

**The Federal Ministry of
Health and the National
Action Committee on AIDS
In
Collaboration with
UNAIDS/WHO-AFRO/CDC**

**PROTOCOL
FOR TRAINING WORKSHOP ON
SECOND GENERATION
HIV/AIDS/STD SURVEILLANCE
SYSTEM IN NIGERIA**

13th-14th December 2000

Introduction

HIV/AIDS/STD surveillance system started in the country in 1990 with HIV case reporting. Sentinel HIV Sero-prevalence is the corner stone of the National HIV/AIDS surveillance system.

So far four active HIV/Syphilis sentinel surveillance surveys have been carried among pregnant women in the Country : 1991/92; 1993/94; 1995/96 and 1999 respectively.

Other forms of sentinel surveillance system being adopted by the Country include the following:

- Active surveillance among High risk population groups (STD, LDTD, FSW and PTB)
- STI surveillance system
- Passive surveillance of Reported AIDS and STD cases and Blood donors in the country
- Pilot Behavioral sentinel surveillance
- Operational research
- Making of projections and impacts

The only efficient component of the surveillance system is the active aspect of HIV/syphilis screening between ANC and high-risk groups.

Active surveillance is carried out biannually. While the passive data is reported quarterly. The Federal Ministry of Health coordinates the surveillance system.

The Passive surveillance system is integrated into the National Disease Surveillance system now referred to as the National Health Information Management System. It involves AIDS case reporting, HIV case reporting, STD case reporting, Syndromic reporting. While the active surveillance system is a deliberate effort by the National Surveillance team to screen for HIV/Syphilis through an anonymous unlinked method.

AIDS case definition is based on the expanded WHO definition.

The data generated had been used for advocacy and planning prevention activities.

At the moment each state has surveillance officers. While the national surveillance team is made up of all development partners' and technical consultants from research institutions.

The key contributors to surveillance in the country are as follows:

1. The Federal Ministry of Health
2. The World Health Organization
3. The Department for International Development (DFID)
4. The United Nations Children Emergency Funds
5. The US Center of Disease Control
6. The United States AID for International Development
7. The University College Ibadan
8. The College of Medicine, Lagos University Teaching Hospital
9. The State Ministries of Health

Over the years overt limitations have been observed in the current strategy in line with the failures of the first generation surveillance system, which the country operates. The second

generation surveillance system is far from being practiced in the country especially at the state levels. The training workshop is aimed at improving the surveillance system.

The advocated surveillance system by WHO/UNAIDS has the following components:

- Improve sentinel surveillance and case reporting
- Validate sentinel surveillance data
- Introduction of Behavioral surveillance.

Justification

Over the years, we have only been able to strengthen the active HIV/Syphilis surveillance system. But the planning of interventions and allocation of resources were not based on the results of surveillance surveys except on exceptional cases.

The AIDS case reporting system is completely grounded as it experiences incomplete reporting, late reporting, under reporting, misdiagnosis and absent reporting. While the STI surveillance system is almost rudimentary in the service.

During the recent years, the importance of collecting complementary socio-demographic and behavioral information has become increasingly apparent. Efforts to map out societal level determinants of the epidemic, including migration, social cohesion or drug demand and supply patterns, have so far been limited to pilot studies at the research institutions.

Methods to monitor the impact of the epidemic on individuals and the society are still far from being real.

Objectives

The overall objective is to provide a reliable, timely, relevant HIV/AIDS/STD data for advocacy and planning of appropriate data for intervention.

The Specific objectives are as stated below:

1. To provide an update on WHO/UNAIDS HIV/AIDS/STD surveillance activities in the region.
2. To review existing surveillance systems in the country
3. To train field surveillance officers and facilitators on the principles of the 2nd generation surveillance system

Pre and Post-test

A pre and post-test questionnaire shall be designed to assess the knowledge and attitude of officers on surveillance in the country in order to evaluate the success of the training workshop.

Finance

The workshop shall be funded by the UNAIDS in collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Health and National Action Committee on AIDS.

Secretariat

The Ministry of Health shall provide the secretariat for the entire workshop including documentation, rapportuer duties and secretarial duties.