

EpiC Nepal Project

Monthly Update: April 2021

Objectives

Objective 1 &2: Attain and maintain HIV epidemic control among at-risk adult men, women and PPs and KPs

Support group meeting:

AMDA EpiC Nepal conducted support group meetings physically maintaining preventive measures of COVID-19, i.e., use of mask, sanitizer and physical distance in Morang and Sunsari districts on 16th and 21st April 2021 respectively. The meeting was facilitated by Case manager and PN. Discussion was done on Adherence to treatment, awareness and safety precautions against COVID-19, Tenofovir Lamivudine and Dolutegravir (TLD) regimen, VL/CD4 testing, U=U, ART adherence, VL testing, VL suppression, Importance of PrEP, enrollment on Biometric system at respective ART Center and Index based partner testing. During the meeting discussion about prevention from the risk of COVID-19 & suggest to follow all the guidance imposed by government of Nepal & its local authorities for the prevention & control measures to follow.

Monthly review meeting:

AMDA EpiC Nepal conducted monthly review meetings to review the progress and decide way forward was done on 26th April, 27th April and 29th April in Jhapa, Sunsari and Morang respectively. In the meeting there was presence of Sr. PO, PC, M&E Officers, FS, AFO, HA, CBS, PN, Lab staffs and DIC/M&E Associate. There was discussion on following:

- District and indicators wise target vs achievement.
- Gaps in case findings, ART enrollment, viral load testing, PrEP initiation.
- Targets to be achieved till April for 58%.
- Known positive mapping for known positive listing & follow ups.
- Target division for each district to achieve 58% till April 2021.
- Safety & security of all beneficiaries & all staffs from COVID-19 Pandemic.
- Proper counseling and enrollment in biometric system of all PLHIV to minimize duplication of cases.

Creative events:

- Creative event was conducted focused for New year special on 16th & 12th April 2021 in Morang & Sunsari district respectively, maintaining physical distance, using mask and sanitizer, with a total of 21 participants (FSWs) with the following objective;
 - To orient on PrEP and screened for PrEP to prevent HIV transmission.
 - Sensitized PM for refer of KPs for HIV testing and their benefits.
 - To increase clinic flow and testing.
 - Prevention measures from Covid-19 Pandemic.

Among the total participants 4 were tested and screened for PrEP and started PrEP. Also, among the participants some were PrEP taking KPs.

Stigma and Discrimination Reduction Training:

- Not done in this period.

Monthly joint inter-Network meeting:

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- In this period jointly monthly meeting was done with BDS Sub Ips of Jhapa, Morang and Sunsari was done on 12th April 2021 in Sunsari, AMDA Nepal. In the meeting there was presence of PC, M&E Officers, AFO. Discussion was focused on case findings, ART enrollment, viral load testing, track lost to follow up cases, coordination with ART centers and hospitals, weekly case mgmt meeting, If any issues and problems arise then time discussion the respectively PC of the districts and with the staffs to be done immediately.

Viral Load campaign

- Viral load sample collection was done in Jhapa district on 12th and 22nd April, with the participation of total 21 PLHIVs with 5 female (3 KPs and 2 PPs) and 16 male (PP).
- Viral load sample collection was done in Sunsari district on 5th and 19nd April, with the participation of total 12 PLHIVs.
- 10 eligible PLHIV were supported for VL testing from Koshi Hospital.

Festival campaign social media posts:

- Festival campaign was conducted from 14th to 15th April 2021, keeping in mind the festival of Nepali new Year. This period was utilized fully focusing on, Known positive enrolled on treatment, testing of high risk populations and enrolling all those HIV negative KPs into PrEP. Also social media posting was done from Facebook pages & other social media.

Objective 3: Improve program management including HIS and HRH and financial systems to ensure attainment and maintenance of epidemic control; and

Data Quality Assessment:

- Not done in this period.

Monitoring visits:

- Monitoring visit was conducted by Sr. Program Officer, Miss Salina Joshi on 16th April at Itahari city clinic. Discussed on target vs achievement, mainly focused on case findings, ART enrollment, Viral load testing, PrEP initiation and findings of known positive. She also focused on Index testing as well as suggest to maintain recording of IIT tracker at city clinic itahari.

Community monitoring Scorecard:

- Not done in this period.

Provincial / Other GoN meeting:

- Participated in the HIV Budget advocacy for CSOs workshop organized by Health Plus supported by USAID/EpiC/PEPFAR at sub national level in Biratnagar on 25th April 2021. In the workshop PC & AFO were participated from EpiC Project of Jhapa, Morang and Sunsari and other partners who are working in the HIV prevention, care, support and treatment for HIV/AIDS.

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- There was discussion and orientation on domestic resource mobilization from local level (Provincial/Municipality) for sustainability of HIV/AIDS prevention, care, support and treatment services in the district.
- There was participation from Ministry of Social Development Dr. Sangita Rai, District Health Officer Dr. Suresh Meheta, Mr. Ramesh Karki Chief of Health Division of Biratnagar Metropolitan City of Morang.

Quarterly Review Meeting

- Quarterly review meeting was conducted from April 6-7 at Yak & Yeti Hotel managed by FHI 360. During the meeting team of EPIC Nepal FHI360 & its sub/Ips PC & M& E officer etc. During the 2 days meeting discussion & presentations on Target vs Achievements, Challenges & issues faced to achieve targets & best practices done to meet the targets from all IPs/Sub IPs.
- Discussion on tracking of known positives in the districts from different approach and sites along with referral sites were shared by IPs/Sub-IPs. Mobility map, coverage map, referral map and known positive tracking map to be make and shared by April 2021 by all IPs.
- Plan to achieve 75% in Q3 was made and shared by all IPs/Sub-IPs .
- Best photos and best success story were shared and appreciation was given by FHI360 team leader.

Monitoring visit by GoN

Not done in this period.

Trainings and Orientations:

Not done in this period.

Monthly ART center Meetings

- **Morang:**

Monthly meeting with ART centers was conducted in 28th April 2021 at Koshi ART center. In the meeting there was presence of Mesu, Gynecology Incharge, Lab Incharge, ART counselor, Lab technician, Medical recorder, Sr. PO, AMDA PC, PSS PC & M&E officer, HA ART, PN. Discussion was done on the safe delivery services from Koshi hospital of PLHIV mother, for this there need of orientation for safe delivery services from NCASC and Mesu recommended for support from NCASC and fhi360.

Viral load testing services will be provided twice in a month managing PCR servicer of 2nd wave of COVID-19 risks & possible management for emergency VL testing based referred by ART doctors for VL testing and emergency cases.

Logistics Support like Masks, Sanitizer & promote use of hand washing station, IIT follow u during 2nd lockdown period. Discussion on support on ART pill pick up & delivery during these covid-19 restrictions period if needed.

- **Sunsari:**

Monthly meeting with ART centers was conducted in 29th April 2021 at BPKIHS ARTcenter. In the meeting there was presence of ART doctor, ART counselor, Lab technician, Medical recorder, Staff Nurse, AMDA M&E officer as well as HA ART. Discussion was done on the no of regular VL testing campaign of during these 2nd wave of COVID-19 risks & possible management for emergency VL testing based referred by ART doctors for VL testing,

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Logistics Support like Masks, Sanitizer & promote use of hand washing station, IIT follow up during 2nd lockdown period .Discussion on support on ART pill pick up & delivery during these covid-19 restrictions period if needed. Support in the enrollment of all PLHIV cases in the biometric system for minimize duplication of the cases.

- **Jhapa**

A joint inter- Network meeting was held on 19th April at ART site, MZH, Jhapa. The meeting was conducted jointly by Lead Nepal and AMDA Nepal in presence of PCs, M&Es and PN from both orgs, also including ART counselor, HA ART and members from CCC. The main agenda of the meeting was to improve coordination among the various organizations working for PLHIVs in Jhapa district and also to have 100% coverage of Viral load test in the district.

Besides this there was discussion on listing of eligible for VL testing from ART center, and follow up for VL testing from AMDA Nepal, Lead Nepal and CCC jointly to minimize the duplication and enrolled all PLHIV cases in biometric services. Jointly follow up for missing and lost to follow cases list provided by ART centers and maintain IIT tracker.

Target vs Achievement

| S.N. | Indicators | Target FY 2021 | Achievement In April.2021 | Cumulative Achievement (Oct 2020-March 2021) FY2021 |
|------|------------------|----------------|---------------------------|---|
| 1 | KP_Prev | 823 | 88 | 598(72%) |
| 2 | PP_Prev | 686 | 107 | 719(104%) |
| 3 | HTS_TST_FSWs | 576 | 65 | 374(64%) |
| 4 | HTS_TST_PPs | 530 | 67 | 362(68%) |
| 5 | HTS_TST_POS_FSWs | 12 | 0 | 8(66%) |
| 6 | HTS_TST_POS_PPs | 37 | 6 | 51(137%) |
| 7 | TX_New_FSWs | 12 | 0 | 7(58%) |
| 8 | TX_NEW_PPs | 171 | 13 | 84(49%) |
| 9 | TX_PVLS(D) | 561 | 34 | 281(50%) |
| 10 | TX_PVLS(N) | 537 | 28 | 257(47%) |
| 11 | STI_Screening | 274 | 93 | 442(161%) |

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|----|--|--------|--------|-------------|
| 12 | STI_Diagnosis & Treatment | 76 | 48 | 235(309%) |
| 13 | PrEP_New | 144 | 25 | 116(80%) |
| 14 | Condom distribution | 223872 | 17,378 | 143518(64%) |
| 15 | Stigma & discrimination reduction training | 300 | 0 | 176(58%) |

Photos:



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Pic: Quarterly review meeting for the period of Jan-March 2021(Q2)



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Pic: Monthly ART center meeting



Pic: Workshop on HIV Budget Advocacy for CSOs for Province One.

Thank You