



NEWSLETTER

What's New & Updated!

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INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY (IWD) AND HIV

I am conscious that most of the faithful readers of our newsletter are well aware of the link that should exist between International Women's Rights Day and HIV. As repetition is educational, I am confident that this editorial will meet with favourable attention.

IWD has its origins in women's protests in the early 20th century demanding better working conditions and the right to vote. In 1975, during International Women's Year, the United Nations began to celebrate International Women's Day on 8 March.

For me, and for all women who are fighting, a daily battle, against the spread of HIV, or even its eradication, this day is an opportunity to intensify actions to improve the situation of women in the world and particularly in Cameroon. Remember that 54% of all people living with HIV are women and girls (Epidemic statistics, UNAIDS 2021). In Cameroon, they represent 66.6% (Annual report 2021, NACC). The causes are known, battles are being conducted, but unfortunately the expected results have not yet been achieved. Access to information is essential both during prevention and treatment. There are still many women who do not have access to prenatal consultations, sometimes out of ignorance and most often because of socio-cultural barriers. Today and during the whole month of March, let's put ourselves in the shoes of a woman who has no access to prevention, prenatal visits and who is a victim of violence.

Enjoy your reading!

Permanent Secretary, Dr. Hadja Chérif Hamsatou

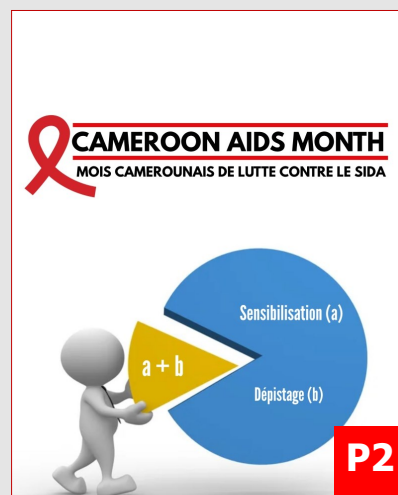
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LA CONTRIBUTION DU MOIS CAMEROUNAIS À L'ATTEINTE DES OBJECTIFS PROGRAMMATIQUES



CURRENT RESEARCH STUDIES...

LA CONTRIBUTION DU MOIS CAMEROUNAIS DE LUTTE CONTRE LE SIDA 2022 À L'ATTEINTE DES OBJECTIFS PROGRAMMATIQUES.

La 7^{ème} édition du Mois Camerounais de lutte contre le sida s'est achevée en apothéose le 1^{er} décembre dernier, à l'occasion de la 35^{ème} édition de la Journée Mondiale de Lutte contre cette pandémie. A l'issue de ce mois d'intenses activités de promotion de la lutte contre le VIH dans les 10 régions du Cameroun, il importe à présent d'en ressortir le bilan.

QU'EST-CE QUE LE MOIS CAMEROUNAIS DE LUTTE CONTRE LE SIDA ?

C'est un événement qui s'impose de plus en plus, comme étant le grand rendez-vous annuel de la riposte au VIH/Sida au Cameroun. Grace à une mobilisation multisectorielle et pluridimensionnelle, le mois camerounais de lutte contre le sida permet depuis 7 ans, de maintenir en haleine chaque année, l'ensemble des acteurs de la riposte autour d'un slogan commun. Pour la dernière édition, « **agir ensemble pour mettre fin aux égalités** » fut le sujet ayant alimenté les différentes communications. Bien plus, outre les activités de sensibilisation, des campagnes de dépistage volontaires ont été organisées çà et là, permettant ainsi d'intensifier l'offre de dépistage.



Logo du Mois camerounais de lutte contre le sida

LA SENSIBILISATION

Concernant la prévention par le biais de la sensibilisation, au total 2 180 656 personnes ont été sensibilisées sur le VIH et le sida sur l'ensemble du territoire au cours du mois de novembre 2022. Dans le cadre du marketing social, le renforcement de l'offre en préservatifs masculins, féminins et en lubrifiants a été effectif avec au total 464 723 préservatifs masculins, féminins et 67 550 lubrifiants distribués.

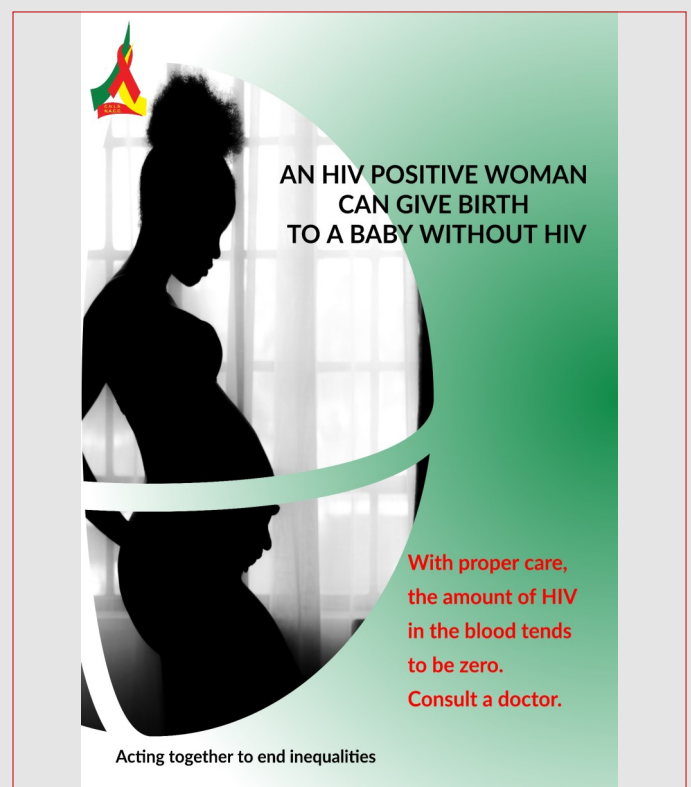
LE DÉPISTAGE

Pour ce qui est du dépistage, la 7^e édition du mois camerounais de lutte contre le sida a permis de dépis-

ter 117 020 personnes dont 116 141 ont retiré leurs résultats. Ces activités ont ainsi permis à 2 394 PvVIH de connaître leur statut soit un taux de séropositivité 2,04 %. Parmi celles-ci, conformément à la stratégie *Test and Treat*, 2 080 personnes ont été mises sous TARV soit un taux de lien au traitement de 86 %.

Ces résultats viennent donc réaffirmer l'importance de la célébration du mois camerounais dans l'atteinte des résultats programmatiques de la lutte contre le VIH/sida au Cameroun en termes de prévention, mais aussi de prise en charge. Par ailleurs, cet événement qui sera rendu à sa 8^e édition en 2023 permet aux divers acteurs de rester mobilisés autour d'une seule et même vision et ainsi permettre aux activités du mois camerounais de se consolider à l'ensemble des actions interventions constituant la riposte au VIH sur le plan national.

Niraka Madi



CURRENT RESEARCH STUDIES...

The preparation of the next National Strategic Plan is based on the evaluation of the previous one and on a set of data drawn, among others, from studies such as NASA or IBBS. This approach guarantees the objectivity of the decisions and strategic orientations that will be taken for the next cycle of the NSP and even the mobilisation of resources. The newsletter's editorial team proposes to explain these two studies currently being finalised at the NACC.

What is the NASA...

The National AIDS Spending Assessment (NASA) is a comprehensive and systematic resource tracking method that describes the financial flow, actual disbursements and expenditures for HIV and AIDS by identifying financing sources (who finances the AIDS response), agents (who manages the funds), service providers and beneficiary populations. The study gives estimates on the expenditures of the public, private sectors and the international donors on the national HIV/AIDS response as well as the amounts spent on prevention activities, care and treatment... and human resources.



The importance of NASA in the response...

Analysis of the flow of financial resources and spending on HIV/AIDS contributes to the development of strategic information to guide the response. NASA 2020-2022 takes place at an important time in the HIV response marked by: (i) the final review of the National Strategic Plan 2021-2023 (NSP); (ii) the develop-

ment of the concept note to mobilise resources from the Global Fund and (iii) the reflection on the financial sustainability plan for the HIV response.

With regard to the review of the NSP 2021-2023, NASA 2020-2022 will make it possible, on the one hand, to assess the resources effectively mobilised and spent during the first two years of implementation of the NSP, to compare them with the needs and to analyse the financial gaps, and on the other hand, to analyse the adequacy between expenditure by theme and the priorities initially set.

For the concept note, the 2020 and 2022 expenditures will serve as a basis for planning and for analysing the allocative efficiency of resources to be requested from the Global Fund. Finally, the 2020-2022 HIV/AIDS expenditures will be analysed with those of previous years to see the capacity for domestic resource mobilisation and to serve as baseline data for considering a financial sustainability plan.

What is IBBS...

IBBS is a community-based systematic survey designed to assess risk behaviors and the prevalence of HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases among the most-at-risk populations (Key populations), in order to improve tracking of the HIV epidemic and program planning.

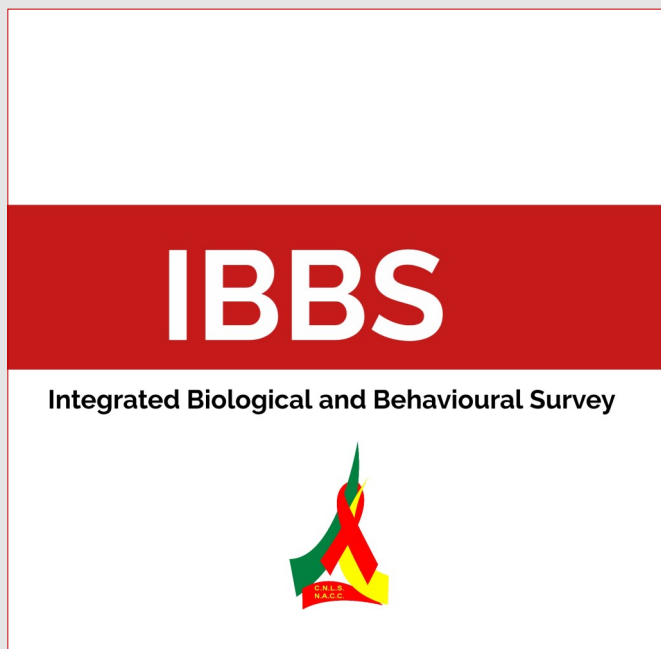
The objective of this investigation is to update the biological, behavioural and environmental indicators influencing HIV transmission among key populations in Cameroon. In particular, this study will make it possible, among other things, to estimate the prevalence of HIV, other STIs and the various co-infections;

to estimate the incidence of HIV; map sites of vulnerability, services and programmes for key populations and estimate the size of key populations and describe socio-demographic characteristics, knowledge, perceptions and risk behaviours related to HIV.

How this study is conducted?

It consists of cross-sectional data collection among the targets. The study is conducted in all regional capitals and in selected cities with high concentrations of key populations. Each participant completes a behavioural questionnaire and undergoes biological tests for HIV and other STIs. Participation in the study is voluntary and anonymous, i.e. no personal information such as name or telephone number is collected. Any participant testing positive for HIV or other STIs is referred for medical follow-up at an appropriate centre. And those who test negative are referred to community-based organisations for prevention services. Ethical clearance and administrative authorisation for the research will be requested from the competent structures according to the procedure in force in Cameroon. We look forward to presenting the results of these studies next month.

YGM



LE VIH EXISTE ENCORE PARCE QUE

NOUS

ÉCOUTONS PEU;

JUGEONS PLUS;

REJETONS LA SOLIDARITÉ.

Agir ensemble pour mettre fin aux inégalités

