



## Editorial Board

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**AIDS Hotline: 2780 2211**

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## ~ Calendar ~

**28th CFA Meeting  
14 March 2013**

**82nd ACA Meeting  
12 April 2013**

## HIV Infection and the Health Care Workers – Recommended Guidelines (draft January 2013)

The Advisory Council on AIDS formulated the “HIV Infection and the Health Care Workers – Recommended Guidelines” in 1994, which was subsequently updated and reprinted in 2003. In view of the expanded scientific knowledge in the field and local developments over the last decade, the Council recently undertook to review and revise the Guidelines. Areas which have been updated include HIV testing, advances in treatment, infection control and risk of HIV transmission.

This Guidelines aims to provide information and guidance for addressing this complex and sensitive subject in the local setting. It is relevant to many stakeholders, including but not limited to health care workers, professional bodies, AIDS service providers and, of course, people living with HIV/AIDS.

The Council will embark on consultation of the stakeholders and afterwards a public consultation of the draft Guidelines.



## A Summary of the 27th CFA Meeting held on 12 December 2012

### **Progress of AIDS response indicators (AIDS-RI)**

Members noted that after the last CFA meeting, further discussion between Red Ribbon Centre (RRC) and individual NGOs had been conducted to deliberate manpower and other field arrangement for data collection. The AIDS-RI for MSM and Sex worker clients surveys would be carried out from March to June 2013 and relevant quotation documents for recruiting interviewers were under preparation.

### **Survey findings of MSM attending private group sex party**

Members noted that Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) had been commissioned by Department of Health to conduct a survey to quantify the perception of risk in MSM who attended private group sex party in 2011. All the necessary information had been provided by CUHK in late November 2012 and the findings would be publicized in form of factsheet in December 2012.

### **Progress of Life skills-based education on HIV/AIDS and sex education in Hong Kong**

Members noted that as agreed during the ACA meeting held on 5 October 2012, a baseline survey on the Life skills based HIV/AIDS and sex education in junior secondary would be conducted as the first step to understand the situation in Hong Kong. In this connection, the Social Sciences Research Centre of The University of Hong Kong (HKU) had been commissioned to carry out the survey. A pilot test had just been finished and the Second Task Force Meeting would be held on 13 December 2012 to examine the pilot results. Members generally considered that the survey was meaningful and noted that Task Force of Life-skills Base Education on HIV/AIDS (TFLSBE) had a role to provide advice to the government on the long term development of life skills-based education on AIDS in Hong Kong after the survey.

## **Amendment to the HIV infection and the Health Care Workers (HCWs) – Recommended Guidelines**

Members noted that the amended Guideline, incorporated with input from the Panel on Health Services of Legislative Council and the Expert Panel had subsequently been discussed during the ACA meeting on 5 October 2012. Specific areas pertaining to HIV infection and HCWs were reviewed, including –

- (a) the necessity to make HIV testing in HCWs mandatory;
- (b) confidentiality and disclosure of HCW's HIV status to others;
- (c) function and operation of the Expert Panel;
- (d) case referral to the Panel; and
- (e) job modification of the infected HCWs.

Some Members sought clarifications and suggested that training on communication should be covered in the guidelines, and a more explicit illustration on ways to uphold confidentiality and remove discrimination should be deliberated. The Convener suggested consulting infected healthcare workers before finalizing the guideline as they might provide most relevant feedback. The Secretary invited Members' further comments for passing to the ACA.

## **World AIDS Day in 2012**

Members were briefed of the activities of the World AIDS Day in 2012.

## **Information to share with Members**

Members noted that AIDS Trust Fund had shared the statistics of Programmes/Projects supported by them and that 27% of the allocation was granted for MSM programmes/projects and it was the highest percentage among all target groups.

## **Sexual health needs of African refugees / asylum seekers in Hong Kong**

Members noted that on 14 November 2012, RRC had met a research team at HKU about the preliminary results of a health needs assessment of African asylum seekers or torture claimants conducted in the first half of 2012.

## Arrangement for Request of Attendance in CFA by Non-members

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

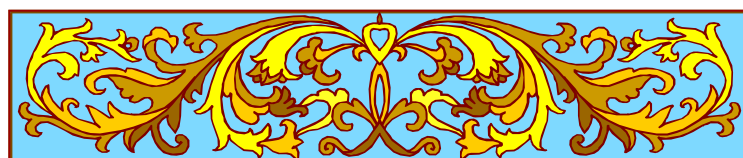
- a. Upon the Convener's invitation/agreement, people who were interested to take part as observer might attend the whole or certain sessions of the meeting and speak up in the meeting at the Convener's discretion;
- b. The CFA Secretariat would announce the agenda on the ACA's website (in the ACA Newsfile) 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.

## 28th CFA Meeting

Date : 14 March 2013 (Thursday)  
Time : 2:30 pm  
Venue : Conference Room, Red Ribbon Centre,  
2/F, Wang Tau Hom Jockey Club Clinic  
200 Junction Road East, Kowloon

### Two main items on the Agenda

- ✧ Report back of the MSM Working Group special meeting held on 19 December 2012
- ✧ Audit of VCT Services in community settings



## Invitation

Dear All,

If you are interested to take part as observer in the 28th CFA Meeting to be held on 14 March 2013, please complete the application form (available for download from [http://www.aca.gov.hk/cfa\\_observers\\_form.pdf](http://www.aca.gov.hk/cfa_observers_form.pdf)) and send the completed form to the CFA Secretariat by **28 February 2013**. For more details of this arrangement, please refer to the summary shown on the left of this page.

CFA Secretariat