HPTN 071 (PopART) Experience with Community Workers/CHiPs: Impact and Practical Lessons Learned

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Community HIV care Providers (CHiPs)
Community Engagement & Mobilisation

- Prior to the start of the intervention, CABs were formed
- PopART Community Engagement Team & CABs would organise mobilisation events to explain the intervention
- Announcements in clinics, churches, sporting & community events
- Annual community engagement events
Ease of Digital vs Paper Data Collection

- Captured demographic & health data
- Captures GPS location
- Real-time data for management to take corrective action when data queries occur
- Follow ups on HIV & TB were triggered from the server
Quality Control of HIV Rapid Test Kits

- Wifi temperature data logging sensor set up in the 9 field sites
- Triggers & starts beeping when the temp. in the room and/or refrigerator is out of range
Individual thermometer for each CHiP cooler

- Displays temp, humidity & time simultaneously
- Memory of min. & max. measuring value
- Low power consumption
- CHiP records temperature into the EDC for every client they test
# CHiP Linkage to HIV Care Tool Kit

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<tr>
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<th>Details</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1</strong></td>
<td><strong>Active linkage to HIV care</strong>&lt;br&gt;Returning back to clients home, additional counselling on HIV care/ART, providing additional support &amp; referral related to social challenges: intimate partner violence, substance abuse, etc.</td>
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<td><strong>2</strong></td>
<td><strong>Building a trusting relationship with the client</strong>&lt;br&gt;CHiPs provided with cell phones to contact clients, clients asked CHiPs to not wear uniforms when visiting the house, clients asked CHiPs to meet them outside of the house (barber shops, spazas, malls, taxi ranks; CHiPs making themselves available to the client’s needs of meeting location/safe space), clients disclosed to CHiPs they felt as if they were having a “normal conversation” with CHiPs</td>
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<td><strong>3</strong></td>
<td><strong>Linkage to HIV Care Champions</strong>&lt;br&gt;CHiPs who were more skilled accompanied other CHiPs to help provide counselling for clients who were hesitant to link to HIV care. CHiPs Site Managers (Professional Nurses) also accompanied CHiPs into the homes to provide additional counselling.</td>
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<td><strong>4</strong></td>
<td><strong>Collaborating with the clinic and PEPFAR partners</strong>&lt;br&gt;Government health services, PEPFAR, CHiPs had standardised linkage to HIV care meetings. CHiPs had the opportunity to address concerns from clients and/or clinic staff had concerns they can address with CHiPs.</td>
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<td><strong>5</strong></td>
<td><strong>CHiPs as the patient navigator, bridging the gap from the community to the clinic</strong>&lt;br&gt;With permission from the client, CHiPs would go into the clinic and schedule appointments for clients. CHiPs assisted in opening up client folders prior to client’s arrival to save on time. CHiPs would return back to the homes &amp; accompany clients to the clinic.</td>
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Household-based TB screening

- Supplies for each team of 2: cooler box, masks, TB lab book, sputum jars, barcodes
- Sputum samples were barcoded & scanned into EDC
- NHLS would scan the PopART barcode & it would also appear on the NHLS lab result form
- Results were delivered back home to the client & the PHC
## Competency Assessments & In-Service Training

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<td><strong>Technical skills with an EDC</strong></td>
<td>Prior to hiring, candidates who passed the initial interview process go through an EDC assessment. Test after the training. (1 day)</td>
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<td><strong>Proficiency Testing with Serum</strong></td>
<td>3 of the 20 days of training are practical (2 days are for serum testing).</td>
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<td><strong>Shadowing</strong></td>
<td>Shadow an experienced CHiP in the field for approximately 20 HIV tests</td>
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<td><strong>Portfolio of Evidence</strong></td>
<td>10 finger pricks in the presence of a Professional Nurse in the homes</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Performance Evaluations</strong></td>
<td>Supervisor accompanies the CHiP into the home, evaluates the delivery of the intervention, HTS process, finger prick process, referral process (3 per quarter).</td>
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<td><strong>Data verification audits</strong></td>
<td>Data from the previous data is extracted, the supervisor goes into the home without the presence of the CHiP &amp; asks a series of questions to confirm the accuracy of the data collected.</td>
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<td><strong>Monthly in-service training</strong></td>
<td>All field staff come into headquarters. Data is disseminated to the CHiPs. CHiPs review the data with their Supervisors to develop plans to address indicators that are behind. (1 day of training per month. Test after the training).</td>
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<td><strong>Annual workshop</strong></td>
<td>Annually, a workshop is held for field staff. 3 days annually, training to address changes of priorities in annual rounds. Test after the training.</td>
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## Wellness, Psycho-Social Support & Mentoring for CHiPs

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<td><strong>Psycho-social support &amp; debriefing sessions</strong></td>
<td>Psychologist sees a team of ≈25 CHiPs every 2 weeks</td>
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<td><strong>Mentoring</strong></td>
<td>Daily meeting with Supervisor &amp; remedial action plans during the evaluations. Supervisor to CHiP ratio = 1 Supervisor:≈20 CHiPs</td>
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<td><strong>Safety/community acceptance</strong></td>
<td>CHiPs work in pairs (2 individuals in charge of approx. 300 to 500 HH’s.) Community engagement team works with the CHiPs on community mobilisation for awareness of the intervention. A CAB is in place as well. Police were informed of CHiPs activities.</td>
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<td><strong>Clinic acceptance</strong></td>
<td>Linkage to HIV care meetings (CHiP Supervisors &amp; Clinic Managers)</td>
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<td><strong>Team Building</strong></td>
<td>Annually a Team Building event with all the +350 CHiPs and Supervisors</td>
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Community HIV care Providers (CHiPs)
Thank you
Enkosi
Dankie
Ngiyathokoza
Ke a leboha
Ke a leboga
Ke a leboga
Siyabonga
Inkomu
Ndo livhuwa / Ro livhuwa
Ngiyabonga
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Dr. Peter Bock

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