Orientation Meeting on the implementation of the integration of HIVST in PNTT approach at ART facility – 22-23 November 2021, Takeo Provinces.

The National Center for HIV/AIDS, Dermatology and STD (NCHADS) in collaboration with WHO, EpiC and US-CDC organized a two-day orientation meeting on the implementation of the integration of HIV self-testing (HIVST) in the partner notification, tracing, and testing (PNTT) approach for HIV service providers in Takeo Provincial Hospital and NGO’s partners working with Key Population and PLHIV in Takeo. The meeting aimed at providing clear instruction on how to implement HIVST integration as part of the testing modality in the PNTT approach at ART facility for healthcare providers and relevant NGO partners. The orientation meeting took place in Daun Keo city of Takeo province from 22-23 November 2021 with a total number of 15 participants from provincial health department (PHD), provincial AIDS and STI program (PASP), ART clinicians, counselors, VCCT, CAW/CAC, and staff from Men’s Health Cambodia (MHC). The orientation meeting provided refresher on the PNTT implementation procedure with focus on offering HIVST as an additional option to the current testing modality to partner of the index cases; demonstrate and actively discussed on the flow of the implementation; provided motivational counseling skills and how to perform HIVST and reading test result and follow up clients and partners; and how to record the result in the PNTT form.

Participants and facilitators have had a chance to discuss on the way forward for the implementation of HIVST integrating in PNTT approach and came up with following actions:

- Continues implementing PNTT with strengthening counseling to reach more partners of index cases by focusing on recent infection index and KPs
- Start implement the integration of HIVST in PNTT approach from 24 November 2021. VCCT team will request HIVST test kits from MOH through NCHADS, and ART/CAA team will request test kits from VCCT using a simple internal request form
- Improve the coordination and collaboration between ART/CAA, VCCT and MHC to support the implementation by having a routine monthly discussion and frequently communicating.

The orientation meeting running well with very interactive discussion and achieving great result with an increase on the average score from 53% in the pre-test to 80% score in the post test.

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