Nam, in which PLHA are trained at Medical School so that they would become level 1 and 2 nurses. The graduate PLHA are expected to work as care providers at 05/06 centers.

Other Business

As VAAC started having monthly care and treatment technical working group, an idea of integrating INGO TWG care and treatment sub-group meeting and VAAC care and treatment TWG meeting. Participants discussed pros and cons of integrating the two meetings. It was also proposed that a need to balance Vietnamese and English discussion, since VAAC TWG mainly uses Vietnamese while INGO TWG has only English discussion.

Date and Location of Next meeting

To be announced by the chair persons.