Correlation WP 8 HIV/AIDS Policy Recommendations

Reduce existing health inequalities in the EU

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What happened so far?

The collaborating partners of the Work Package HIV/AIDS Policy Recommendations got together for the second meeting of the project in Porto, 4-6 March 2010. In the round of introductions, expectations and roles of the collaborating partners were presented. Preliminary results of the literature review were presented by the writer in order to gather feed-back.

By producing policy recommendations we aim to inform policymakers in Europe, both at national level and at EU level, and thereby help to reduce existing health inequalities in the EU with respect to HIV/AIDS. The policy recommendations will be patient-oriented and draw on community-level experience. They will be based on a synthesis of existing reports rather than producing new primary research findings.

It was decided in Porto that the document review should focus on analysing existing sets of recommendations, as a basis for developing Correlation II recommendations.

The formulation of recommendations will be founded on three pillars:

- strength of evidence collected,
- breadth of practitioner opinion and
- health economic considerations.

The analysis of existing recommendations will be based on criteria like target/level (e.g. EU policy makers), importance, related findings and external challenges.

Some of the questions will be best addressed through a practitioner survey. It was also decided that, instead of analysing a limited number of 4 or5 countries, the survey should gather information throughout Europe. Collaborating partners are actively supporting the work of the writer through collection of bibliographic resources and will play a major role in assessing the level of implementation of the existent recommendations. In addition, partners will contribute to the dissemination of and collection of input to the questionnaires. During the break-out sessions, the different sub-groups (IDUs, MSM, migrants and sex workers) discussed the preliminary literature review, the survey and existing policy recommendations which merit consideration. They also gave feed back on the structure of the policy seminar.

The European Policy seminar

The policy seminar will take place from 29 to 30 November 2010 directly preceding the World Aids Day 2010 - in Brussels, Belgium.

What is the seminar about?

The objective of the seminar is to stimulate the dialogue, dissemination and advocacy relating to HIV and health inequalities in Europe. It will provide an opportunity to present the draft Correlation recommendations and gather feed-back from the HIV community, the wider public health community and policy makers during the public part of the seminar. The internal part of the seminar will be devoted to finalising the advocacy plan, based on which the recommendations will be promoted in the second phase of the project in 2011.

For whom is the seminar?

The seminar will address Correlation partners, representatives from EU institutions and relevant international organisations, MEPs, representatives from the HIV community and the wider public health community.

So please reserve the date for this important event! More details of the programme will be published on the Correlation website before the summer break.

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