**Course Descriptions**

**Training Courses for Health Workers Providing Key Population-Led Health Services**

**USAID Community Partnership Project**

**Introduction**

Under the USAID Community Partnership Project, the Institute of HIV Research and Innovation (formerly PREVENTION, Thai Red Cross Society AIDS Research Centre), in collaboration with the Rainbow Sky Association of Thailand, Service Workers in Group Foundation and the M Plus Foundation, has developed 6 training courses to develop the capacity of staff in key population led health services (KPLHS). The 6 training courses are:

1. Basic knowledge of HIV and other related diseases, 18 hours
2. HIV Counseling, 24 hours
3. Antiretroviral Drug Dispensing, 12 hours
4. Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) Dispensing, 12 hours
5. Dispensing of STI Treatment Medications, 12 hours
6. Screening for HIV and other Sexually Transmitted Infections, 24 hours

Each training course consists of a trainer’s manual and participant handbook. The trainer’s manual is modular, and each module of the trainer’s manual consists of a session plan, activity sheets, and a PowerPoint presentation. The participant handbook contains reading materials or fact sheets related to each module. The purpose of the participant handbook is to be an essential information resource for service providers, including information on ethics and service procedures. Except for the HIV Basics course, the other courses, which are advanced, also recommend tools that may be used to provide HIV services.

**Course Descriptions**

The course descriptions for each course are as follows:

1. **Basic knowledge of HIV and other related diseases (Total 18 hours)**

The study of basic information on HIV / AIDS consists of The importance of HIV, HIV infection and transmission, HIV disease progression, HIV testing; prevention and the importance of early testing and treatment; basic information on sexually transmitted infections (STI), together with the prevalence of STI; common STIs as well as basic information on testing and treatment; basic information on hepatitis (A-B-C) and its relationship with HIV; basic information on HIV prevention (PrEP and PEP); basic information on antiretroviral medications and common opportunistic infections; treatment guidelines; the benefits of early treatment; basic information on ethical service provision; communication skills; assessing risk for HIV, sexually transmitted infections and hepatitis; providing assistance to the client in accessing continuous prevention and treatment services, and; information on gender sensitivity related to key population led health services.

**Keywords**

HIV, AIDS, CD4 white blood cells, virus, window period, antiretroviral medication, rapid testing-early treatment, opportunistic infections, tuberculosis, pneumonia, key population, men who have sex with men, transgender women, condoms, pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP), sexually transmitted infections, gonorrhea, chlamydia trachomatis, syphilis, hepatitis virus, gender, sexuality, stigma and discrimination.

**Evaluation method**

1. Knowledge assessment of 20 multiple-choice questions.
2. Observation of participants' interest and participation in the training.

**Training team**

1. Doctors, nurses and counselors from the Institute of HIV Research and Innovation
2. Counselors from the community health centers that have completed the training of trainers for the course “Basic knowledge in HIV and other related diseases” under the project USAID Community Partnership

**Training participants:** Staff from community organizations and government agencies working on HIV services in the community.

**Training objectives:** At the end of the training, the participants will be able to:

1. Explaining the difference between HIV and AIDS;
2. Explain risk factors, transmission, and advice on the prevention of HIV, other sexually transmitted infections and different types of hepatitis;
3. Explain the importance of antiretroviral therapy for the health of people living with HIV and the benefits of early treatment;
4. Explain how community health services can help clients access treatment services for HIV, other sexually transmitted infections and hepatitis;
5. Identify the importance of awareness of gender and sexuality in the provision of quality services to members of key populations;
6. Discuss the components of ethical and effective service delivery;
7. Identify essential skills and techniques for all service providers to communicate effectively with clients.

**Course content**

| **Training unit** | **Activity** | **Time** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1. **Introduction to the courses, objectives, training rules and pre-course knowledge assessment** | * Lecture * Question & answer * Individual pre-test | 1 hour  30 minutes |
| 1. **Desired Health Center Services**  * 5 Cs of quality HIV services * Discussion on desired health center services | * Lecture by slide presentation * Group brainstorming activity, question & answer, and exchange of ideas | 1 hour |
| **3. Key elements of quality service provision**   * Code of conduct for health care providers * Skills and techniques in communication * Active listening and questioning skills * Paraphrasing and other skills | * Lecture * Small-group discussion using case studies * Role play communication skills for good and friendly service | 1 hour  30 minutes |
| **4. Gender sensitivity in health services**   * Sexuality, sex and gender * Case studies to reduce stigma and discrimination in the provision of services * Considerations for gender sensitive health services | * Lecture * Group brainstorming and idea exchange activities * Small-group discussion using case studies | 3 hours |
| **5.** **Basic knowledge about HIV / AIDS**   * What is HIV? * Situation of HIV in Thailand * Modes of transmission and disease progression * HIV testing methods * Prevention and treatment (Body Mind Society) * AIDS-related policies in Thailand | * Lecture * Question - answer * Group brainstorming and idea exchange activities | 2 hours |
| **6. Basic knowledge about sexually transmitted infections**   * Definition of sexually transmitted infections (STI) and common infections in Thailand * Causes and symptoms of sexually transmitted infections * Disease progression * Basic STI screening * Relationship between sexually transmitted infections and HIV | * Lecture * Group brainstorming and idea exchange activities * Small-group discussion using case studies | 1 hour  30 minutes |
| **7. Hepatitis**   * Situation of hepatitis in Thailand * Knowledge about the liver * What is hepatitis? (symptoms and diagnosis) * Hepatitis A-B-C * Relationship between hepatitis and HIV * Guidelines for the prevention of hepatitis and referral for treatment | * Lecture * Question & answer * Group activities to brainstorm and answer questions | 1 hour  30 minutes |
| **8. Risk assessment for HIV, other sexually transmitted infections and hepatitis**   * Modes of infection/transmission and elements of risk for HIV, other sexually transmitted infections and hepatitis * Four principles of infection (Exit- Survive-Sufficient- Enter) * Analysis of risk behaviors in different contexts * Strategies in risk reductions | * Lecture * Question & answer * Group activities to brainstorm and answer questions * Analyze risk behavior using behavior word cards | 1 hour  15 minutes |
| **9. HIV prevention and treatment**   * Trends in new HIV infections in Thailand * Various methods of HIV prevention, such as condom use, antiretroviral drugs, safe injecting, etc. * Antiretroviral therapy to prevent infection, PEP and PrEP * Guidelines for the treatment of HIV infection * Antiretroviral medications * Common opportunistic infections, prevention and treatment | * Lecture * Individual question & answer * Group brainstorming activity and quiz competition | 1 hour  30 minutes |
| **10.** **Accessing HIV-related health services**   * Different types of health benefits * Benefits package for people living with HIV * Migrant health benefits * Benefits of assisting clients in accessing HIV services | * Lecture * Group brainstorming and idea exchange activities * Small-group discussion on HIV-related health benefits and providing care and support using case studies | 1 hour  45 minutes |
| **11. Summary of training and post-training assessment** | * Lecture, question & answer Individual post-test | 1 hour  30 minutes |
| **Duration of training** | | **18 hours**  **(3 days)** |

**2. HIV Counseling (Total 24 hours)**

Study the principles and methods of high-quality counseling for HIV testing, which includes Key principles of HIV counseling; Counseling for behavior change; HIV pre-test group information and risk assessment; Individual HIV pre-test counseling; HIV post-test counseling for a non-reactive (negative) result and indeterminate result, and; HIV post-test counseling for a reactive (positive) result. The course also includes counseling individuals at risk of self-harm, counseling to support disclosure of HIV, sexually transmitted infections and sexuality, and practice in providing counseling on the above topics.

**Keywords**

HIV counseling, provision of important information, risk assessment for infection, counseling for behavior change, individual counseling before HIV testing, counseling after the HIV test, counseling for people at risk of self-harm, counseling for disclosure

**Evaluation method**

1. Knowledge assessment of 15 multiple-choice questions and written answers.
2. Observation of participants' interest and participation in the training.

**Training team**

1. Nurses and counselors who have expertise and experience in HIV counseling from the Institute of HIV Research and Innovation
2. Counselors from the community health centers that have completed the training of trainers for the “HIV Counseling” course under the project USAID Community Partnership

**Training participants:** Community Health Officers and staff from other agencies who provide HIV test counseling. Participants will be required to undergo the course “Basic knowledge in HIV and other related diseases” or have previous experience in HIV**.**

**Training objectives:** At the end of the training, the participants will be able to:

1. Use skills and techniques to provide information to others about important HIV-related issues
2. Conduct a motivational interview for behavioral change
3. Conduct a risk assessment and provide information related to HIV infection to support the clients in deciding to have an HIV test during the process of pre-test HIV counseling.
4. Provide post-HIV test counseling for negative, indeterminate, and positive results to support the clients to plan for self-care
5. Assess risks/predisposition for self-harm and develop a plan to assist a client with thoughts of self-harm.
6. Demonstrate practical skills that will assist the clients in disclosing HIV test results.

**Course content**

| **Training unit** | **Activity** | **Time** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1. **Introduce course, objectives, training rules and pre-training assessment** | * Lecture * Question & answer * Individual pre-test | 1 hour |
| 1. **Key elements of HIV counseling**  * Review basic knowledge about HIV and other related diseases * Review key skills and components of quality health services | * Group activities and discussion on past experiences in providing and receiving services. | 1 hour |
| 1. **Behavior change counseling**  * Identifying behavioral options using the four principles * Stages in behavior change * Motivational interviewing | * Lecture, 30 minutes * Case studies and pair role-plays, 3 rounds, 45 minutes per round. | 2 hours |
| 1. **Pre-HIV test group information and individual pre-HIV test counseling**   **Part 1:** Pre-test group information   * Important information that should be provided before HIV testing * Key principles of HIV services: 5 Cs | * Lecture, 30 minutes * Divide participants to group to prepare for concise pre-test information presentations | 1 hours  30 minutes |
| **4. Pre-HIV test group information and individual pre-HIV test counseling (continued)**  **Part 2:** Risk assessment   * Risk assessment and client records | * Lecture, 20 minutes. Introduce various record keeping forms that are used in counseling and risk assessment. * Role-play of a case study by the facilitators to demonstrate risk assessment and note taking. * The participants practice role-plays in pairs, 2 rounds, 30 minutes each round. | 1 hours  45 minutes |
| **4. Pre-HIV test group information and individual pre-HIV test counseling (continued)**  **Part 3:** Individual pre-test counseling   * The process of providing information on HIV prevention and counseling for risk reduction * Assessment of client readiness for testing and knowledge of the meaning of test results * The process for obtaining consent for testing | * Lecture, 30 minutes. Introduce the steps to HIV pre-test counseling * Role-play of a case study by the facilitators to demonstrate HIV pre-test counseling * The participants practice role-plays in triads, 3 rounds, 45 minutes each round. | 3 hours  15 minutes |
| **5. Post-HIV test counseling**  **Part 1:** Providing a non-reactive (negative result)   * General principles for reporting results * The importance of post-HIV test counseling * Important steps in providing a negative result * Practice providing negative test results and record keeping | * Lecture, 15 minutes. Introduce steps in providing post-HIV test counseling, negative result * Role-play of a case study by the facilitators to demonstrate post-HIV test counseling, negative result * The participants practice role-plays in triads, 2 rounds, 30 minutes each round. | 2 hours |
| **5. Post-HIV test counseling (continued)**  **Part 2:** Providing an inconclusive test result   * Meaning of an inconclusive result * Important steps in providing an inconclusive test result * Practice providing an inconclusive test result | * Lecture, 15 minutes. Introduce steps in providing post-HIV test counseling, inconclusive result * Role-play of a case study by the facilitators to demonstrate post-HIV test counseling, inconclusive result * The participants practice role-plays in triads, 2 rounds, 30 minutes each round. | 1 hours  45 minutes |
| **5. Post-HIV test counseling (continued)**  **Part 3:** Providing a positive-HIV test result   * Feelings, thoughts and assistance needs of a client receiving a positive test result * Information on antiretroviral medication and the benefits of early treatment * Important steps in providing a positive test result * Practice providing a positive test result | * Lecture, 15 minutes. Introduce steps in providing post-HIV test counseling, positive result * Role-play of a case study by the facilitators to demonstrate post-HIV test counseling, positive result * The participants practice role-plays in triads, 2 rounds, 45 minutes each round. | 1 hours  45 minutes |
| **6. Counseling clients who are at risk of self-harm**   * Living with HIV and suicidal thoughts * Assessing suicidal tendencies * Signs and symptoms of depression * Assisting persons with suicidal thoughts | * Lecture, 15 minutes. Introduce steps in conducting a suicide risk assessment * Role-play of a case study by the facilitators to demonstrate suicide risk assessment * The participants practice role-plays in triads, 2 rounds, 20 minutes each round. * Group discussions to plan suicide management interventions. | 2 hours  45 minutes |
| **7. Counseling to support disclosure of HIV, STI and hepatitis**   * Benefits to disclosure of test results * Barriers to disclosure of test results * Options/solutions for disclosure of test results | * Lecture, 5 minutes * Individual question & answer * Group discussion and summary of key points on flipchart paper * Role-play of a case study by the facilitators to demonstrate counseling for disclosure * The participants practice role-plays in triads, 3 rounds, 25 minutes each round. | 3 hours |
| **8. Summary of training and post-training assessment** | * Lecture, question & answer Individual post-test | 1 hour  15 minutes |
| **Duration of training** | | **24 hours**  **(4 day)** |

**3. Antiretroviral Drug Dispensing, 12 hours (Total 12 hours)**

The study of strategies in providing current antiretroviral treatment with emphasis on the provision of services according to different client needs or Differentiated Service Delivery; Initiation of antiretroviral medication on the day HIV was detected, or Same-Day ART; Review of basic knowledge about HIV and AIDS and the epidemic; Study of the classes and formulations of antiretroviral medications currently used in treatment; The effect of antiretroviral drugs; Side effects and guidance on the management of side effects of antiretroviral therapy; Required testing before ART initiation; Guidance for continuous and consistent use of antiretroviral medication; Assessment/screening of client readiness to receive medication at the community health center; Stock management (supply, storage, and dispensing of ARVs) in the community health center; Follow-up with clients after receiving medication, for follow-up appointments, and continuous treatment.

**Keywords**

HIV, AIDS, CD4 white blood cells, viral load, antiretroviral medication, early antiretroviral treatment / same-day ART, adherence, opportunistic infections, tuberculosis, pneumonia, community health center dispensary management

**Evaluation method**

1. Knowledge assessment using a questionnaire
2. Observation of participants' interest and participation in the training.

**Training team**

1. Doctors and nurses from the Institute of HIV Research and Innovation that have expertise in HIV treatment
2. Counselors from the community health centers that have completed the training of trainers for the “Antiretroviral Drug Dispensing” course under the project USAID Community Partnership

**Training participants:** Staff from community organizations and government agencies working on HIV services in the community.

**Training objectives:** At the end of the training, the participants will be able to:

1. Explain the importance and goal of treating HIV-infected people with antiretroviral medication.
2. Describe the treatment options for people living with HIV in Thailand
3. Explain the procedures for assessment and related tests before starting antiretroviral therapy.
4. Describe approaches to referral for access to medical services and continuous care.
5. Describe the procedures for evaluating and screening HIV-infected patients on treatment that have stable clinical manifestations to provide continuous dispensing of medications through the community health centers.
6. Demonstrate and explain the use of documents related to drug storage, dispensing antiretroviral medications and monitoring antiretroviral therapy.

**Course content**

| **Training unit** | **Activity** | **Time** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1. **Introduce course, objectives, training rules and pre-training assessment** | * Lecture * Question & answer * Individual pre-test | 1 hour |
| 1. **Basic knowledge of HIV / AIDS**  * Situation and prevalence * Modes of transmission and disease progression * Testing methods and the window period * Guidelines for treatment of HIV * Opportunistic infections – prevention and treatment | * Lecture * Question & answer * Group brainstorming activity and exchange of ideas | 2 hours |
| 1. **HIV antiretroviral medications**  * What is antiretroviral therapy? * Goals and criteria for starting antiretroviral drugs. * Recommended first-line and alternative formulas in Thailand. * Side effects and complications of antiretroviral therapy * Drug interactions * Discipline in taking antiretroviral medications and resistance | * Lecture * Group brainstorming activity and exchange of ideas * Small-group discussion using case studies | 3 hours |
| 1. **Pre-ART assessment and related testing for PLHIV**  * Assessment and screening for HIV-infected people before receiving antiretroviral therapy. * Guidelines for screening HIV-infected patients for community health workers for continuous dispensing ARV treatment at community health centers. * Guidelines for the referral of HIV-infected patients to medical services and continuous treatment | * Lecture * Group brainstorming activity * Small-group discussion using case studies * Demonstrate and practice assessment to initiate antiretroviral therapy, using a case study and form for the assessment and screening of patients before receiving antiretroviral therapy and for monitoring adherence. | 3 hours |
| 1. **Antiretroviral stock management and dispensing in community health centers**  * Stock management of antiretroviral medicines in community health centers, including the collection, storage, distribution and adherence monitoring. * Procedures for standardized and safe dispensing of medicines by community health workers. * Monitoring client follow-up appointments and adherence | * Lecture * Small-group discussion using case studies * Demonstrate the use of drug storage and adherence forms. * Role-play the procedures for management of antiretroviral medications in community health centers. | 2 hours |
| 1. **Summary of training and post-training assessment** | * Lecture, question & answer * Individual post-test | 1 hour |
| **Duration of training** | | **12 hours**  **(2 days)** |

**4. Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) Dispensing (Total 12 hours)**

The study of information on PrEP and on PrEP services in communities consists of: What is PrEP; Why do we need PrEP; PrEP guidelines; Who should take PrEP; Assessment of client readiness to take PrEP; Counseling for PrEP initiation; PrEP adherence and follow-up; Stock management (supply, storage, and dispensing) in the community health center; Procedures in providing PrEP at the community health centers, and; practice in counseling, risk assessment, assessing client readiness, and implementation according to the outlined procedures.

**Key messages**

HIV, AIDS, window period, key population, men who have sex with men, transgender women, condoms PrEP, PEP, community health center dispensary management

**Evaluation method**

1. Knowledge assessment using a questionnaire
2. Observation of participants' interest and participation in the training.

**Training team**

1. Doctors, nurses and counselors from the Institute of HIV Research and Innovation
2. Counselors from the community health centers that have completed the training of trainers for the “Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) Dispensing” course under the project USAID Community Partnership

**Training participants:** Staff from community organizations and government agencies working on HIV services in the community.

**Training objectives:** At the end of the training, the participants will be able to:

1. Explain the importance of PrEP in HIV prevention
2. Explain Thailand’s guidelines on PrEP
3. Describe the pre-PrEP evaluation process
4. Demonstrate the steps in dispensing PrEP in community health centers

**Course content**

| **Training unit** | **Activity** | **Time** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1. **Introduce course, objectives, training rules and pre-training assessment** | * Lecture * Question & answer * Individual pre-test | 1 hour |
| 1. **PrEP introduction**  * What is PrEP and why do we need it? * How to take PrEP * Why does Thailand need PrEP services * PrEP services in community health services. Can they do it? How? | * Lecture, PowerPoint presentation * Discussion groups / quiz | 2 hours |
| 1. **Guidelines for PrEP dispensing**  * Target populations for PrEP * Pre-PrEP initiation assessment and screening * PrEP dispensing * Monitoring / follow-up * Guidelines for post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) | * Lecture, PowerPoint presentation * Discussion groups / quiz | 1 hour  30 minutes |
| 1. **Assessment of the readiness of PrEP clients**  * Factors affecting readiness and decision making to take PrEP * Evaluating clients in different situations to receive PrEP and appropriate models of PrEP for different client lifestyles. | * Lecture, PowerPoint presentation * Discussion groups / quiz * Practice assessing readiness | 1 hour  30 minutes |
| 1. **Counseling for PrEP**  * Skills and approaches in counseling to support clients’ decision making on whether to take PrEP based on readiness and need. | * Role-play and practice in pairs using a case study | 1 hour  30 minutes |
| 1. **Counseling to promote discipline in taking PrEP**    * Importance of PrEP in HIV prevention    * The importance of taking medication on time    * Tips to take medicines on time as prescribed    * Follow-up testing appointments    * Obstacles to the client taking medication and coming to appointments | * Group discussion and presentation | 1 hour  30 minutes |
| 1. **Stock management and drug dispensing**  * Receiving and storing, stock management * Drug dispensing and record keeping forms for use in quality control | * Lecture * Question & answer | 1 hour |
| 1. **Process of counseling and dispensing services in communities**  * Steps in service provision at different sites and the role of health workers at each site | * Role-play and review by viewers | 1 hour  30 minutes |
| 1. **Summary of training and post-training assessment** | * Lecture, question & answer * Individual post-test | 30 minutes |
| **Duration of training** | | **12 hours**  **(2 days)** |

**5. Dispensing of STI Treatment Medications (Total 12 hours)**

Study the principles and procedures for the provision of sexually transmitted diseases services in community health centers, which consists of Information on sexually transmitted infections, Common STIs and their relation to HIV; Sampling procedures for screening sexually transmitted diseases, for example, the collection of samples from the throat, rectum and genitals and the collection of urine samples; Detailed information on the treatment of sexually transmitted infections and drugs used to treat syphilis, gonorrhea (GC) and non-gonococcal urethritis (CT); pre-GC and CT treatment assessment and history taking at the community health centers; Stock management (supply, storage, and dispensing); and practice sample collection as mentioned above.

**Keywords**

Key populations, men who have sex with men, transgender women, sexually transmitted infections gonorrhea, chlamydia trachomatis, syphilis, hepatitis, sample collection for screening of sexually transmitted infections, community health center dispensary management

**Evaluation method**

1. Knowledge assessment using a questionnaire
2. Practical examination, i.e., collection of specimens from the throat, anus, and penis and collection of a urine sample
3. Observation of participants' interest and participation in the training.

**Training team**

1. Doctors and nurses from the Institute of HIV Research and Innovation that have expertise in HIV treatment
2. Doctors and nurses from the AIDS Bureau that have expertise in HIV treatment
3. Counselors from the community health centers that have completed the training of trainers for the “Dispensing of STI Treatment Medications” course under the project USAID Community Partnership

**Training participants:** Staff from community organizations and government agencies working on HIV services in the community.

**Training objectives:** At the end of the training, the participants will be able to:

1. Identify the names, causes, and symptoms of common sexually transmitted infections in key populations.
2. Explain how to screen for sexually transmitted infections
3. Demonstrate how to collect specimens from the throat, anus, and penis and collect a urine sample.
4. Describe the guidelines for treating sexually transmitted diseases by dispensing drugs for follow-up treatment.
5. Describe guidelines for referral for STI treatment
6. Describe the drug administration system at the community health center.
7. Demonstrate the process of evaluating and screening sexually transmitted infections to provide drug treatment services.

**Course content**

| **Training unit** | **Activity** | **Time** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1. **Introduce course, objectives, training rules and pre-training assessment** | * Lecture * Question & answer * Individual pre-test | 1 hour |
| 1. **Knowledge about sexually transmitted infections**  * Statistics on the prevalence of sexually transmitted infections * Common STIs, causes and symptoms * Risk behaviors for sexually transmitted infections and their relationship to HIV | * Lecture * Question & answer * Group brainstorming activity and exchange of ideas | 1 hour |
| 1. **Screening for sexually transmitted infections**  * Approaches and skills in history taking for screening of sexually transmitted infections * Laboratory testing for screening of sexually transmitted infections (such as gonorrhea, chlamydia trachomatis, and syphilis, etc.) in community health centers. | * Lecture * Question & answer * Demonstration and practice history taking and screening of sexually transmitted infections | 2 hours |
| 1. **Specimen collection for testing**  * Equipment and procedures for specimen collection from the throat, anus, penis and collection of a urine sample. * Demonstration and practice of collecting samples | * Demonstration and practice history taking and screening of sexually transmitted infections | 3 hours |
| 1. **Treatment of sexually transmitted infections by dispensing medications**  * Guidelines for treatment of sexually transmitted infections – gonorrhoea, chlamydia trachomatis, syphilis.) * Guidelines for referral and treatment follow-up * Procedures for assessing and screening sexually transmitted infections for drug dispensing at community health centers. | * Lecture * Group brainstorming activity * Case study * Demonstrate practice assessment and screening of dispensing of medicines in community health centers, referral, and follow-up of persons with sexually transmitted infections. | 2 hours |
| 1. **Stock management of medicines and drug dispensing by medical prescription**  * Stock management of medicines in community health centers * Procedures of drug dispensing in community health centers, medical prescriptions for high quality and safe treatment of sexually transmitted infections | * Lecture * Case study * Demonstration and practice using the forms for storage and dispensing of medications * Role-play, medicine stock management in community health centers | 2 hours |
| 1. **Summary of training and post-training assessment** | * Lecture, question & answer * Individual post-test | 1 hour |
| **Duration of training** | | **12 hours**  **(2 day)** |

**6. Screening for HIV and other Sexually Transmitted Infections (Total 24 hours)**

The study of the methods and procedures of screening for HIV and other sexually transmitted infections, which includes Oral fluid screening for HIV and blood screening for HIV by finger prick; HIV test kits and their diagnostic efficacy; Reading test results; Point of Care (POC) testing for syphilis, gonorrhea (GC), and non-gonococcal urethritis (CT), and; Laboratory safety management. The course also includes practice in oral fluid screening for HIV and blood screening for HIV by finger prick and testing for syphilis, gonorrhea (GC), non-gonococcal urethritis (CT), and POC detection.

**Keywords**

HIV, AIDS, window period, men who have sex with men, transgender women, sexually transmitted infections, gonorrhea, chlamydia trachomatis, syphilis, Point of Care (POC) testing, HIV screening from oral fluid, HIV screening from a finger-prick blood test, test kits for HIV testing, rapid test kits, infection control

**Evaluation methods**

1. **Theoretical exam**

Participants will be tested for theoretical knowledge by taking a written exam.

1. **Practical exam**
   1. Participants will be tested on: the collection of oral fluid storage 3 times; the collection of oral, anal, penile, and urine samples for sexually transmitted diseases 2 times; and; finger-prick blood sampling from volunteers 10 times. The training team and mentors will look at the amount of blood obtained from finger-prick sampling, the side effects of the sampling, and the process of reading, recording, interpreting and reporting results.
   2. The criterion for passing the exam is a score of 100%
2. **Practicum in community health centers**

After training, training participants will be evaluated/receive quality improvement on assessment, collection of samples through finger-prick testing, reading, recording, interpretation and reporting of HIV test results at the community health center by a medical technician every 3 months for at least 12 months. Training participants can work only in locations designated as HIV counseling and testing facilities following these steps.

* 1. Collection of finger-prick blood testing and testing
  2. Reading, recording, interpretation, and reporting of HIV test results (except for use of results as evidence for the client in other transactions) by rapid test kits
  3. Checking the number of test kits
  4. Infection protection and control
  5. Ten percent (10%) of the remaining negative blood samples and all of the positive blood samples after testing will be sent to the Anonymous Clinic for weekly retesting.

**Training team**

1. Medical technicians and nurses from the Institute of HIV Research and Innovation
2. Medical technicians from community organizations collaborating on the project completed the training of trainers for the "HIV Testing and Sexually Transmitted Infections" course under the USAID Community Partnership project.

**Training participants:** Community Health Center staff that will provide testing services for HIV and sexually transmitted infections and who have completed the course “Basic knowledge in HIV and other related diseases” or have previous experience in HIV

**Training objectives:** At the end of the training, the participants will be able to:

1. Explain current methods for testing for HIV
2. Describe how to test for gonorrhea, chlamydia trachomatis and syphilis
3. Conduct a finger-prick blood test for HIV correctly in the community health center for which they are responsible
4. Demonstrate how to test for HIV, gonorrhea, chlamydia trachomatis and syphilis**Course content**

| **Training unit** | **Activity** | **Time** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1. **Introduction to the training course**  * Introduction to the course objectives and content * Pre-training knowledge test | * Lecture, group activities and discussion | 1 hour  30 minutes |
| 1. **Review general knowledge about HIV and policies for ending AIDS in Thailand** | * Lecture and participatory questionnaire | 1 hour  30 minutes |
| 1. **Guidelines for the detection of HIV and sexually transmitted infections**  * Guidelines for the detection of HIV in Thailand and internationally * Blood testing and treatment * Current technology and methods for detecting HIV infection. * Advantages and disadvantages of each testing method. * Current technology and methods for detecting STI | * Lecture and participatory questionnaire * Group activities | 3 hours |
| 1. **Occupational safety in the detection of HIV and sexually transmitted infections**  * Principles and practices in providing services for HIV/STI testing in specific contexts * How to dispose of contaminated waste and non-contaminated waste * The correct ways to prevent infections in case of accidents | * Lecture and participatory questionnaire | 1 hour  30 minutes |
| 1. **Ethics and laws related to HIV testing**  * Ethical conduct in HIV testing * Important and relevant legislation, such as the National Health Act and the Communicable Disease Act | * Lecture and participatory questionnaire | 1 hour  30 minutes |
| 1. **Process of using rapid and oral fluid test kits in the detection and analysis of HIV infection**  * Methods and procedures for sampling for HIV testing * Procedures for testing analysis of HIV infection using rapid tests. Preparation before testing analysis, methods of testing analysis, and methods after testing analysis * Methods and procedures for reading HIV test results from different testing methods * Methods and procedures in recording and reporting HIV test results * Quality control methods * Prevention of errors that affect the test results. (Before, during and after the test) | * Lecture and demonstration | 3 hours |
| 1. **Analytical process for syphilis, gonorrhea and chlamydia trachomatis testing through the use of rapid testing and point of care testing**  * Test kit and equipment for testing analysis * Procedures for testing and analysis | * Lecture and demonstration | 3 hours |
| 1. **Laboratory practice in finger-prick blood sampling and oral fluid collection and testing analysis for HIV and sexually transmitted infections** | | |
| **8.1. Preparing equipment and clients** | * The facilitator demonstrates how to prepare the equipment and participants practice. | 1 hour |
| **8.2 Blood and oral fluid collection**   * Procedures and techniques for finger-prick blood testing and collection of oral fluid samples. | * Facilitator demonstrates blood collection from fingertips and oral fluid collection. * Pair practice in finger-prick blood collection and oral fluid collection * Laboratory practice on finger-prick blood collection with 10 volunteers * Examining ability in finger-prick blood sampling | 2 hours  30 minutes |
| **8.3. Testing analysis for HIV and sexually transmitted infections**   * Procedures and methods of analysis | * The facilitator demonstrates testing analysis * Practice testing analysis using reagent | 2 hours  30 minutes |
| **9. Quality Control**   * The importance of quality control * Methods and approached in quality control | * Discussion and participatory questionnaire | 1 hour  30 minutes |
| **10. Summary of the training**   * Record keeping using different forms * Use of the manual * Guidelines for the provision of blood tests for HIV in community health centers * Post-training knowledge test | * Discussion and participatory questionnaire | 1 hour  30 minutes |
| **Duration of training** | | **24 hours**  **(4 days)** |