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Editorial Board

Executive Editor: Miss Louisa HUNG, ACA Secretariat

AIDS Hotline: 2780 2211

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112th ACA Meeting 9 October 2020

Review of the works of CFA 2017-2020

(1) Expansion of the CFA membership

In addition to the existing 17 NGOs / organisations, the following NGO and individuals newly joined the CFA since 2017: Poz Positive (NGO); Miss Zenobia SO; and Ms. SUN Hau-kei, Binky (ACA member).

(2) Participation in the review of Recommended HIV/AIDS Strategies for Hong Kong (2017-2021)

The CFA provided a platform for collection of views in the formulation of the "Recommended HIV/AIDS Strategies for Hong Kong". CFA NGO members provided valuable inputs and feedbacks in the first year and mid-term reviews of the progress of implementation of the last ACA Strategies (2017-2021) conducted in 2018 and 2020 respectively.

(3) Dialogue with stakeholders

During this term, the following stakeholders were invited to present relevant information and exchange ideas and views with CFA members: (a) Ms. Wendy HON, Mr. Samson YIP and Mr. Michael NG from Hong Kong Christian Service, on establishing a drug rehabilitation service for chemfun users; and (b) Mr. Edwin WONG from The Chinese University of Hong Kong, on a pilot study on mental health, substance use and sexual health of MSM.

(4) Observer arrangement

Staff members and volunteers from AIDS NGOs attended the meeting. The observer system continued to be a useful opportunity for NGO to increase the exposure of their new colleagues and volunteers.

ACA NEWSFILE

More about review of the works of CFA 2017-2020

(5) Sharing of knowledge and experience

Department of Health and CFA Members shared HIV knowledge and working experience through the platform of CFA. Topics presented by DH included: (a) HIV epidemiology in Hong Kong 2018 and 2019; (b) HIV treatment cascade 2016; (c) Preliminary results of HIV and AIDS Response Indicator Survey (HARiS) 2017-2019; (d) Preliminary results of HIV Prevalence and Risk behavioural Survey of Men who have sex with men (MSM) in Hong Kong (PRiSM) 2017 and its publicity plan targeting MSM; (e) Introduction of HIV Self-test study of DH; (f) Preliminary results of local ethnic minorities sexual health survey 2019; (g) Preliminary results on MSM mental health, substance use and sexual health survey; (h) Overseas recommendations on drug rehabilitation service for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender drug users; (i) Update on the recommended use of non-occupational post-exposure prophylaxis (nPEP) against HIV; and (j) Reports on HIV promotion programmes run by the Red Ribbon Centre.

Topics presented by CFA members included: (a) Ms. Mandy CHEUNG and Mr. Kurt WONG from AIDS Concern, on its HIV self-testing programme promotion; (b) Ms. Mandy CHEUNG and Mr. Andrew CHIDGEY from AIDS Concern, on its self-testing programme; (c) Mr. Johnny LI and Mr. Wayne YIU from Hong Kong AIDS Foundation, on its "First sex and sexual health survey"; (d) Mr. Johnny LI and Mr. Brian CHAN from Hong Kong AIDS Foundation together with DH, shared experience of the 6th National Academic Conference on HIV/AIDS; and (e) Ms. Maria TAM from the Society for the Aid and Rehabilitation of Drug Abusers (SARDA), on its Street Addict Survey.

(6) Coordination of community-wide surveys

Since the first round of HARiS in 2013, CFA continued to be an important platform for coordinating NGOs' effort for conducting the survey and result sharing. During this term, HARiS was conducted every year from 2017 to 2020, targeting high risk populations, including MSM, injecting drug users (IDU), male-to-female transgender, female sex workers and sex worker clients.

ACA NEWSFILE

A Summary of the 54th CFA Meeting held on 2 June 2020

HIV epidemiology in Hong Kong 2019

DH briefed members about HIV epidemiology in Hong Kong 2019. The number of newly reported cases (565 cases) had slightly decreased in 2019, but MSM still dominated the epidemic (58.6%).

Cumulatively, DH received 10,280 HIV reports and 2,118 AIDS cases as of 2019. The number of HIV reports decreased by about 9.5% in 2019 as compared with 2018.

Of the 565 HIV cases, 479 males and 86 females, reported in 2019, 331 (58.6%) acquired the infection via homosexual or bisexual contact, 128 (22.7%) via heterosexual contact and five (0.88%) via drug injection and two (0.35%) via perinatal transmission. The routes of transmission of the remaining 99 cases (17.5%) have yet to be determined due to inadequate information at the time of reporting.

Regarding the age distribution, majority of the cases (nearly 75%) were diagnosed HIV-positive at the age range of 20-49 years old. The overall median age of cases in 2019 was 38. MSM cases (median age of 33) were younger than heterosexual female cases (40.5) and heterosexual male cases (46). Seventy-four percent of the cases were of Chinese ethnicity.

Update on the recommended use of non-occupational post-exposure prophylaxis against HIV

DH presented the latest recommendations on the use of non-occupational post-exposure prophylaxis (nPEP) against HIV and reported the situation on PEP use in Integrated Treatment Centre in recent years.

Management for individuals at risk for HIV infection following non-occupational exposure is not limited to the use of nPEP, but has to be coupled with counselling and follow-up testings. It is important to ensure good adherence of nPEP throughout the course of therapy, and to monitor the possible side effects from the medications. Besides, counselling on safer sex and other harm reduction strategies is essential for reducing future risks of HIV acquisition and other sexually transmitted diseases.

AGA NEWSFILE

Welcome new members of Hong Kong Advisory Council on AIDS

The appointment of the ACA members has been gazetted. Membership of the ACA with effect from 1 August 2020 is as follows:

Chairperson:

Dr. LI Chung-ki, Patrick, B.B.S., J.P. 李頌基醫生, B.B.S., J.P.

Vice-Chairperson:

Members:

Dr. CHAN Mei-lo, Elda 陳美璐博士

Mr. CHAN Siu-hung, J.P. 陳紹雄先生, J.P.

Dr. CHENG Mei-ching, Joanne 鄭美菁博士

Dr. CHUNG Kar-kin, Albert 鍾嘉健醫生

Mr. KAM Hugh Alexander Tsun-ting 金晋亭先生

Mr. KWOK Lap-shu 郭立樹先生

Mr. LEE Wai-kwong, Sunny, J.P. 李惠光先生, J.P.

Mr. LEUNG Ka-ki, Nickson 梁嘉棋先生

Dr. LUI Chung-yan, Grace 雷頌恩醫生

Mr. MUI Wai-keung, Moses 梅偉強先生

Ms. SUN Hau-kei, Binky 辛巧琪女士

Mr. TONG Tak-fai, Edmond 湯德輝先生

Dr. WONG Chi-wai, William 黃志威醫生

Ms. WONG Hang-yee, Sandy, J.P. 黄幸怡女士, J.P.

Ms. YU Po-chu, Pansy 于寶珠女士

Chief Executive of Hospital Authority or Representative 醫院管理局行政總裁或其代表

Director of Social Welfare or Representative 社會福利署署長或其代表

Secretary for Education or Representative 教育局局長或其代表

Secretary for Food and Health or Representative 食物及衞生局局長或其代表