



Euro HIV EDAT (WP7): Development of a Toolkit for the implementation and evaluation of Community Based Voluntary Counselling and Testing (CBVCTs) services and Checkpoints for MSM

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Introduction:

The aim of work package 7 (WP7) of the Euro HIV EDAT project was to develop a practical tool for the implementation and quality assurance of MSM Checkpoints in Europe.

Objectives:

In the last years in many European countries low-threshold Community Based Voluntary Counselling and Testing (CBVCT) centres (Checkpoints) for MSM have been established. To support new Checkpoint projects and recently opened Checkpoints, we developed an internet-based Toolkit.

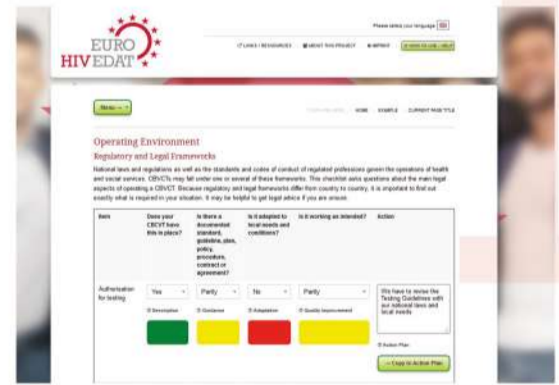


Methods:

A working group with Checkpoints from all over Europe was established. In November 2015, a workshop with experts and working group members developed the main content and structure of the Toolkit. The Toolkit content was afterwards elaborated by an expert in close collaboration with the working group. The Toolkit was tested in a workshop with participants from newly established Checkpoints from all over Europe in Ljubljana in October 2016. The final version of the Toolkit will be published in English, Spanish, Catalan, German, Russian, French, Portuguese, Slovene and Romanian in June 2017 on eurohivedat.eu and msm-checkpoints.eu.

Results:

The Toolkit is an online guidance that provides the main information needed for planning and operating a Checkpoint and to optimize the quality of a CBVCT Service (Checkpoint) that address MSM. It is structured as a systematic self-evaluation-tool. It is not adapted to a specific health system or environment due to the wide diversity in Europe. The approach is to suggest to take into account what is locally needed. This is mainly performed by checklists that enable the users to develop their own strategies according to their needs. The Toolkit is split in six main chapters that cover all main aspects needed for running a quality based service:



- I Operating Environment**
 - Regulatory and Legal Frameworks
 - Financial viability and sustainability
 - Participation and empowerment
 - Collaboration
- II CBVCT Services**
 - Infrastructure
 - Materials
 - Human Resources
 - Monitoring and evaluation
- III Counselling and linkage to care**
 - Counselling
 - Linkage to care
- IV Communication**
- V Advocacy**
- VI Quality improvement and innovation**
 - Improving Quality
 - Innovation and expansion



Conclusion:

Thanks to the collaboration of many experienced partners and experts a useful and practical Toolkit was developed that enables Checkpoints to optimize and develop their services and helps to provide low-threshold, quality based access to test and treatment for MSM. It can also be useful and adapted for other target groups.

The Toolkit will be available from June 2017 on

www.msm-checkpoints.eu
www.eurohivedat.eu