

Regional Training Center on Development and Implementation of Clinical Guidelines and Protocols on Reproductive Health

Launched at the initiative and financial support of UNFPA Regional Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia

REPORT

On the Regional Training Course on Development and Implementation of Clinical Guidelines in Sexual and Reproductive Health 13 – 16 September 2016, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova

Background information

The regional training course on development and implementation of clinical guidelines on sexual and reproductive health was held in Moldova for the third time and organized on 13th -16th of September 2016, in the conference hall of the hotel "Radisson Blu Leograd Hotel".



The training session was organized by the Reproductive Health Training Center (RHTC), with the support of the UNFPA Regional office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia, within the framework of the UNFPA initiative on clinical guidelines on sexual health, and with the support of the East European Institute for Reproductive Health from Romania.

The objective of the regional course was to support the stakeholders from East European and Central Asian countries in establishing a systematic approach in the development / adaptation / implementation of clinical guidelines within the national quality improvement program, in accordance with the methodology (see details in [program of the course – Annex No. 1](#)), developed by the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists and the East European Institute for Reproductive Health..

Delegations from Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan took part in the course. The 18 participants at the Course represented Healthcare Ministries, National Centers for Mother and Child Care, Institutes for continuing education of medical professionals, State Universities of Medicine, hospitals for mother and child care and maternity homes (see details in [the list of participants – Annex No.2](#)).

At the opening of the course, special guests were present: Liliana Iasan – Deputy Minister, Ministry of Healthcare of the Republic of Moldova; Sergiu Gladun – Director, Institute of Mother and Child of RM; Natalia Cojohari - UNFPA Moldova Assistant Representative. In their welcoming speeches, the guests emphasized the importance of the evidence-based approach and clinical guidelines and protocols in improving the sexual and reproductive health of people.



Trainers

The course was conducted by the leading healthcare professionals from Moldova, trained in UK by the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, namely:



- Dr. Stelian Hodorozea - associate professor of the department of obstetrics and gynaecology, State University of Medicine and Pharmacy "Nicolae Testemitanu";
- Dr. Natalia Zarbailov - associate professor of the department of family medicine, State University of Medicine and Pharmacy "Nicolae Testemitanu";
- Dr. Galina Lesco - Director of the Youth Friendly Clinic Services "Neovita";
- Dr. Irina Sagaidac - Assistant of the department of obstetrics and gynaecology of the faculty post-graduate studies in medicine and pharmacy of the University of Medicine "Nicolae Testemitanu";
- Dr. Rodica Comendant – Director of the Reproductive Health Training Center, Course Coordinator.

The trainers prepared a course report with their feedback and recommendations on each module (*Annex No. 3 «Feedback, reporting from TRAINERS_Regional Course_Moldova 2016»*).

Organizational aspects

RHTC, as the coordinating body of the regional training center, was responsible for the organization and preparation of the course, arranging their flights, visas, accommodation.

The course materials have been translated and printed. The RHTC was responsible for the selection of the potential participants, which was done in collaboration with EECARO and UNFPA C/O, with the scope to achieve the objective and the targets of the Regional Course. For example, efforts have been made to identify and to get invited participants from Uzbekistan – country which sent delegates to this course the first time.



A selection of pre-course materials, were translated into Russian and sent to the participants in advanced for pre-course preparation: a glossary of UNFPA terms; the clinical guideline on SRH; the Recommendations on Adaptation of the Methodological Guideline (ADAPTE).

This year, were translated in Russian and offered to participants the most updated versions of the following four publications: Developing a Methodology for Drawing up Guidelines on Best Medical Practices (Council of Europe); A guideline developer’s handbook (SIGN 50); Guideline Adaptation: A Resource Toolkit (ADAPTE Collaboration); WHO handbook for guideline development (WHO). Additionally was translated the RGOC material on Prevention and Management of Postpartum Hemorrhage.



As a recommendation, we would suggest to conduct next time an pre-course on-line evaluation of the participants readiness to come to the course, as motivation to read the sent pre-course materials. On the last day, all participants received on their memory stick the participants’ folder with course materials in electronic format. All course materials were

made available on-line on:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B0V7GkGfCtfFdvFuRGQ4ZkJVZU0?usp=sharing>, and course pictures on: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B0V7GkGfCtfFdXRvY0VuQ2hleEU?usp=sharing>. At the end of the course, participants received certificates confirming their attendance.

The innovations implemented since last year course:

1. Countries' representatives developed **country presentations** about their national experience in guidelines development. To streamline the procedures for preparation of presentations, a presentation template was provided in advance to participants. Inclusion in the program course of the countries' presentations in the first day allowed the participants to share experiences on the current situation of the development and implementation of clinical guidelines on sexual and reproductive health.
2. Participants were asked to **bring their national clinical guidelines and protocols. They have been** evaluated during the course, using the ADAPTE toolkit, as a practical exercise.
3. The last day the teams have been asked to work on their action plans, which were based on the plans from previous year. They have been presented to the big group and discussed. Coming back home they will need to get them approved and send back to RHTC for future evaluation.



Visiting the University Center for Simulation in Medical Training (CUSIM)

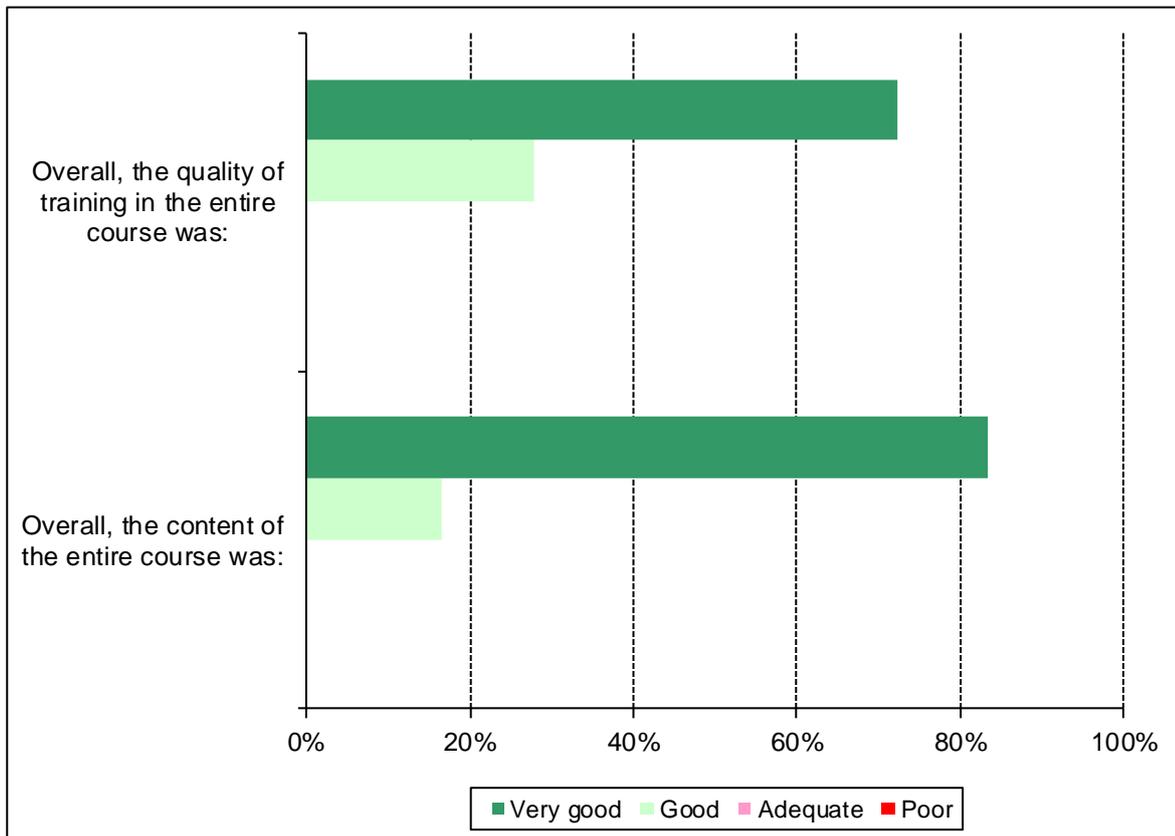


On the third day, after the course, participants visited the University Center for Simulation in Medical Training (CUSIM) which represents a subdivision of the State University of Medicine and Pharmacy “Nicolae Testemitanu”. The University Center for Simulation in Medical Training has the mission to increase the patient safety by implementing modern education methods and simulation based training, which allow achieving medical competences and skills within an organized background and

under a well-structured program. Participants had the chance not only to see how the center is organized but also to try some practical activities.

Feedback, opinions and recommendations from the participants

Based on the evaluation forms, participants filled at the end of the course, they were satisfied and very satisfied with the course, including the materials of the course, its organization, the quality of the lectures (*see details in infographics "Feedback, results from PARTICIPANTS_ Regional Course Moldova 2016", Annex No.4*).



As recommendations for the future courses, all the teams said that the information is too complex and longer training is needed. 100% of the participants would recommend the course to colleagues because:

- “This course provides detailed presentation on the development of clinical guidelines, approaching clinical questions that are not taken into consideration in Kazakhstan”,
- “the employees do not have this knowledge or they are not systematic”,
- “I consider that the presence of experts in the country that have passed this course will be very important for the development of clinical practice guidelines (protocols)”, etc. (see details in *"Assessment by participants of the regional training course 2016", Annex No.5, available in Russian language only*).



Participants expressed some important opinions on the quality of the modules like:

- More time is necessary for each module;
- More practical materials are needed;
- More time to devote to issues of bases for development of clinical protocol, evidence bases, and statistics;
- To adapt the course materials to the conditions of our countries/region.

Complete feedback can be studied in *"Assessment by participants of the regional training course 2016», Annex No. 5, available in Russian language only"*.

As per participant's characteristics, 17 out of 18 participants have had over 5 years' experience in the field of sexual and reproductive health, 14 of them are medical doctors, and all are working in public sector. These and other details of the statistical analysis, along with graphs, are presented in *Annex No. 4 «Feedback, results from PARTICIPANTS_ Regional Course Moldova 2016»*.

Promoting the Course

The information about the course disseminated by:

- RHTC on its website (<http://www.sanatateafemeii.md/news/moldova-este-gazda-cursului-regional-privind-imbunatatirea-calitatii-serviciilor-medicale-domeniul-sanatatii-sexuale-si-reproductive/>);
- RHTC Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/159409707451468/photos/pcb.1260225870703174/126022320703529/?type=3&theater>):
- UNFPA Moldova Office (<http://moldova.unfpa.org/news/moldova-hosts-regional-course-improving-sexual-and-reproductive-health-care-services>);
- Ministry of Health of RM (<http://ms.gov.md/?q=stiri/moldova-este-tara-gazda-cursului-regional-privind-imbunatatirea-calitatii-serviciilor-medicale>);
- The course opening part was broadcasted online by a local TV Privesc.eu (<https://www.privesc.eu/arhiva/68800>)

Lessons learned:

1. The regional course is achieving its objective and strengthen the capacities of the countries from EECA region to develop and adapt clinical guidelines and protocols on SRH.
2. In the same time, we may observe that teams coming back to their countries don't communicate much to each other and to the participants from previous years. They even don't know about some of the roll-out trainings (in Kyrgyzstan for example) were taking place. Or, they are not involved in the development of the guidelines and protocols, which is, in some countries, the responsibility of a dedicated institution, or department of the MoH. We can conclude that a convener is needed to help them unify the efforts and to create a stronger team in the country, with a higher expertise on this issue. This role may be taken by RHTC team, with the support from the country offices of UNFPA.
3. For the future, some pre-course on-line preparations may be taken into consideration, but, considering big diversity and differences in the level of knowledge, still in-person trainings in the future are needed.

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