



ACA Newsfile Vol 29 Page 5

ACA NEWSFILE



Results of Street Addict Survey 2021 by the Society for the Aid and Rehabilitation of Drug Abusers

The Society for the Aid and Rehabilitation of Drug Abusers (SARDA) presented the Street Addict Survey 2021.

Members noted that some figures might be affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. While the needle sharing rate among people who inject drugs remained high during COVID-19, it was necessary to closely observe the trend in the following years.

The percentage of current injecting drug users who had received HIV testing and knew the result in the past 12 months was 91.2% (vs. 89.9% in 2020), while using condom with their regular sex partners in last vaginal sex in the past 6 months remained high at 83.8% (vs. 89.5% in 2020).

SARDA considered that annual street addict survey was useful in keeping track of the awareness of HIV among people who inject drugs and their sexual risk behaviour.

Experience sharing by Hong Kong AIDS Foundation

Hong Kong AIDS Foundation (HKAF) delivered a presentation on "Findings of the sexual behaviour of male clients of sex workers before and after the outbreak of COVID-19".

HKAF shared that around 70% of male clients had continued visiting female sex workers during COVID-19 pandemic while 84% of them reported having used condoms in every sex. However, the survey also found that a significant proportion of about 80% of interviewees had not tested for HIV, revealing their low awareness of HIV.

The questionnaire was designed by in-house staff and public health students from the Chinese University of Hong Kong. The questions were designed with reference to the common questions they encountered from sex worker clients who had called the hotline service of HKAF.

A brief overview on indicators for monitoring HIV responses to achieve the targets set in the "UNAIDS Global AIDS Strategy 2021-2026"

DH was planning to conduct another round of PRiSM in 2022. With reference to the new "UNAIDS Global AIDS Strategy 2021-2026", the questionnaire would be revised accordingly. DH presented a brief overview on indicators for monitoring HIV responses to achieve the targets set in the UNAIDS Strategy.

The survey would be implemented by means of electronic questionnaire. The tentative timeframe of the survey would be from April to October 2022. Details of implementation would be announced in CFA meeting in due course.



Arrangement for attending CFA as observers

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The following arrangement was agreed during the CFA Meeting held in March 2012 -

- a. Upon the Convener's invitation/ agreement, people who were interested to take part as observer might attend the whole or certain sessions of the meeting and speak up in the meeting at the Convener's discretion;
- b. The CFA Secretariat would announce the agenda on the ACA's website (in the ACA Newsfile) prior to each CFA Meeting. Interested parties could put up their requests to the CFA Secretariat for consideration;
- c. In case of over subscription, the CFA Secretariat would work out the list of participants by adopting a fair procedure deemed appropriate;
- d. Despite of this new administrative arrangement, the meeting would continue to be conducted in Cantonese only; and
- e. At the same time, the CFA Secretariat could invite relevant stakeholders to attend the meeting if deemed appropriate.

60th CFA Meeting

- Date : 14 March 2022 (Monday)
- Time : 2:30 pm
- Venue : Activity Area, Red Ribbon Centre 2/F, Wang Tau Hom Jockey Club Clinic 200 Junction Road East, Kowloon

Three main items on the Agenda

- Experience sharing by non-governmental organisations
 - (i) AIDS Concern
 - (ii) Midnight Blue
- HIV epidemiology in Hong Kong 2021
- Results of a study of delivery of HIV self-testing through internet-based channel with online targeted promotion among key populations in Hong Kong

Invitation

Dear All,

If you are interested to take part as observer in the 60th CFA Meeting to be held on 14 March 2022, please complete the application form (available for download from https://www.aca.gov.hk/cfa_observers_form.pdf) and send the completed form to the CFA Secretariat by **25 February 2022**. For more details of this arrangement, please refer to the summary shown on the left of this page.

CFA Secretariat