

WHO INTERNATIONAL RESPONSE TO HIV

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OVERVIEW

- Summary of the stages of WHO International response
- WHO International responses for HIV
- UNAIDS
- UN Nations General Assembly on HIV
- Some Major Global Initiatives
- Universal Access



WHO/UNAIDS Global Initiatives

PAHO/WHO Caribbean Office for HIV

STAGES OF WHO INTERNATIONAL RESPONSE

- Scientific discovery (1980-1985)
- Emergency response (1986-1987)
- Institutionalization (1987-1994)
- Multi-agency coordination (1995-2000)
- Strengthening of health sector response (2001-2005)



Post 3 by 5 (2006 to present)

WHO INTERNATIONAL RESPONSE

- **Emergency Response (1986-1987)**
 - Directing council encouraged WHO to “continue to direct and coordinate” global battle
- **WHO Special Program on AIDS** established in 1987
 - Advocate for a world wide effort to stop AIDS
 - Advocate for UN system to support AIDS control efforts in conformance with “Global AIDS Strategy”
 - Extensive work on establishing NAP, developing policies, strategies and coordinating activities
 - Mult-sectoral vision, influencing multi-sectoral response

JOINT UNITED NATIONS PROGRAM ON HIV (UNAIDS)

- **Joint United Nations Program on HIV and AIDS**
- Created in 1996
- WHO Staff reduced at all levels
- UNAIDS country offices established
- UN THEME GROUP
- Extended Theme Group on HIV
- **Establishment of National AIDS Commissions**

JOINT UNITED NATIONS PROGRAM ON HIV (UNAIDS)

UNAIDS

- Brings together efforts of 10 UN system organizations to address the global AIDS response
- From joint Program on AIDS to joint UN team on AIDS in countries so as to facilitate one UN strategy and coordinate the implementation of the division of labour between countries (UN Theme Group)

JOINT UNITED NATIONS PROGRAM ON HIV (UNAIDS)

Five Focus areas for effective Global Response to AIDS

- Mobilizing leadership and advocacy for effective action on the epidemic
- Providing strategic information and policies to guide the AIDS response worldwide
- Tracking, Monitoring and evaluating of the epidemic
- Engaging civil society and developing partnerships
- Mobilizing financial, human and technical resources to support an effective response

UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON HIV

- UNGASS was held in New York June 25-27 2001
- AIDS is a global crisis which requires action
- A call for Action for the Secretary General to fight HIV and AIDS
- Declaration of Commitment which countries signed
- Periodic reporting on progress

SOME MAJOR GLOBAL INITIATIVES

- WHA approved the "Global Health Sector Strategy for HIV and AIDS in which treatment, prevention and care were the main objectives -WHO Initiatives to strengthening of health sector response
- 3 by 5 Initiatives launched WAD 2003 _"Making it happen, the WHO strategy
- Global Fund Against AIDS, TB and Malaria
- PEPFAR
- Clinton Foundation
- Bill Gates

UNIVERSAL ACCESS

- Post 3x 5 Initiative – coined by WHO
- Pushed by UNAIDS and supported by WHO and all UN agencies
- Focus is on providing comprehensive package of services for prevention, care, treatment and support which includes referrals and psychosocial support at community level
- Emphasis is on stronger partnership with the health sector
- PAHO/WHO Development of the Regional Plan to strengthen the Health Sector to address HIV/STIs/TB
- Integration of HIV services and programs into the primary health care system. No vertical programs

WHO/UNAIDS GLOBAL INITIATIVE TO SCALE UP TESTING AND COUNSELING

In order to scale up testing and counseling and achieve universal access, the new guidelines proposed:

- Emphasis on Provider Initiated Testing (PITC), and offer to everyone who interacts with the health system
- Should be offered in countries with a generalized epidemic
- Preferable in all public clinics, reproductive health clinics, MCH, Tuberculosis clinics, etc
- VCT method should also be implemented so as to provide a space for people who want to know their HIV status

RATIONAL FOR SCALING UP TESTING AND COUNSELING

- Testing and counseling has been implemented over 25 years – main emphasis VCT
- Studies have shown that only a small number of people know their HIV status
- It is estimated that approximately 80% of those who are infected with HIV do not know their HIV status.

RATIONAL ON PITC

- Opportunities to diagnose HIV infection at an early stage
- **Access to early care and treatment for people with the infection**
- greatly increase the availability of HIV testing services in health care settings,
- **Reduce Stigma and Discrimination**
- Scale up prevention, care, treatment and support in country
- If not implemented, universal access to prevention, care, treatment and support will be compromised

RATIONAL ON PITC

- Less time consuming
- Focus is on post test counseling
- Advocates for the elimination of risk reduction which is central to VCT

SPECIAL INTEREST FOR WHO/UNAIDS

- Feminization of HIV
- Gender based violence and HIV and AIDS
- Rights based approach
- Gender relations to the spread of HIV infection
- 3 ONES
- Millennium Development Goals



United Nations Development Framework (UNDAF)

PAHO CARIBEBAN OFFICE FOR HIV

- Change for CAREC Special Program on Sexually Transmitted Diseases
- PAHO Caribbean Office for HIV
- Purpose is to scale up prevention, care treatment and support in the region

THANK YOU