

EpiC Nepal Project

Monthly Update: May 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 virtual support group meetings in Sunsari and Jhapa districts on 17th May 2021 through Facebook messenger. 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 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 18th, 19th & 20th May in Sunsari, Jhapa 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 May for 66%.
- Known positive mapping for known positive listing & follow ups.
- Target division for each district to achieve 66% till May 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.

Online Activities

- A total of 12 KP & 108 PP was reached through online platform for HIV testing, STI, PrEP & Covid-19 prevention in Sunsari.
- A total of 32 KP & 52 PP was reached through different online platform for HIV testing, STI, PrEP & Covid-19 prevention in Morang.
- A total of 10 KP, 67 PP and 1 PLHIV reached through online platform for HIV testing, STI, PrEP and COVID-19 prevention in Jhapa.
- Also 20 KPs and 16 PPs were followed through phone for HIV testing, STI, PrEP and COVID-19 prevention in Jhapa.

ARV Distribution Services

- In Sunsari, 64 PLHIV (36 Male & 28 Female) were received ARV at community as well as home with the support from Case Manager, FS, CBS, PN, HA-ART as well as PC & M&E staffs.

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- In Morang, 50 PLHIV (24 male & 26 Female) were received ARV at community as well as home with the support from Case Manager, FS, CBS, PN, HA-ART.
- In this period 122 PLHIV were supported in pill pick up from ART center in community and home among them 3 were out of EpiC by PN, CBS, Lab, HA, HA-ART, also 91 PLHIV were follow up via phone for ART adherence in Jhapa.

Relief Packages

In this period KPs and PPs were supported to link with the local governance to receive the relief packages due to lockdown of COVID-19. In Sunsari 10 KPs and 1 PPs were supported to link with Hope Nepal, Dharan to receive relief packages, which contains 25 kg packet of rice, kg pulses, oil, salt, soyabean etc.

COVID-19 Isolation Kit:

In this period 3 AMDA EpiC Project staffs and 2 PLHIV were supported with COVID-19 Isolation Kit who were affected by COVID-19 in the district. Isolation kit contains Pulse Oximeter, thermometer, Mask, Sanitizer, Gloves, Tissue wipes, Soap, Vitamin C, Vitamin D, Zinc, Paracetamol, ORS and Cough syrup.

Creative events:

- Not done in this period.

Stigma and Discrimination Reduction Training:

- Not done in this period.

Monthly joint inter-Network meeting:

- Not done in this Period.

Viral Load campaign

- Not done in this period

Festival campaign social media posts:

- **Jhapa**
AMDA Nepal EpiC project, celebrated International AIDS Candle Light Day 2021 at Jhapa district within few staff members by maintaining safe physical distance in this situation of COVID-19 at AMDA City Clinic on 16th May, 2021.

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Also all the AMDA EpiC Project staffs of Jhapa, Morang, Sunsari and Illam districts were encouraged to share social media posting through facebook/messenger during online outreach with KPs, PPs and PLHIV.

After the completion of the candle lighting ceremony, a virtual meeting with PLHIVs was conducted on 17th May 2021 in Jhapa, in which a total of 6 PLHIVs participated, among them all were male. The meeting was led by the case manager, followed by the PN.

Introduction and welcome was done by PN and the case manager leads the meeting with brief description on i.e.

1. Objective of candle light Memorial Day.

The International AIDS Candlelight Memorial is a time for all of us to remember the many lives lost due to AIDS. It is an opportunity to honor those who dedicated their lives to helping people living with and affected by HIV and continue to mobilize our communities in solidarity. Hence, this day is celebrated internationally in memories of all those PLHIVs who lost their lives, and we can also show some regards by lighting candles in their memories on this special day.

2. Preventive measures of Corona virus.

- Not to make unnecessary movements. If required, maintain social distance.
- Use of mask and gloves and sanitizer if possible or frequent hand washing with soap and water.
- Use of warm drinking water frequently.

3. Importance of ART adherence during this situation of lockdown and EpiC staffs are always ready to help in pill pick from ART centers to community level as per required.

4. Though viral load sample collection has been halted for few days due to the situation of COVID 19, we are tracking all the eligible PLHIVs and that it will be resumed soon after the situation is normal.

Sunsari

A virtual meeting with PLHIVs was conducted on 17th May 2021 in Sunsari , in which a total of 7 PLHIVs participated, among them 4 were male and 3 were female. The meeting was led by the case manager, followed by the PN.

Introduction and welcome was done by PN and the case manager leads the meeting with brief description on i.e.

5. Objective of candle light Memorial Day.

The International AIDS Candlelight Memorial is a time for all of us to remember the many lives lost due to AIDS. It is an opportunity to honor those who dedicated their lives to helping people living with and affected by HIV and continue to mobilize our communities in solidarity. Hence, this day is celebrated internationally in memories of all those PLHIVs who lost their lives, and we can also show some regards by lighting candles in their memories on this special day.

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6. Preventive measures of Corona virus.
 - Not to make unnecessary movements. If required, maintain social distance.
 - Use of mask and gloves and sanitizer if possible or frequent hand washing with soap and water.
 - Use of warm drinking water frequently.
7. Importance of ART adherence during this situation of lockdown and EpiC staffs are always ready to help in pill pick from ART centers to community level as per required.
8. Though viral load sample collection has been halted for few days due to the situation of COVID 19, we are tracking all the eligible PLHIVs and that it will be resumed soon after the situation is normal.

- **Conclusion:**

Though it was a virtual meeting, all the PLHIV showed an active participation, and all the participants were very thankful for conducting meeting in this situation of lockdown and support in the pill pick from ART centers to community level.

- **Challenges:**

1. Hard to manage the event due to lock down situation of COVID-19.
2. Unable to participate and celebrate with other organization.
3. Unable to participate PLHIVs physically, hence were informed about this day virtually through a platform of support group meeting.

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:

- Not done in this period.

Community monitoring Scorecard:

- Not done in this period.

Provincial / Other GoN meeting:

- Not done in this period.

Quarterly Review Meeting

- Not done in this period.

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Monitoring visit by GoN

Not done in this period.

Trainings and Orientations:

Not done in this period.

Monthly ART center Meetings

In this period monthly meeting with Inaruwa ART center done in the presence of ART counselor, HA ART and PC of AMDA Nepal and Human Welfare Society on 3rd May 2021. In the meeting there was discussion on safely distribution of ARV from ART centers to the clients during lockdown for this proper mobilization of CBS, PN, HA-ART, Case manager, ART counselor maintaining preventive measures of COVID-19. Also phone follow and psychosocial counseling to the clients as per need through phone by ART counselor, Case Manager, CBS, PN as per need.

Target Vs Achievement

S.N.	Indicators	Target FY 2021	Achievement In May.2021	Cumulative Achievement (Oct 2020-May 2021) FY2021
1	KP_Prev	823	8	607(73%)
2	PP_Prev	686	19	738(107%)
3	HTS_TST_FSWs	576	3	377(65%)
4	HTS_TST_PPs	530	8	370(69%)
5	HTS_TST_POS_FSWs	12	0	8(66%)
6	HTS_TST_POS_PPs	37	1	52(137%)
7	TX_New_FSWs	12	0	7(58%)
8	TX_NEW_PPs	171	6	90(52%)
9	TX_PVLS(D)	561	2	283(50%)
10	TX_PVLS(N)	537	2	259(48%)
11	STI_Screening	274	6	448(162%)
12	STI_Diagnosis & Treatment	76	3	238(309%)
13	PrEP_New	144	0	116(80%)
14	Condom distribution	223872	4402	1479932(66%)

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15	Stigma & discrimination reduction training	300	0	176(58%)
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Photos:



Pics: International Candle Light Day 2021

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Pics: Virtual Support Group Meeting in Jhapa and Sunsari on COVID-19

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Pics: ART centers supported with PPE set by EpiC Project.

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Pics: Prepn of COVID-19 Isolation kit for COVID-19 affected PLHIV and AMDA EpiC Staffs.

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Pics: KPs & PPs were supported to link in relief packages from local governance.

Thank You.