



Editorial Board

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65th CFA Meeting
6 June 2023

A Summary of the 64th CFA Meeting held on 17 March 2023

Experience sharing by Action for REACH OUT

Action for REACH OUT (AFRO) delivered a presentation on “Introduction of Action for REACH OUT”. AFRO reflected their difficulties in providing online outreach services during COVID-19 pandemic. Members also shared their experience on health promotion to female sex workers from China upon resumption of normal travel since January 2023. HIV promotion leaflets for ethnic minorities produced by Red Ribbon Centre (RRC) were displayed and distributed in the meeting.

HIV epidemiology in Hong Kong 2022

DH briefed members about HIV epidemiology in Hong Kong 2022. The number of newly reported cases decreased in 2022, but young MSM still dominated the epidemic. Cumulatively, DH received 11,641 HIV reports and 2,382 AIDS cases as of 2022. The number of HIV reports decreased by about 8.5% in 2022 as compared with 2021.

A Summary of the 64th CFA Meeting held on 17 March 2023

Preliminary result of PRiSMTG 2022

DH presented and highlighted the preliminary result of PRiSMTG 2022.

In MSM group, it was found that HIV prevalence was stable. HIV testing and STI testing rates increased especially among pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) users. PrEP use has increased while condom use has decreased, with increased self-reported STI diagnosis. The overall percentage of using chemsex remained the same but more chemsex users were taking PrEP. Drug injection rate also increased a lot. Experience of stigma/discrimination was not uncommon. Less people received HIV prevention messages in the past 1 year. Coverage of HIV combination prevention services was suboptimal.

In transgender group, poor response rate was noted. HIV testing and STI testing rates were much lower than those among MSM. Decreased condom use was observed among transgender group. Their awareness on PrEP and post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) was low. Chemsex rate remained similar. It was also found that the reported percentage of experiencing stigma/discrimination was higher than that of MSM group. Coverage of HIV combination prevention services was also suboptimal.

Training Workshop on Basic Knowledge of HIV/AIDS & STIs for NGO Staff

To share updated knowledge on HIV/AIDS and STIs and the risk factors, RRC organised the annual NGO training workshop in April 2023. Staff working in AIDS NGOs, drug rehabilitation NGOs and NGOs providing services to sexual minorities were invited to attend the workshop. Two sessions of the training workshop were held on 18 and 21 April 2023 in hybrid mode (at RRC or online via Zoom) with 72 and 62 NGO staff attendance respectively.

The first session covered basic knowledge of HIV and viral hepatitis, services provided by DH HIV clinic, basic knowledge of STIs and referral system of Social Hygiene Service. Speakers included Dr. Annie LO from HIV Surveillance Office of DH, Dr. Heather TO and Mr. YIU Ming-hei from Kowloon Bay Integrated Treatment Centre (ITC) of DH and Dr. Brian CHENG from Social Hygiene Service of DH.

The second session covered HIV PrEP and PEP, case sharing of identifying and taking history from MSM with chemsex, compensated dating, as well as chemsex and mental disorder. Speakers included Dr. Heather TO, Mr. Kevin LEE from SACH-IV project of Tung Wah Group of Hospitals, Ms. Megan YIK and Ms. Eunice HO from Teen's Key Hong Kong and Dr. Krystal LEE from the University of Hong Kong.



Arrangement for attending CFA as 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.

65th CFA Meeting

Date : 6 June 2023 (Tuesday)

Time : 2:30 pm

Venue : Activity Area, Red Ribbon Centre
2/F, Wang Tau Hom Jockey Club Clinic
200 Junction Road East, Kowloon

Two main items on the Agenda

- ◆ Data analysis of local female sex worker HIV outbreak in 2022
- ◆ Opinion and recommendation on operation of Community Forum on AIDS

Invitation

Dear All,

If you are interested to take part as observer in the 65th CFA Meeting to be held on 6 June 2023, 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 **19 May 2023**. For more details of this arrangement, please refer to the summary shown on the left of this page.

CFA Secretariat