Toolkit for the implementation and evaluation of Checkpoints for MSM

Matthias Kuske
Purpose:

„To generate operational knowledge to better understand the role and impact of Community Based Voluntary Counselling and Testing services (CBVCTs) across Europe, as well as to study the use of innovative strategies based on new technologies networks,

  to increase early HIV/STI diagnosis and treatment among the most vulnerable groups.“

Workpackage 7:

To develop a Toolkit to improve the implementation of CBVCT services specifically addressed to MSM in Europe.
MSM Checkpoints

• Implementation of many CBVCT centers that specifically address MSM in Europe

• Checkpoints – CBVCT and health centers for MSM

• Great diversity
  • Adapted to local needs, local conditions and local restrictions
  • Great variety in services
  • Different structures
Map of MSM Checkpoints
Map of MSM Checkpoints
Toolkit for MSM Checkpoints

• Internet-based Toolkit to support NGOs that recently established or want to start a CBVCT Service/Checkpoint for MSM

• Main information needed
  • for planning and operating a Checkpoint
  • to assure quality of services

• Systematic self-evaluation-tool

• Not adapted to a specific health system or environment

• Suggests to take into account what is locally needed
Toolkit for MSM Checkpoints

This interactive Toolkit is for community-based, voluntary counselling and testing (CABCT) services targeting men who have sex with men (MSM). It addresses all topics needed to develop, provide and self-evaluate quality services in a CABCT project and/or Checkpoint. It is divided into six sections: Operating Environment, CABCT Services and Organisational Needs, Counselling and Linkage to Care, Communication, Advocacy, and Quality Improvement & Innovation. In all sections, 'checklists' support users to assess their project and develop an individual action plan. Please find out more about how to use this Toolkit in the 'How to Use' chapter.
Toolkit for MSM Checkpoints

HOW TO USE / HELP

- Checklists, guidance and tools, action plans
- Using the toolkit for planning
- Using the toolkit for quality assurance
- Using the toolkit for quality improvement
6 Toolkit chapters

I Operating a Checkpoint
  Regulatory and Legal Frameworks
  Financial viability and sustainability
  Participation and empowerment
  Collaboration

II CBVCT Services & Organisational Needs
  Infrastructure
  Materials
  Human Resources
  Monitoring and Evaluation
Toolkit chapters

III Counselling and Linkage to Care
  Counselling
  Linkage to Care

IV Communication

V Advocacy

VI Quality Improvement and Innovation
  Improving Quality
  Innovation and Expansion
Toolkit for MSM Checkpoints

This interactive Toolkit is for community-based, voluntary counselling and testing (CBVCT) services targeting men who have sex with men (MSM). It addresses all topics needed to develop, provide and self-evaluate quality services in a CBVCT project and/or Checkpoint. It is divided into six sections: Operating Environment, CBVCT Services and Organisational Needs, Counselling and Linkage to Care, Communication, Advocacy, and Quality Improvement/Innovation. In all sections, ‘checklists’ support users to assess their project and develop an individual action plan. Please find out more about how to use this Toolkit in the ‘How to Use’ chapter.
Chapter structure

- Description
- Checklist(s)
- Guidance and tools
- Action Plan(s)
6 Toolkit chapters

**Operating a Checkpoint**
- Regulatory and Legal Frameworks
- Financial viability and sustainability
- Participation and empowerment
- Collaboration

**CBVCT Services & Organisational Needs**
- Infrastructure
- Materials
- Human Resources
- Monitoring and Evaluation
**Operating Environment**

**Regulatory and Legal Frameworks**

National laws and regulations as well as the standards and codes of conduct of regulated professions govern the operations of health and social services. CBVCTs may fall under one or several of these frameworks. This checklist asks questions about the main legal aspects of operating a CBVCT. Because regulatory and legal frameworks differ from country to country, it is important to find out exactly what is required in your situation. It may be helpful to get legal advice if you are unsure.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Does your CBVCT have this in place?</td>
<td>Yes/no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is there a documented standard, guideline, plan, policy, procedure, contract or agreement?</td>
<td>Yes/no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is it adapted to local needs and conditions?</td>
<td>Yes/no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is it working as intended?</td>
<td>Yes/no</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Authorisation for testing**

- Please choose
- Please choose
- Please choose

**Compliance with labour laws**

- Please choose
- Please choose
- Please choose
- Please choose

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**Toolkit for MSM Checkpoints**

[Image of a web page with a checklist for operating environments and regulatory and legal frameworks.]
**Toolkit for MSM Checkpoints**

### Description
National laws regulate the use of medical and diagnostic devices, including HIV tests. Formal authorisation to conduct a specific type of test may be required. CBVCTs aiming to offer testing technologies that maximise uptake by MSM are therefore often forced to operate in a legal 'grey' area.

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<td><strong>Action Plan</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Compliance with labour laws</strong></td>
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<td>Please choose</td>
<td>Please choose</td>
<td><strong>Action Plan</strong></td>
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**Toolkit for MSM Checkpoints**

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### Guidance

A key advantage of CBCT services targeting MSM is their ability to provide a more or less immediate result, even though it may require confirmatory testing if reactive. This means most CBCTs offer a form of rapid HIV testing using oral fluid or a capillary blood sample.

Legislation and regulations may prohibit anyone other than a medical professional to conduct such tests and interpret the results. National health authorities provide information on which tests are approved for use and under which conditions.

The COBACIS a guide to 'doing it better' (Chapter 3.4) offers detailed guidance on test options and criteria for selecting them: reliability, availability, accessibility, the time it takes to obtain a result, price, etc.

It is important to remember that testing technology is evolving and new options become available from time to time. The European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) and WHO websites provide current advice and recommendations. Any new test must also be approved on the national level before it can be used in a CBCT.

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### Table: Operating a Checkpoint

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<td>Action plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Compliance with ethical basis</td>
<td>Action plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regulatory and Legal Frameworks</td>
<td>Action plan</td>
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**Image Description:**

The image shows a screenshot of a website with a section titled "Operating a Checkpoint." It includes a table with columns for "Item," "Does your hotspot need notification," "Final Action," and "Action plan." There is also a pop-up window with guidance text and a checkbox labeled "Click to access the main menu."
Toolkit for MSM Checkpoints

External resources; e.g. organisations or HIV Quality Action Tools

Other resources from Euro HIV EDAT
## Operating Environment

### Regulatory and Legal Frameworks

National laws and regulations as well as the standards and codes of conduct of regulated professions govern the operations of health and social services. CBVCTs may fall under one or several of these frameworks. This checklist asks questions about the main legal aspects of operating a CBVCT. Because regulatory and legal frameworks differ from country to country, it is important to find out exactly what is required in your situation. It may be helpful to get legal advice if you are unsure.

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<td>Please choose</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Guidance</td>
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Operating Environment

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<td>Action  Plan</td>
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→ Copy to Action Plan
Operating Environment

Regulatory and Legal Frameworks

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<td>We have to revise the Testing Guidelines with our national laws and local needs</td>
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- Description
- Guidance
- Adaptation
- Quality Improvement
- Action Plan

→ Copy to Action Plan
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$$\textbf{Regulatory and Legal Frameworks}$$

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<td>③ Adaptation</td>
<td>④ Quality Improvement</td>
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</table>

- **Action Plan**: We have to revise the Testing Guidelines with our national laws and local needs.
### Action Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>What will be done?</th>
<th>Who will it do?</th>
<th>When?</th>
<th>How will we monitor it?</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>We have to revise the Testing Guidelines with our national laws and local needs</td>
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**Save this table as .xlsx Document**

**Print this table**
Conclusion

• Useful and practical Toolkit
• Adaptable to local needs
• Helps to establish and provide low-threshold, quality based CBVCT Services for MSM
• Enables Checkpoints to optimize and develop their services

• Available from June 2017 on

www msm-checkpoints.eu
www.eurohivedat.eu
Acknowledgements

Many thanks to all partners of the Euro HIV EDAT project, in particular the Working Group of Workpackage 7 (Development of a toolkit for MSM checkpoints):

Cristina Agusti (CEEISCAT)
Michael Meulbroek (BCN Checkpoint)
Daniela Rojas Castro (AIDES)
Francois Pinchon, Per Slaaen (AIDS-Fondet)
Miha Lobnik, Bogdan Cigan (Legebitra)
Miha Alexandru (ARAS)
Matthias Kuske (Aidshilfe NRW)
Tom Platteau (Institute of Tropical Medicine, Antwerp)
Daniel Simões (GAT Portugal)
Sophocles Schanos (Checkpoint Athens)

Matthias Wentzlaff-Eggebert (author)

EURO HIV EDAT Study Group

Chafea – Health Programme funding
European Commission: HIV/AIDS Policy

The Euro HIV EDAT project is co funded by the Health Programme 2008-13 of the European Commission with Grant Agreement number 2013 11 01 for the period 2014-2017
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