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**Editorial Board** 

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#### ~ Calendar ~

38th CFA Meeting

16 December 2015

ACA Community Stakeholders' Consultation Meeting (Ethnic Minorities Session on 25 October 2015)











# A Summary of the 37th CFA Meeting held on 23 September 2015

## Formulation of Recommended HIV/AIDS Strategies for Hong Kong (2017 - 2021) and Community Consultation Meeting

DH staff made a PowerPoint presentation to facilitate discussion on planning for the development of the next five-year HIV/AIDS Strategies in Hong Kong from year 2017 to 2021 and the Community Stakeholders' Consultation Meeting (CCM) to be held in October / November 2015. A CCM Working Group (CCMWG) Meeting was held on 7 August 2015. Participants included HKCASO Chairman and some members.

Some members opined that certain issues needed to be further pursued, including legislation on anti-discrimination against sexual orientation and efforts to eliminate discrimination against sexual minorities. They considered that ACA should be transparent with the criteria of including recommendations in the "Recommended HIV/AIDS Strategies for Hong Kong". The Convener agreed that ground rules should be set prior to CCM so that stakeholders would know what to expect.

## Update on the return of HIV report form and the follow up rate in Q1-2 2015

DH staff briefly presented the most update situation of reported HIV cases in 2015 Q1 and Q2. It was found that cases without DH2293 form were more common to be non-Chinese than Chinese. In addition, lost to follow up cases were more common in non-Chinese women, heterosexual and IDU. DH staff recommended some measures to improve the HIV reporting data quality, which included providing more case data for matching, e.g. date of birth, confirmatory laboratory report number, HIV clinic reference number, and whether the case had left HK or not. After discussion, members agreed that the referral letter used by NGOs should be standardized for more effective data collection, better data quality and communication between NGOs and HIV clinics.

#### Introduction of new initiatives and activities by RRC

DH staff briefly introduced the activities during the Hong Kong Lesbian and Gay Film Festival, Hong Kong Pride Parade, two revamped websites, API and three on-line videos and World AIDS Campaign 2015. Members were encouraged to participate in the coming activities.

## Preliminary results of HARiS 2015 - Men who have sex with men, male-to-female transgender, and sex worker clients

Dr Denise CHAN (from The Chinese University of Hong Kong) made a PowerPoint presentation on the result. She summarized the preliminary descriptive statistics of the HIV/AIDS Response Indicator Survey (HARiS) 2015 on three populations –

- (a) men who have sex with men (MSM);
- (b) male-to-female transgender persons (TG); and
- (c) clients of female sex workers (SWC).

In the future, regarding the HARiS, members suggested to keep the questionnaires short and simple with the core indicators each time and add on other questions on one-off basis as necessary.

They further opined that the results of HARiS in three consecutive years were similar and suggested to review the frequency of conducting HARiS taking into account this sign of respondent fatigue.

It was reiterated that the original objective of HARiS was to incorporate a set of core indicators into the questionnaire used to be conducted by NGOs with a view to evaluate the effectiveness of the community HIV prevention work. Having regard to the three years' experience in conducting HARiS, there was the concern that sample size would be significantly reduced in the absence of incentives. Moreover, the issue of sample size was not fully discussed during Dr Tim BROWN's visit in 2011, but he did suggest to fix the sample size for better comparison over time during his visit in 2015 after reviewing the results of HARiS 2013 and 2014. All these factors would have to be taken into major consideration when designing the methodology of future HARiS. Members agreed that it was time to evaluate HARiS.

#### Arrangement for Request of Attendance in CFA by Observers

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.

### **38th CFA Meeting**

Date : 16 December 2015 (Wednesday)

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

- Preliminary results of HARiS 2015 female sex workers and injecting drug users
- Highlights of the Community Stakeholders' Consultation Meeting

## Invitation

Dear All,

If you are interested to take part as observer in the 38th CFA Meeting to be held on 16 December 2015, please complete the application form (available for download from http://www.aca.gov.hk/cfa\_observers\_form.pdf) and send the completed form to the CFA Secretariat by 1 December 2015. For more details of this arrangement, please refer to the summary shown on the left of this page.

**CFA Secretariat**