

policy



- **Getting to Stigma Free Services:**
- **The Case of St. Kitts and Nevis**

- **October 8th,**
- **2015**
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Key Areas to Be Covered

What did the research entail?

Objectives and approach

Key features

Snapshot of key findings

Domain areas

Findings and recommendations

What did the research provide?

What was the value added?

Key lessons learned

A joint initiative between the Ministry of Health (MOH) and the National AIDS Programs (NAPs) in St. Christopher and Nevis with technical support from the University of the West Indies (UWI) and the Health Policy Project (HPP), with funding from USAID and PEPFAR

A measure of the supply side of the scale-up strategy

Emphasis has traditionally been on empowering key populations (KPs) to access services on the assumption that the system is receptive

What Did the Research Entail?

The Objectives

Survey of Healthcare Facility Staff

To collect data on the prevalence of stigma and discrimination among staff working in health facilities that will provide the basis for designing tailored S&D reduction activities

To compile baseline and endline data for evaluation of S&D reduction programming

To contribute to the development of a model for how to measure S&D in health facilities for the region

What Did the Research Entail?

The Approach

- Buy-in from key decision makers- Research Protocol presented to IRB

Survey Methodology

Multi-stage sampling approach

All adults working in a public or private health facility at the primary, secondary, or tertiary level (both technical and non-technical)

Self-administered, with some interviewer-administered

- Based on global validated questionnaire

Data Processing

Data scanning, verification, and processing

Analysis and report generation

Four Domains of the Survey

What Did the Research Entail?

The Approach

Dissemination Workshop

Workshop targeting key stakeholders involved in the national response

Stakeholders validated findings and identified recommendations to inform the country's priorities for the response

Process guided by key questions

- What are your thoughts about these results? Were you expecting them to be at this level, or lower, higher? Why?
- What do you recommend be done to change the situation implied by these results and create a safer environment for staff and a more welcoming environment for patients?

Key Findings

snapshot from St. Kitts and Nevis

Select Findings: Infection Control

		2015						2013
		Admin	Medical	Aux	Other Tech	Not Stated	Total	Total
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Took temperature of patient living with HIV	Not worried	73.9	94.2	0	96.3	66.7	90.3	87.6
	Worried	17.4	4.2	0	3.7	0	5.3	5.9
	Not stated	8.7	1.6	100	0	33.3	4.5	6.4
Touched clothing of patient living with HIV	Not worried	85.7	90.7	84.2	92.3	80	89.7	86.2
	Worried	8.6	7.8	15.8	5.1	0	7.9	6.3
	Not stated	5.7	1.6	0	2.6	20	2.4	7.5
Cleaned operating room/exam area after a patient living with HIV was seen	Not worried	50	75.8	92.9	57.1	50	72.1	68.3
	Worried	41.7	21.8	7.1	38.1	0	24.3	19.9
	Not stated	8.3	2.4	0	4.8	50	3.5	11.8
Did physical exam on patient living with HIV	Not worried	56.5	82.4	0	54.5	66.7	77	80.3
	Worried	30.4	15.9	0	40.9	0	19.6	11.7
	Not stated	13	1.6	0	4.5	33.3	3.5	8

Select Findings: Infection Control

		2015						2013
		Admin	Medical	Aux	Other Tech	Not Stated	Total	Total
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Gave injection to patient living with HIV	Not worried	65	59.9	0	53.8	50	59.9	54.5
	Worried	20	39	0	38.5	0	36.8	37
	Not stated	15	1.1	0	7.7	50	3.3	8.5
Inserted central line/IV drip in a patient living with HIV	Not worried	42.1	48.7	0	45.8	66.7	48	51.2
	Worried	42.1	48.1	0	45.8	0	46.5	38.9
	Not stated	15.8	3.2	0	8.3	33.3	5.4	9.9
Drew blood from patient living with HIV	Not worried	47.1	44.2	0	51.9	66.7	45.7	46.3
	Worried	35.3	53.4	0	40.7	0	49.5	45.1
	Not stated	17.6	2.5	0	7.4	33.3	4.8	8.6
Sutured wounds of patient living with HIV	Not worried	40	41.6	0	58.3	50	42.6	46.1
	Worried	40	55.9	0	33.3	0	52.3	43.6
	Not stated	20	2.5	0	8.3	50	5.1	10.3

Select Findings: Precautionary Measures

		2015						2013
		Admin	Medical	Aux	Other Tech	Not Stated	Total	Total
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Avoid physical contact	Yes	3.6	4.4	20	14.3	0	6.2	4
	No	96.4	95.6	80	85.7	100	93.8	85
Wear double gloves	Yes	33.3	27.4	10	24.2	50	27.3	18.2
	No	66.7	72.6	90	75.8	50	72.7	71.9
Use masks always	Yes	44.4	11.8	0	21.2	0	15.9	34.7
	No	55.6	88.2	100	78.8	100	84.1	55.9
Wear goggles always	Yes	18.5	4.3	0	18.8	0	7.5	7.6
	No	81.5	95.7	100	81.3	100	92.5	82.3
Wear gloves always	Yes	52	16.3	14.3	50	0	24	NA
	No	48	83.7	85.7	50	100	76	NA

Select Findings: Health Facility Environment

		2015						2013
		Admin	Medical	Aux	Other Tech	Not Stated	Total	Total
		%	%	%	%	%	%	
Staff unwilling to care for patient with HIV	Never observed	87.9	77.6	92.9	86	100	82.1	70
	Observed	5.2	20.5	7.1	14	0	15.6	19.9
	Not stated	6.9	2	0	0	0	2.4	10.1
Staff using extra infection control precautions when caring for patient with HIV	Never observed	75.9	51.2	96.4	62.8	100	61.5	52.8
	Observed	17.2	44.4	0	34.9	0	34.1	34.9
	Not stated	6.9	4.4	3.6	2.3	0	4.4	12.4
Staff talking badly about people living with HIV	Never observed	72.4	63.9	96.4	65.1	83.3	68.5	65.5
	Observed	19	32.2	3.6	34.9	0	27.4	22.8
	Not stated	8.6	3.9	0	0	16.7	4.1	11.7

Select Findings: Health Facility Environment

		2015						2013
		Admin	Medical	Aux	Other Tech	Not Stated	Total	Total
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Hesitancy Of Health Care Workers To Take HIV Test At This Facility	Not hesitant	44.8	31.2	25	39.5	33.3	34.1	32.6
	Hesitant	46.6	62.4	75	60.5	66.7	60.6	51.8
	Not stated	8.6	6.3	0	0	0	5.3	15.6
Hesitancy Of Health Care Worker to Work With Colleague Living With HIV	Not hesitant	51.7	46.8	64.3	48.8	66.7	49.7	39.4
	Hesitant	36.2	42	28.6	48.8	33.3	40.6	37.8
	Not stated	12.1	11.2	7.1	2.3	0	9.7	22.8
Hesitancy Of Health Care Worker With HIV To Seek Care In This Facility	Not hesitant	24.1	17.1	35.7	30.2	16.7	21.5	16.9
	Hesitant	65.5	75.6	60.7	69.8	83.3	72.1	67.4
	Not stated	10.3	7.3	3.6	0	0	6.5	15.6

Select Findings: Health Facility Policy

		2015						2013
		Admin Staff	Medical Staff	Aux	Tech	Not Given	Total	Total
		%	%	%	%	%	%	
Health Facility Has Policies To Protect Patients With HIV From Discrimination	Yes	46.6	44.9	25	39.5	50	42.9	43.3
	No	6.9	7.8	10.7	9.3	0	7.9	9.4
	Don't know	46.6	47.3	64.3	51.2	50	49.1	39.1
Will Get In Trouble If I Do Not Follow Policies To Protect Patients With HIV	Yes	63.8	53.7	50	55.8	50	55.3	51.1
	No	3.4	7.8	3.6	7	0	6.5	10.1
	Don't know	32.8	38.5	46.4	37.2	50	38.2	26.7
At My Facility, I Have Been Trained In Protecting The Confidentiality Of Patients With HIV	Yes	70.7	74.1	60.7	79.1	50	72.6	65.8
	No	17.2	17.1	21.4	18.6	16.7	17.6	20.5
	Don't know	12.1	8.8	17.9	2.3	33.3	9.7	5.9
I Will Get In Trouble If I Discriminate Against Patients With HIV	Yes	70.7	67.3	60.7	58.1	33.3	65.6	51.1
	No	3.4	7.8	14.3	4.7	0	7.1	10.1
	Don't know	25.9	24.9	25	37.2	66.7	27.4	26.7

Select Findings- Opinions about KAP & PLHIV

		2015						2013
		Admin	Medical	Aux	Other Tech	Not Stated	Total	Total
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%
People living with HIV could have avoided HIV if they had wanted to	Agree	37.9	36.1	39.3	39.5	66.7	37.6	34.9
	Disagree	58.6	60	60.7	55.8	16.7	58.5	55.4
	Not stated	3.4	3.9	0	4.7	16.7	3.8	9.8
	Total							
Most people living with HIV have had many sexual partners	Agree	19	14.6	35.7	20.9	33.3	18.2	23.8
	Disagree	75.9	81.5	60.7	76.7	66.7	77.9	69.1
	Not stated	5.2	3.9	3.6	2.3	0	3.8	7.2
Most people living with HIV do not care if they infect other people	Agree	8.6	22.9	46.4	27.9	33.3	23.2	33.6
	Disagree	82.8	73.7	53.6	72.1	50	72.9	57
	Not stated	8.6	3.4	0	0	16.7	3.8	9.4
HIV is punishment for bad behaviour	Agree	3.4	2	14.3	2.3	16.7	3.5	3.9
	Disagree	93.1	94.1	85.7	97.7	66.7	93.2	89.9
	Not stated	3.4	3.9	0	0	16.7	3.2	6.2

Opinions Related to Providing Services to Key Populations by Job Category

		2015						2013
		Admin	Medical	Aux	Tech	Not Stated	Total	Total
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%
I would prefer not to provide services to men who have sex with men	Agree	8.6	10.3	17.9	16.3	16.7	11.5	11.2
	Disagree	89.7	84.4	71.4	83.7	66.6	83.8	81.7
	Not stated	1.7	5.4	10.7	0	16.7	4.7	7.1
I would prefer not to provide services to sex workers	Agree	5.1	10.8	14.3	20.9	0	11.2	10.5
	Disagree	89.7	83.4	75	79.1	83.3	83.3	83.1
	Not stated	5.2	5.9	10.7	0	16.7	5.6	6.4
I would prefer not to provide services to transgender persons	Agree	3.4	17.1	10.7	27.9	16.7	15.6	9.2
	Disagree	93.1	77	82.1	72.1	83.3	79.7	83.7
	Not stated	3.4	5.9	7.1	0	0	4.7	7.1

Recommendations

Enforce strict adherence to Standard Precautions procedures across all facilities.

Advance a program of training which covers education, mentoring, and counseling; making such training programs mandatory; and including them in wider development programs across the health systems, thereby linking them to professional accreditation and promotions.

Develop strong national confidentiality and workplace policies specific to the health sector

Develop a patient bill of rights and/or code of conduct that exists

Extensive training of Staff across all category of workers, utilising workers from each category as well as KAP as part of the training programmes

Select Endline Findings overview

Non-response rates have declined

Awareness raised; ability and awareness to identify, 'name' and notice stigma; appreciation of the effects and consequences

Following from above, additional attention to observed stigma

What Did the Research Provide?

Key baselines that can form the basis for program monitoring and ongoing evaluation

New insights into elements of stigma in the health system

Key perceptions and beliefs held by healthcare professionals

- Double gloving
- Opinions on KPs, etc.

The non-response feature

Noted benefits linked to the training

Declining rates of non-response

Improvements in some key areas

What Did the Research Provide?

Clear case for ongoing training of staff

Given the high turnover in this sector

Given the attitudes, practices and beliefs that are rooted in historical, socio-economic and cultural settings

By way of next steps it provides a platform for

Expanding the study to other countries

- Sustainability implications

Application of the approach to the wider health sector

Evaluating the impact of the intervention/programme

Thank You!

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