



Training on HIV Self-Testing Implementation SoP for Health Providers in PNTT Service at ART Sites

First batch: February 20-21, 2023 | Second batch: February 22-23, 2023 | Poi Pet Operational District, BMC Province.

In Poi Pet Operational District, Bantay Meanchay Province, NCHADS conducted two batches of training on HIV Self-Testing Implementation SoP for Health Providers in PNTT Service at ART sites with technical assistance from EpiC-FHI360 funded by DFAT through UNAIDS on February 20–21 for first batch and February 22–23, 2023 for the second batch. The objective of the training was to (1) refresh of PNTT steps including the progress of HIV testing among partners, key challenges, and recommendations, (2) improve HIV testing including HIVST testing option and follow-up, and (3) enhance counseling skill to build trust, relationship with patients for partner elicitation.



The training started with following remarks from Mr So kimhai , Technical Assistance for prevention of EpiC project of FHI 360, Dr Ngauv Bora, Deputy of National Center for HIV/AIDS, Dermatology and STI (NCHADS) NCHADS and opening remark by Dr. Che Picheth Director of Batay Mean Chay Provincial Health Department presided over the opening training session.

A total of 82 (32 are females) from two pieces of training consist of PHD, provincial AIDS and STI program (PASP), ART team leader, clinician, counselor, emergency service for PEP, Lab, VCCT, data clerk, outreach worker, and CAA from selected health providers from referral hospitals such as Serey Sophorn, Monkol Borey, Tmor Pouk, Poi Pet , and RHAC-MHSS, including CAA from CRS.



There were six main presentations presented at the training, 1) refresh the eight steps of Partner Notification, tracing, and Testing by Mr. Chea Chamnan, Senior data management officer of NCHADS, 2) an overview of HIVST-PNTT guidance note by Dr. Chea Chankosalmony, VCCT unit of NCHAD, 3) updating the HIVST, testing procedure and testing flow by Dr. Chea Chankosalmony, VCCT unit of NCHADS 4) Motional Counselling and group practice by So Kimhai, EpiC-FHI360 5) Record and reporting forms by Mrs. Sok Chan Neat, 6) Small group discussion by Mrs. Nith Sopha and Mr. So Kimhai.

The two training courses on the HIV Self-Testing Implementation SoP for Health Providers in PNTT service at ART sites have been very successful in updating attendees on the situation of HIV testing and testing options for both physically and virtually assisted mechanisms, sharing lessons learned, and having group discussions on the gaps and future directions for case finding. Additionally, it addressed how ART-VCCT counselors might enhance their counseling abilities to support patients with partner elicitation. The ART-VCC management team and healthcare providers value the data collection form, report, and data use. The positive interactions between the facilitators and participants during the training were another positive outcome. These interactions included the sharing of best practices for counseling among the CAA team regarding the current PNTT-HIVST implementation, with a focus on partner elicitation for patients who had recently received a diagnosis, as well as cooperation with CBO who are collaborating with KPs for additional counseling and follow-up.

