Ethiopian Public Health Institute (EPHI)



Surveillance and Public Health Response using Recency: Early Evidence from the Field

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HIV in Ethiopia



- HIV epidemic is major public health challenge
- PLHIV 610 000 [470 000 780 000].
- CLHIV (0-14Y): 62 000 [38 000 86 000]
- Adult prevalence: 0.9% [0.7 1.2]
- Prevalence varies widely residence and region <1%-4.8%

Source: EPP 18, EDHS 2016



Performance on 90-90-90 in Urban Ethiopia- EPHIA







Ethiopia on the Verge of HIV Epidemic Control

- HIV case-based surveillance (CBS) will provide real-time, national and sub-national data, including recent infections, to respond to the HIV epidemic
- Allows the country program to rapidly focus the public health response to subpopulations and sites where high levels of transmission is ongoing
- 435 sites to roll out CBS by September 2019

Phase I- HIV case reporting health facilities in Ethiopia number of newly identified HIV positives



HIV Recency Testing in CBS

- Recency status is assessed using Sedia Asante[™] HIV-1 rapid recency test as a supplemental test after positive HIV diagnosis by national HIV rapid testing algorithm
- HIV recency result is not returned to the client
- Used only for surveillance purpose to identify geographic hot spots and population groups with clustering of new HIV infections



Standard Document Development and Distribution

- National guidelines for CBS adopted in February 2018
- Includes recency testing at at all sites providing HIV testing services





Implementation Using Standardized Tools







HIV Case Reporting and HIV Recency Testing Training for Site Staff

Region	# Sites Trained	# Staff Trained	# Sites Activated in July
Dire Dawa	10	62	TBD
SNNPR	15	176	14
Oromia	29	177	11
Amhara	27	261	29
Addis Ababa	50	395	25
Tigray	11	54	-
Total	142	1125	79





Newly Diagnosed HIV Positives by Sex and by Age Category (n=69)



*Preliminary Data from 9 Sites in Addis Ababa and Amhara Regions, Jan-Feb 2019



Percentage of Probable HIV Recent Infections (n=64)



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Percentage of HIV Recent Infections by Age (n=69)







Lessons Learned

- HIV case reporting in Ethiopia is a collaborative effort between the Ethiopian PHEM and the HIV/TB directorates
- Enabled us to make use of the huge human and financial resources from both departments to move the surveillance forward
- Build a data flow and transmission platform, which can serve for other PHEM disease reporting as well.



CBS and Recency Testing in Ethiopia

 Allowed the HIV program in Ethiopia to shift from measuring services in aggregates to now track hot spots of recent infections, individual interventions, and access to differentiated HIV services

 Focus on each newly identified HIV-positive individual to provide necessary interventions

 Program-level response to recent infection hot spots to prevent further transmission

• Efforts will move Ethiopia closer to epidemic control



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