MINISTRY OF HEALTH (ELEGU PORT HEALTH)

ACTIVITY REPORT FOR SENSITISATION OF DRIVERS AND COMMUNITY ON HIV/AIDS



PHOTO OF THE DRIVERS AWAITING THE SENSITIZATION

PARTNER	UGANDA PROFESSIONAL DRIVERS' NETWORK WITH FUNDING
ORGANISATION	FROM GLOBAL FUND THROUGH TASO
PROJECT	SENSITIZATION MEETING IN IMPROVING UPTAKE OF HIV
	SERVICES AND OTHER HEALTH SERVICES AMONG DRIVERS
Activity Dates	30 TH JUNE, 2023
Activity Name	SENSITISATION MEETING OF DRIVERS AND ASSOCIATES ON
	HIV/AIDS
Location	NAMANVE INDUSTRIAL PARK TRUCKERS'ASSOCIATION
Objective	 i. To improve knowledge on HIV/AIDS through Health Education ii. To sensitize truckers on STIs and other diseases of lifestyle iii. To listen to and discuss with the Drivers other issues affecting them iv. To distribute protective gears (condoms) to the truckers

	v. To link those who might test positive to care.
Meeting Agenda	 Opening remarks from the Chairperson and introduction Brief overview on HIV/AIDS, STIs, NCDs and lifestyle in general Discussions and way forward Closure
Opening remarks (By	The Chair welcomed the Drivers and members present for the meeting and
Soni Otekat)	 noted the following: This engagement is to communicate on key issues of HIV/AIDS prevention and what the Government is doing to address the disease burden. As the site coordinator at North Star Alliance, we are obliged to serve truckers as our key priority populations in matters regarding their health our mandate is to work with you all in addressing all health related issues. We collaborate with the nearby government facilities and partners within our reach to ensure that the truckers are able to access the necessary health services while on transit. We serve and treat you in accordance with MOH guidelines in ensuring; preventive measures against HIV/AIDS, chronic HIV care, STI prevention, screening and management as well as, prevention and management of Non Communicable Diseases particularly Diabetes and Hypertension. We need to work as a team and embrace government support to prevent HIV and also promote continuity of life even among the HIV positive truckers. Appealed to all to support the government position of embracing the preventive measures And finally, requested the Drivers/ clients to utilize the presence of NSA, Government and affordable private facilities to know their health status always.
Key issues on HIV/AIDS, STIs and NCDs	 Currently, there is emphasis on voluntary testing, with a focus on 95:95:95 (Where 95% of the population is targeted for testing, and if found positive 95% should be enrolled on treatment and followed up to see that they are adhering to medication). Testing is free in Government facilities and at North Star Alliance. Where condoms are a preference, ensure correct and consistent use whenever you are having sexual intercourse with a partner. It is important that you first test your partner for HIV so as to know their status or use a condom always. The presence of genital and/or oral sores predisposes you to a higher risk of acquiring HIV when having unprotected sexual intercourse. Condoms prevent HIV and other STIs during genital sexual intercourse and pregnancy of the female partner (dual protection). Any body fluid of a HIV infected person has traces of the virus. Not all STIs show immediate signs and symptoms but are transmissible. Apply the ABC strategy in HIV and other STI prevention

Targets of activity

The target was 20 Participants in the exercise but surpassed to 23 in full attendance.

Key issues during the engagement:

- The difference and eligibility for Pre Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) and Post Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP)
- PrEP and PEP drugs were shown and explained to the participants
- The actual meaning of window period in HIV infection was explained to the participants
- Some of the truckers prefer unprotected sex citing better pleasure and their partners don't want to use female condoms.
- Correct condom demonstration was done amidst laughter and arguments
- Common signs and symptoms of STIs, their management and prevention
- Non Communicable Disease (NCD) prevention particularly Diabetes and Hypertension is
 pertinent among truckers. They should be checked for regularly and their eye sights as well
 because they can cloud sight, leading to avoidable accidents.
- Need for more sensitization engagements to enlighten the participants on health related issues.
- The truckers requested for more support specifically for them by government such LLITNs and antimalarial distribution to them.

Challenges

- We didn't have self-testing kits for demonstration during the sensitization
- Shortage of Primary Health Care (PHC) drugs to distribute to the truckers
- Several myths listed below were echoed as true but we however dispelled and corrected them.
 - HIV infection can't be acquired in the first sexual encounter of unprotected sex.
 - Females with much vaginal fluids can't transmit the virus during sex
 - Some male genitalia are too big for a condom to fit
 - HIV can't be acquired through oral sex with an infected person or one whose status is unknown. It is important to know one's HIV status before indulging in oral sex.
- The drivers are requesting truck drivers associations to represent them and speak on their behalf on matters about insurance.

A	Action Points		
•	NSA will have more sensitization meetings with the truckers which will be communicated in due		
	course by their Chairperson in liaison with UPDN		
•	The truckers requested that we continue providing condoms to them like we did today.		
•	The truckers will expedite coming to the facility for check-ups (Blood sugar check, Blood pressure		
	and frequent HIV testing)		
•	Drivers have been encouraged to utilise North Star Alliance services for regular health information		
	updates.		

ANNEX PHOTOS

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A HEALTH WORKER ADRESSING PARTICIPANTS ON ARRIVAL



A HEALTH WORKER DEMONSTRATING CONDOM USE





Annex: Attendance Register



