Side Meeting - Service Delivery 2

Integrated approach to testing

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Rwanda Biomedical Center

Friday 3rd November
7.30-9am
Chagal
Agenda

- Integration
- Epidemiology of viral hepatitis among priority groups in Rwanda
- Screening among high risk groups
- Integration of testing and diagnostics
- Nationwide distribution of test sites
Integration

Integration with other testing services or opportunities eg. HIV, antenatal or TB

Integrated combo serology (HIV/HCV RDTs), including self-testing

Use of integrated multi-disease platforms for HCV RNA (centralised or decentralised)

HCV care at harm reduction sites

HCV/HBV care at HIV clinics

HCV care in prisons

Build on substantial existing HIV/TB capacity

Integrated information systems
Proportion HBsAg+ and Anti-HCV+ among priority populations screened

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Risk Group</th>
<th>#Screened</th>
<th>Est.# in Country</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PLHIV</td>
<td>142850</td>
<td>181927</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prisoners</td>
<td>52916</td>
<td>62118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FSW</td>
<td>3660</td>
<td>13569</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;55 years*</td>
<td>49320</td>
<td>717598</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Estimated proportion positive among high risk groups screened
- Trend of higher anti-HCV positivity across all risk groups

*Data collected from screening campaigns where general population volunteered for screening. Data for general population >55 years excludes prisoners and PLHIV.
Geographic Variation in Proportion HBsAg+ and Anti-HCV+ among PLHIV’s screened

- Variation in proportion HBsAg+ and Anti-HCV+ across districts
- Higher anti-HCV positivity in southern and eastern districts

*Sample size=142850 screened at 500+ healthcare facilities providing routine care for HIV+ patients
Older age as priority groups for anti-HCV positivity

- General trend of higher proportion anti-HCV+ among >55 across different populations screened
Screening and prevention among prisoners

Implementation

• ~62,000 prisoners
• All prisons participated in screening
  – Took place at the prison’s health dispensaries

Challenges & Lessons Learnt

• Financial limitations
• Comprehensive engagement of internal and external partners
Screening among Female Sex Workers (FSW)

Implementation

- RBC partnered with Kigali-based NGO, Projet San Francisco, to reach FSWs
- Projet San Francisco conducts HIV-related research and offers counseling to infected individuals
- Screening tests given to Projet San Francisco free-of-charge

Lessons Learnt

- Partnering with local civil society to reach stigmatized, hard-to-reach populations while safeguarding confidentiality
Screening among PLHIV

Implementation

• All PLHIVs accessing HIV services were invited for screening during monthly routine appointments
• Free-of-charge testing
• Offered at ~500 public and private facilities
• ~78% known PLHIVs screened to date

Challenges & Lessons Learnt

• Loss-to-follow-up due to time elapsed between positive anti-HCV test and VL test services
• Test and treat would be ideal
Integration of Testing & Diagnostics

Collaboration with TB program

• Engaging in discussions with TB program to integrate viral load testing with GeneXpert
• Leverage on existing sample transport systems

Collaboration with HIV program

• Shared testing platforms with HIV
• Use existing facilities, infrastructure and staff for decentralized service delivery
Nationwide Distribution of Testing Sites

- Existing 15 ELISA test sites and 9 VL test sites with Roche platform across the nation
- Discussions to upgrade 47 GeneXpert platforms for HCV testing
## Appendix III. Existing Screening and Treatment Infrastructure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Category</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>ELISA Test sites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Roche Viral Load Test sites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47</td>
<td>Potential GeneXpert platforms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54</td>
<td>Laboratory technicians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Hepatitis Specialists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96</td>
<td>GPs (Clinical Mentors)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>Hospital Pharmacists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>550</td>
<td>Nurses</td>
</tr>
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Thank You & Questions