

PPE 684 PM – SARDA Comprehensive HIV/AIDS prevention and Caring Scheme for Drug Users

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 as well as HIV-infected psychotropic substance Abusers (PSAs) 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 and HIV-infected PSAs 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.

The Spark Action provides supportive services to enhance the patient's HIV treatment adherence. Once a new HIV-infected methadone patient is identified by Methadone Urine Testing, the medical officer will seek the patient's consent to receive follow-up services provided by SARDA's social workers. Besides, referrals from Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation service as well as HIV/AIDS service agencies are accepted. Periodical case progress reviews are conducted at quarterly intervals.

Target population

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

Main achievements

Between April 2018 and March 2020, Phoenix Project conducted a total of 615 outreach sessions with 28,549 contacts made with street drug users, in which 6,826 were new immigrants and ethnic minorities. A survey was conducted in 2019 with a sample of 695 street loitered drug users. The findings revealed that 90.7% of the respondents attended a HIV test in the last 12 months and knew the result, 89.3% used condom in the last vaginal intercourse with any partners, and 98.3% did not share needles with those outside their usual network in the last injection.

During the same period, Spark Action had served 121 HIV-infected methadone patients as well as HIV-infected PSAs and successfully referred 84.5% of all identified cases to the Integrated Treatment Centre of the Department of Health for medical treatment on HIV/AIDS. Spark Action also provided 358 incidents of emergency financial support to cash-strapped patients in coping with unexpected financial crisis, organized 126 social activities form, and distributed 295 sets of health education kits to, the HIV-infected patients.

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 patients in Hong Kong. The Programme will continue to work hard to help Hong Kong maintain a low HIV prevalence rate.

PPE 684 PM – 香港戒毒會綜合愛滋病防治及關懷計劃

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及感染愛滋病病毒的吸食危害精神毒品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及感染愛滋病病毒的吸食危害精神毒品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。

「星火行動」提供支援服務予感染愛滋病病毒人士，以促進其依從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。此計劃亦接受由戒毒治療及康復服務及為感染愛滋病服務機構轉介個案。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及感染愛滋病病毒的吸食危害精神毒品人士。

主要成果

在 2018 年 4 月至 2020 年 3 月，「鳳凰計劃」共展開了 615 次外展活動，接觸吸毒者達 28,549 人次，其中包括 6,826 人次為新來港人士及少數族裔人士。在 2019 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 90.7% 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，89.3% 被訪者在最近一次進行性行為時使用安全套，98.3% 被訪者在最近一次吸毒時沒有與陌生人共用針筒。

同一期間，「星火行動」服務了 121 位感染愛滋病病毒的美沙酮服藥人士及感染愛滋病病毒的吸食危害精神毒品人士，並成功轉介 84.5% 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 358 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 126 次社交活動，向他們派發了 295 份健康教育資料套。

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。