

## REPORT

### Oversight visit in Elbasan's VCT

Date: 20, June 2017

Members of the Oversight Committee of CCM's responsibilities:

Skender Fifo

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Responsible person on planning and reporting; Skënder Fifo

Staff of Elbasan's VCT:

Psychologist

Social Worker

Specialized laboratory

#### Issues raised:

##### 1. Kits and reagents

The Elbasan VCT center was good located and comfortable offering hospitality to citizens who turn to services. Each device was in its place, and well disciplined structure. Throughout 2015 are offered and performed a total of 700 rapid tests for HIV, of which 500 from donations and 200 offered by DPH in Elbasan. Was observed the largest number of tests carried out in 2015 with 695 cases recorded. Number of persons geared to counseling and testing was greater, but so allows the capacity. During this period two suspected positive cases have resulted, who are oriented in labs confirmation tests.

During 2016 in this VCT Center over 1777 tests were conducted of which 450 HIV tests provided by DPH in Elbasan and other tests from donations. Regarding 2017 year in this VCT Center during the January-June period, 550 HIV tests were conducted, out of which 350 tests were provided by DSB Elbasan and 200 donated tests. The rapid tests need to be met on the basis of requirements that had to.

At the VCT are provided also the tests for hepatitis and syphilis, and Hepatitis positive cases reported to pregnant women, conducted there as part of the protocol to follow during pregnancy. As for HIV testing in pregnant women, there were large numbers of this target group targeting HIV testing. In the framework of the support provided by a UNDP project focusing on awareness raising, provision and testing of pregnant women, a great deal of work was done in this regard by providing testing for all pregnant women headed to the VCT Center. Roma community was few contacts, and more were part of awareness in the community and not the delivery tests.

This center also tests provide documentation to the Embassy, and were equipped a licensed form that was recognized as an official document. The document also offered testing for new recruits of the Armed Forces and the right of documentation for the test results for HIV.

Providing kits done by the Public Health Directorate in Elbasan city and is part of the Budget of Microbiology Laboratory, which plans a number of tests to meet the needs of rapid tests for this VCT Center for HIV, syphilis and hepatitis.

### **2. Equipment and materials issues I & E:**

VCT center's staff in Elbasan had a wide activity in the field of promotion and awareness. Due to high levels of stigma and next location, often anonymously customers go to their turn to be tested in Tirana. It is noted in this observation is to raise awareness and promote in particular in city schools, health centers round's communities, as well as the testing of pregnant women as a result of awareness campaigns as part of their planned voluntary testing for HIV. All activities of the center were very well documented. Since 2012 informational and educational material is not available to this VCT.

By IPH any informational or promotional material was not made available to the center even though the requirements have been ongoing

Procurement procedure kits for rapid HIV testing are the same with all other medical equipment Microbiology Laboratory. The VCT premises were well equipped and maintained equipment compared with other centers monitored.

### **3. Involvement and partnerships**

The VCT's Elbasan staff was well involved in the activities of the Directory of Public Health in the activities of the Municipality as well as other activities organized by various donors, and the relationship had very good communication with these institutions.

Regarding promotions and actions from risk awareness groups, young people, pregnant women, and the Roma community this year is a step forward in increasing the awareness and information on HIV and STIs. There was a slight increase in the number of HIV tests for pregnant women. And awareness aimed at service centers for pregnant women to his introduction to the basic package of services during pregnancy.

Have visibility to promote their work as well as awareness and information in local media, including both radio and local television.

### **4. Problems identified**

- Lack of information and educational materials,
- Lack of funds for promotion and community activities especially in the rural area, and other cities like: Labinot, Librazhd, Prenjas, Cërriq, Belsh, Peqin, Gramsh etc.