



STOP AIDS

KEEP THE PROMISE

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Advocacy workshop for media personnel, police, lawyers, writers and film makers



Smt. Asha Vernekar, TL, TI, TSU lighting the traditional lamp at the inauguration of the advocacy workshop.



Smt. Asha Vernekar, TL, TI, TSU delivering a talk at the advocacy workshop.



Shri Pramod Kamat, the Law Secretary addressing the audience at the workshop.

Advocacy workshop was organized by 'Pehchan' in association with Hamsafar Trust, Goa State AIDS Control Society, Public Health Foundation of India and International HIV/AIDS Alliance at Maquinez Palace. This workshop had a brainstorming session with panelists, audience and members from the community after every screening. Shri Pramod Kamat, the Law Secretary inaugurated the programme, while noted Konkani writer, Damodar Mauzo presided over the function. The day long programme observed that the transgender community must be given equal rights and more than that they need a friend in every individual they meet, besides a safe environment to speak their thoughts and finally, an identity in the society to be and say what they are. Four films 'Logging off', 'Flowerbud', 'Bolo-Gauri-Sawant' and 'Closet' based on various dynamics and issues of MSM were screened. Transgender and HIJRA population were part of the workshop. Shri Ramesh Rathod, AD (TI), Goa SACS and Smt. Asha Vernekar, TL-TI, TSU were the resource persons for the same.

Refresher's training in STI/RTI conducted at Goa SACS



Lab. technicians and nurses of designated STI/RTI Clinics attending the training programme.

Refresher's training was conducted for Lab. Technicians and nurses of designated STI/RTI Clinics on 28/09/12 in the Conference Hall, Goa SACS. Eleven participants attended the training session. This training was in 'STI/RTI Syndromic Management and Service Delivery'. Resource persons for the training were Dr. G. V. Sawant, DD (Surveillance/BS), Dr. Lalitha Umraskar, DD (STD) and Dr. Savio Rodrigues, Prof. & HOD, Dept. of Microbiology, GMC. Importance was given for improving the case detection by outreach activities and referrals linkages with Ob. & G. Dept. and also maintenance of stock records.

Full Site Sensitization

Full Site Sensitization for the staff of Cottage Hospital, Chicalim was conducted on 26/09/12. Dr. Vikas Kuwelkar, H.O. along with his staff attended the training session. Dr. Rajnanda Desai, Project Director and Dr. G. V. Sawant, DD (Surveillance) were the resource persons for the programme.

Paper presentation by Dr. G. V. Sawant at GIMACON XXIV

Dr. G. V. Sawant, DD (Surveillance), Goa SACS presented a paper on ‘ Socio-clinical profile of PLHIVs of Goa during initial presentation in ART Centre’ at GIMACON XXIV-IMA, Goa State on 30th September, 2012 at Holiday Inn, Varca.

Abstract of the paper is as under:

Background: *In 2010, India had 2.4 million PLHAs. Early initiation of ART, now freely available all over India could add years to life of PLHAs. In Goa, 14,287 cases of HIV have been detected as on 31st March 2012. 2,270, PLHAs have ever started on ART, ever since the commencement of ART Centre in March 2005 at GMC, Bambolim. 772 cases have defaulted/transferred/etc. and 1,498 cases are continuing treatment. Clients diagnosed as HIV positive in ICTC are referred to ART Centre for CD₄ testing, screening of O.I., their eligibility regarding initiation of ART. We have assessed socio-clinical status of PLHAs attending ART centre, GMC, Bambolim on their 1st presentation with aim to suggest improvisation of PLHAs care.*

Methods: *A cross sectional study has been conducted among 160 PLHAs attending ART Centre, GMC, Bambolim on 1st presentation in 1st quarter of 2012. The Socio-clinical data regarding PLHAs were retrieved from ART Centre, GMC Bambolim.*

Results: *Most prevalent coastal talukas Mormugao 35(21.8 %), Salcete 31(19.3%) contributed to majority of PLHAs attending ART centre on 1st visit. Most of the PLHAs are presented in stage III or IV of the disease. Most of the PLHAs, i.e. 114 (73.2%) belonged to age group 25-49 years. Significantly ($P=0.026$) more male PLHAs presented in stage III of disease than female PLHAs 25(15.6%). Significantly ($P=0.012$) elderly PLHAs of 35 years and above, presented in Stage III or IV; & had high opportunistic*

infections, though insignificant.

Conclusion: *Presentation of elderly PLHAs in late stages of disease, particularly from highly prevalent areas is likely to affect quality of life (QOL) of PLHAs. Further, probe in this aspect is needed for better PLHA care. Intensive counselling for their motivation for early registration at ART Centre is needed.*

State Blood Transfusion meeting conducted

State Blood Transfusion meeting was held in Secretariat Conference Hall, Porvorim on 26th September 2012. Shri Parimal Rai, Principal Secretary (Health), Government of Goa chaired the meeting. Dr. Rajnanda Desai, Project Director, Goa SACS carried out the business as per the agenda. Dr. G. V. Sawant made a PowerPoint presentation on Blood Safety activities.

Workshop for Anganwadi workers, Bicholim



Anganwadi workers attending the workshop

Workshop for Anganwadi workers was conducted on 31st September 2012 at Bicholim Municipal Council. Shri Narayan Gad, Dy. Collector, Bicholim inaugurated the workshop. Shri Narayan Betkikar, Vice-Chairperson, Bicholim Municipal Council was the guest of honour for the function. Shri Umakant Sawant, DD (IEC) delivered a talk on 'HIV/AIDS' for creating awareness among the anganwadi workers. This programme was well attended by about 100 anganwadi workers. Ms. Jeunesse Fernandes proposed the vote of thanks.

Refresher's training for Peer Educators



Shri Ashpak Shaikh, PM, LLF
delivering a talk to the peer educators



Shri Mahesh Govekar, PM, Zindagi
in a session at the refresher's training



Shri Ramesh Rathod conducting the
training session



Ms. Zeenat Pathan, PM, Sai Life Care
taking a session on BCC

Refresher's training for peer educators was conducted by Goa SACS at Institute Piedade, Panaji. 35 peer educators attended the training session. The resource persons were Shri Ramesh Rathod, AD (TI), Goa SACS, Smt. Asha Vernekar, TL, TI, TSU, Shri Ashpak Shaikh, PM, LLF, Shri Mahesh Govekar, PM, Darpan and Ms. Zeenat Pathan, PM, Sai Life Care. The topics covered were mainly Behavioral Communication Change, body mapping etc.

Red Ribbon Club Activities

- A session on HIV/ AIDS Session was organized for 11th and 12th standard students at **Sapteshwar HSS, Mandrem-Pernem** on 04/09/2012. Shri Ramdas Kerker, Principal welcomed the Officers from Goa SACS-Panaji, Dr. G. Sawant, DD (Sur & BS) and Ms. Jeunesse D. Fernandes, Consultant (Youth Affairs). The students sang a welcome song before the presentation. Ms. J. Fernandes briefed the students on the importance of updating their knowledge of HIV/ AIDS through the RRC and also urged them to participate in creating awareness in their community and village. Dr. G. Sawant delivered a talk on HIV/ AIDS, Stop AIDS keep the Promise and later answered the questions put forth by the students. Ms. Sneha concluded the program with the vote of thanks.
- Teachers Day Celebration on 05/09/2012 in **DM's PVS SM Kushe HSS**. After the lighting of the traditional lamp and garlanding the portrait of Dr. R. D Radhakrishnan, a cultural program followed in which one of the items performed was by the RRC members from the Arts stream. A Konkani play entitled 'Change your mind set' written and directed by a talented student Ms. Yuga Adarkar, Arts stream was staged. In this play the characters highlighted the teacher's role in creating awareness amongst students on the meaning, causes and prevention of HIV/ AIDS, also dispelling the doubts in the minds of students associated with AIDS.
- HIV/ AIDS awareness program at **GVM's SNJA HSS, Farmagudi-Ponda** on 07/09/2012. At the outset, Shri A. K. Kamat, Principal welcomed the dignitaries. Ms. Jeunesse D. Fernandes, Consultant (Youth Affairs), Goa SACS-Panaji screened an audio visual animated informative video, 'Teach AIDS' for the students. Dr. Lalitha Umraskar, DD STI addressed the students and urged them to clear their doubts, myths and misconceptions about HIV/ AIDS. She also answered the questions put forth by the students. The program was attended by 200 students from the Institute and was organized by the Youth Red Cross Unit. Ms. Jeunesse Fernandes, Consultant at Goa SACS and Mrs. Sabrina, lecturer was the coordinators of the program.

Contact us

GOA STATE AIDS CONTROL SOCIETY

1st Floor, Dayanand Smruti Building, Swami Vivekanand Road, Panaji, Goa - 403 001

Tel: (0832) - 2427286/2421381/2422519. Fax: (0832) - 2422518

E-mail us: goaids@dataone.in, goaids@gmail.com.

Website: www.goasacs.nic.in