

MULTICULTURAL HIV AND HEPATITIS SERVICE

CO-WORKER STAFF MEETING

THURSDAY 27 MARCH 2018

CHAIR: Barbara Luisi

MINUTES: Riza Yaman

PRESENT: Yuliana Ada, Tsehay Adegeh, Jean Marie Bishop, Jean Burke, Tim Chen, Magno Da Silva, Jeff Dabbhadatta, Gustinia Dauner, Marella Di Ruocco, Andi Dwipasatya, Deni Fukunishi, Jason Gao, Nevine Gayed, Selome Gebremariam, Jian Ling Gong, Kim Trang Ha, Derya Han, Tichaona Jaricha, Zainab Kahiye, Bea Kocak, Man-Chiu Lee, Kim Low, Nadia Matti, Lucy Mukoko, Edwin Ng, Han Ann Nguyen, Hanh Thi Van Nguyen, Thuy Ngoc Nguyen, Yuna Park, Adrian Pedra, Rocio Pizarro Marroquin, Tutie Putra, Gula Saphthari, Ashraf Sedrak, David Shekede, Hannaria Sidebang, Natali Smud, Lychantha Sok, Faten Solaqa, Tanni Summers, Aynalem Tessema, Daniel Tha Nya, Seila Thuy, Kanyarat Tresise, Hsin-Wei Weng, Grazyna Wilczak, Cemal Yavas, Insang Yu, Surinee Record, Barbara Luisi, Wa'el Sabri, Donatella Cifali, Gai Stackpool, Sonam Paljor, Denise Voros, Riza Yaman, Mary Bourke, Ally Kerr.

APOLOGIES: Belinda Marchesiello, Sambath Bun, Layla Naji, Wendy Wang, Bing Wong, Tek Heang Ya, Phillip Camargo, John Gaga, Angela Gamanga, Nancy Tam, Jim Tan, Dash Gray, Carolina Bolivar Castro, Naw Latt, Ghalib Al Bakri, Florrie K. Hessari, Juliet Adaeze Menakaya.

MANAGER'S REPORT – Barbara

Barbara announced apologies and welcomed all CSOs (Cultural Support Officers) and staff to the meeting.

Barbara informed staff that MHAHS and Population Health now sit under Clinical Services Integration (CSI). Ms Lou-Anne Blunden Executive Director of CSI, Ms Renee Moreton, Acting General Manager of Population Health and Mr Walter Towney Acting Business Manager of Population Health were introduced to staff.

Recently recruited Health Promotion Officer, Allison Kerr, has started working with us and has already become part of the projects that are being carried out.

Mary Bourke, our long-standing Administration Officer, has decided to retire at the end of June. Therefore this is her last CSO staff meeting. We are grateful to her contribution to MHAHS throughout the years and wish her all the best in future.

LATEST HIV DATA REPORT 2017 - Barbara

Overall diagnoses have decreased 11% in 2017.

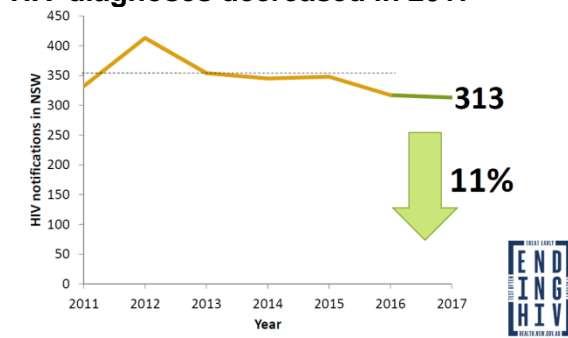
However we're starting to see an increase in overseas born MSM and heterosexuals.

NSW Health to address the situation by concentrating on prevention, testing and treating.

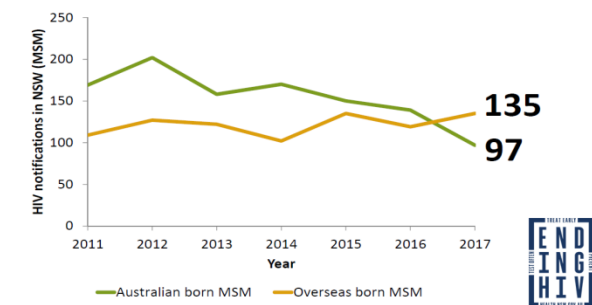
Next 24 months we will concentrate on overseas born people for prevention, testing and treatment. Recently PrEP and DBS projects and related campaigns have been carried out with your contributions, thanks to all of you and congratulations!

NSW HIV Strategy 2016-2020 Progress report

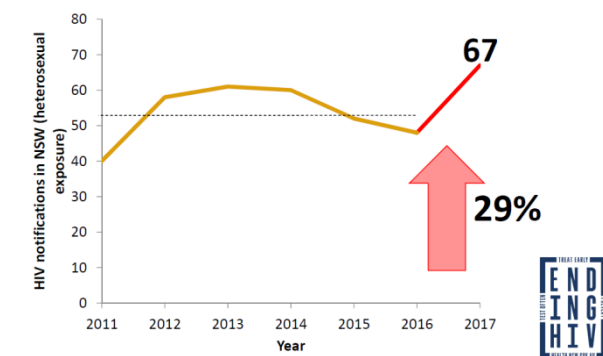
HIV diagnoses decreased in 2017



Overseas born MSM



Heterosexual notifications



Prevention

- Access to PrEP continues to expand – listed on the PBS on 1 April 2018
- More work needed to increase uptake among priority groups eg: overseas born MSM

Testing

Initiatives need to better reach

- Overseas born people
- Heterosexual people at risk of HIV

Treatment

- Maintain early uptake of treatment
- Maintain treatment adherence among key population groups
- Continue to push for options for clients who are Medicare ineligible

@TheMHAHS FACEBOOK PAGE - Gai

I'm very pleased and excited to announce that the service has very recently launched a FaceBook page,

The name/handle is, TheMHAHS

I'd like thank both Sonam and Natali for all the work they've done in making the page a reality. Setting up the page has had its challenges, but we're finally there.

The page is in its infancy. It's very new and very fresh, so it doesn't have a lot of posts/content as yet, but that'll build overtime.

We'll be using the page in our campaigns, to share relevant information and as way to showcase and profile our work.

Our very first campaign, using the page, has been to promote DBS HIV testing, which you all know is a free self-test that is ordered online and can be done at home.

The campaign is being run in partnership with Pozhet - the Positive Heterosexual Service.

It's a 2-week campaign that finishes at the end of this week and these are screenshots of some of the posts.

This is actually our 4th FB campaign promoting DBS testing, but because we haven't had a FB page until now, the past campaigns we run from the Pozhet FB page.

The campaign includes a short multilingual animation that conveys the main elements of the DBS testing process.

Ordering the test online; having it arrive in your home; pricking your finger to obtain a few drops of blood that are dried on a test card; sending the card to the lab for testing.

The campaign aimed to reach Chinese-speaking, Indonesian, sub-Saharan African, Thai and Vietnamese audiences as well as Australian born heterosexuals.

Thank you to those of you who assisted with the language development for these.

Finally, please help us build up our followers.

Please Like, Share and Follow the page.

Thank you

THE NSW HEPATITIS C CAMPAIGN – Denise

Explain the scope of the NSW Hepatitis Communications strategy:

- last year “Hep B, could it be me?” campaign
- 2018 campaign focused on Hep C targeting key CALD communities: “Live free of Hepatitis C”

HEPATITIS C campaign

For CALD communities

- Arabic
- Chinese
- Vietnamese

Are you living with Hepatitis C? A cure is available

1. Messages developed for CALD communities

BANNERS | POSTERS | WALLET CARDS

Objectives

- To encourage **testing for hepatitis C**, highlighting relevant *modes of transmission* for each community.
 - Unsterilized tattooing or piercing
 - Medical, dental and traditional health procedures overseas
 - Mass vaccination and blood transfusions in the country of birth
 - Sharing injecting equipment
- To increase awareness of availability of **hepatitis C cure**

The first group reworked the original hepatitis C poster messages and developed messages using wording relevant to their communities that are also culturally appropriate.

The second group reviewed the messages and provided input into the style and images appropriate to their communities.

The final group worked in pairs to develop the messages in language.

- Messages developed by MHAHS **Cultural Support Officers**

- **Three focus groups** were held with participants from each of the language groups
 - **Group 1** -reworked the original hepatitis C poster messages
 - **Group 2** - reviewed the messages
 - **Group 3** - developed the messages in language

2. Digital audio-visual assets

Short films | Personal stories – Living with hepatitis C

- Developing three short films (maximum of 3 minutes each).
- Personal stories of people who lived with Hepatitis C, focussing on modes of transmission and cure for hepatitis C.
- The films will be produced in Arabic, Mandarin and Vietnamese and each will include English subtitles.

3. Ethnic media campaign

July 2018 | Campaign launch

- World Hepatitis Day
- Hepatitis Awareness Week

MHAHS NEWS – A LOOK TO THE FUTURE – SONAM

The MHAHS first started in 1991 as a 12 month project. And has since gone on to become a statewide service with more than 70 CSOs from 21 languages. At the time it was started, the Service was so unique and different, that it was described as a Starship enterprise in popular Starttrek TV program because it goes where no services have gone before to work with people from diverse backgrounds. Four years after it started, MHAHS also started a newsletter called MHAHS News.

- Tonight's presentation is about looking at the publication of this enterprise and asking where do we want to take it so that it will serve us better into the future. What are its issues and challenges and how can we improve it?

Objectives:

- To ensure all staff of MHAHS feel valued as a team member
- An avenue to share information
- To keep up to date with developments in the HIV/AIDS Field.

So, what do the future hold for MHAHS News? What are its challenges?

For starters the current format is not mobile friendly.

Publication every few months is too few and long in between. It's not responsive enough to the fast pace of today's communication.

It is in this context that we propose that we move our MHAHS News to a format which could be not only mobile friendly but also more frequently available to update our CSOs on time. Also, that which is not too labour intensive to produce.

MHAHS News challenges:

- Limited access
 - Current PDF format less compatible with online browsing technology
 - 3 monthly printing format limits the newsletter from providing timely news and information
- Labour intensive
- Hard to evaluate on time
- More accessible and compatible as it will be 'mailchimp' based and emailed to you
- More timely
- More adaptive format to be less labour intensive
- Easier to evaluate

When I look at the newsletter, one thing that is very evident apart from its ever changing shape, size and colour etc. over the years was its commitment to keep the conversations going between CSOs and the Service and the wider universe. So, if we keep working on it like we have always, I have no doubt that we will live up to our reputation as a starship enterprise.

HIV RELATED COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT/HIV ASSOCIATED NEUROLOGICAL

DISORDERS (HAND) – Denise Cummins and David Crawford

What to look for?

A Change in behaviour or skill in last 12 months:

- Slower doing tasks
- More fatigue at end of day
- Having to concentrate more
- Motor skills reduced (able to perform but slower) may be more clumsy
- Environment
- Forgetting appointment, medications

Increased Awareness for...

- Adherence
- Appointments
- Motivation
- Assessment and screening

Do you recognise..."Angel"

- Angel is 45, HIV + 16 years
- V/L UD, CD4 520, ARVs
- Recently forgot 2 appointments. Said she was very stressed/busy...
- Her friends have noticed she is not going out as much and that she gets irritable.

Remember

- S&S may be mild and subtle
- Whether the person is living at home or in a residential facility changes could be a sign of cognitive impairment which may be improved with treatment
- If you notice any changes in the person's behaviour, cognition, the home environment, increase in clumsiness and falls...

Arrange a medical review!

Living with HAND-personal approach

- Many people live very productive and engaged lives with a diagnosis of HAND.
- Identify ways to enhance their strengths and compensate for their weaknesses.
- Develop strategies for S&S.

**Next meeting: 6 - 8pm, Wednesday 5 September 2018
KPEC Auditorium 4.1 RPA**