

PPE 644 PM – HIV prevention, support and community care programme for injecting drug users, SARDA

Executive Summary

Aim and Objectives

The aim of this programme is to reduce HIV/AIDS risk behaviours among injecting drug users (IDUs) in the community and to help HIV-infected methadone patients improve treatment compliance and prevent further spread of the disease.

This Programme consists of two Projects, namely Phoenix Project and Spark Action. The objectives of the Phoenix Project are to: (a) increase the awareness on HIV/AIDS among drug users; (b) discourage IDUs from sharing needles/syringes; (c) encourage IDUs to use condom during intercourse; and (d) encourage IDUs to attend HIV antibody test. The objectives of the Spark Action are to: (a) encourage HIV-infected methadone patients to adhere to medical services on HIV/AIDS and drug treatment programmes; (b) equip them with the skills in proper self-care and reduction of risky behaviours; and (c) encourage them to be involved in non-drug using social activities.

Project design

The Phoenix Project recruits and trains a group of former drug users to act as outreaching volunteers to visit methadone patients and street addicts. They distribute HIV/AIDS educational materials, provide peer counseling services, and introduce drug treatment services and health care services to IDUs.

Once a new HIV-infected methadone patient is identified by Methadone Urine Testing, the medical officer will seek the client's consent to receive follow-up services provided by SARDA's social workers. Spark Action will then provide supportive services to enhance the client's HIV treatment adherence. Periodical case progress reviews are conducted at quarterly intervals.

Target population

The target populations are injecting drug users and HIV-infected methadone patients.

Main achievements

Between April 2015 and March 2018, Phoenix Project conducted a total of 836 outreach sessions with 33,410 contacts made with street drug users, in which 3,476 were new immigrants and ethnic minorities. A survey was conducted in 2017 with a sample of 695 street loitered drug users. The findings revealed that 83.0% of the respondents attended a HIV test in the last 12 months and knew the result, 73.8% used condom in the

last vaginal intercourse with any partners, and 94.4% did not share needles with those outside their usual network in the last injection.

During the same period, Spark Action had served 93 HIV-infected methadone patients and successfully referred 83.9% of all identified cases to the Integrated Treatment Centre of the Department of Health for medical treatment on HIV/AIDS. Spark Action also provided 386 incidents of emergency financial support to cash-strapped patients in coping with unexpected financial crisis, organized 156 social activities form, and distributed 331 sets of health education kits to, the HIV-infected patients. A newsletter was published semi-annually as a communication platform between HIV-infected patients which fosters an atmosphere of mutual support.

Conclusions

The Programme was first funded by the AIDS Trust Fund in 2003, and has since been providing services to both injecting drug users and HIV-infected methadone patients in Hong Kong. The Programme will continue to work hard to help Hong Kong maintain a low HIV prevalence rate.

PPE 644 PM – 香港戒毒會愛滋病預防、支援及社區關懷計劃

擇要

目的及目標

這項計劃的目的是減低社區內注射毒品人士感染愛滋病病毒的風險行為及協助感染愛滋病病毒的美沙酮服藥人士依從愛滋病醫療護理，並減低進一步傳播愛滋病病毒的風險。

這項計劃包括兩個項目：鳳凰計劃及星火行動。鳳凰計劃的目的是提高流連街頭的吸毒者對感染愛滋病病毒風險的警覺、鼓勵他們減少共用針筒、進行性行為時使用安全套及接受愛滋病病毒抗體測試。星火行動的目的是鼓勵感染愛滋病病毒的美沙酮服藥人士依從愛滋病醫療護理及戒毒康復治療，提升他們的自我照顧能力及減低傳播愛滋病病毒的風險行為，並投入使用毒品以外的社會活動。

項目設計

鳳凰計劃招募一群成功戒毒個案，以義工身份透過外展方式接觸流連美沙酮診所及街頭的吸毒者，向他們派發預防愛滋病教育資料，提供朋輩輔導服務，並介紹戒毒治療服務及愛滋病醫療護理服務。

當美沙酮服藥人士經診所尿液測試確診感染愛滋病病毒，診所醫生在當事人同意下會轉介社工跟進。星火行動將為其提供支援服務，以促進其依從愛滋病醫療護理服務，並每季進行個案進度檢討。

服務對象

這項計劃的服務對象為注射毒品人士及感染愛滋病病毒的美沙酮服藥人士。

主要成果

在 2015 年 4 月至 2018 年 3 月，鳳凰計劃共展開了 836 次外展活動，接觸吸毒者達 33,410 人次，其中包括 3,476 名新來港人士及少數族裔人士。在 2017 年進行的訪談，共接觸 695 位流連街頭的吸毒者。訪問結果顯示 83.0% 被訪者在過去 12 個月曾經接受愛滋病病毒測試並知悉測試結果，73.8% 被訪者在最近一次進行性行為時使用安全套，94.4% 被訪者在最近一次吸毒時沒有與陌生人共用針筒。

在同一期間內，「星火行動」服務了 93 位感染愛滋病病毒的美沙酮服藥人士，並成功轉介 83.9% 確診個案到衛生署綜合治療中心接受治療。星火行動並提供了 386 次緊急現金援助，協助感染個案應付突發的財政困難，為他們組織了 156 次社交活動，向他們派發了 331 份健康教育資料套，並每半年出版一份「星火送暖通訊站」刊物，讓他們有一個溝通和互相支持的平台。

總結

這項計劃在 2003 年開始獲得愛滋病信託基金的贊助，為注射毒品人士及感染愛滋病病毒的美沙酮服藥人士提供服務。這項計劃將繼續致力協助香港維持低愛滋病病毒感染率。