

APPENDIX A: MIHTP

BACKGROUND

Physicians from militaries around the world have had the unique opportunity to visit the United States for 30 days to participate in this training. Trainees experience in-depth lectures, tour US medical facilities, and take part in rounds and counseling sessions with HIV/AIDS patients. Trainees are exposed to the most up-to-date advances in HIV/AIDS prevention and care, specifically anti-retroviral therapy, opportunistic infections, and epidemiology.

The *Military International HIV Training Program* (MIHTP), which is administered 4 to 5 times per year, involves intense study, collaboration, and coordination. DHAPP staff examined results from all training sessions that took place during FY05 to determine the program's effectiveness.

MEASURES OF EFFECTIVENESS

Pre- and post-tests for MIHTP trainees were developed with the expertise of the physicians and epidemiologists affiliated with DHAPP, NMCSU, UCSD, and SDSU. The test consists of 40 multiple choice questions taken directly from the lectures, covering topics such as antiretroviral drugs, US military policies, opportunistic infections, and statistical analysis. The pretest is administered during the trainees' orientation, prior to any lectures. If necessary, the test is translated into the trainees' native languages. Posttests are administered during the out-briefing following the 30-day training program. The test comparisons allow identification of changes in the trainees' comprehension of the subject matter as well as assist in the identification of areas for improvement, emphasis, or deletion.

RESULTS

25 October 2004 – 27 November 2004: Nigeria and Zimbabwe

Four trainees attended this training program (2 from Nigeria, 2 from Zimbabwe), all taking part in the testing. The table below displays the wide discrepancy in pretest scores, ranging from 45% to 65%. On the other hand, posttest scores ranged from a 67.5% to a 77.5%, indicating a decrease in variance among the trainees, with change in a positive direction. During this training session, students' scores had an average increase of 17.5%.

	Trainee 1	Trainee 2	Trainee 3	Trainee 4	Average
Pretest score	65.00%	50.00%	45.00%	60.00%	55.00%
Posttest score	72.50%	72.50%	67.50%	77.50%	72.50%

The result of a *t* test from pretest to posttest was significant ($\alpha = .016$). The scores were significantly different.

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22 February 2005 – 26 March 2005: Dominican Republic and Honduras

Seven trainees attended this training program (4 from Dominican Republic, 3 from Honduras), all taking part in the testing. The table below displays the wide discrepancy in pretest scores, ranging from 40% to 57.5%. On the other hand, posttest scores ranged from 62.5% to 70%, indicating a decrease in variance among the trainees, with change in a positive direction. During this training session, students' scores had an average increase of 17%.

	Trainee 1	Trainee 2	Trainee 3	Trainee 4	Trainee 5	Trainee 6	Trainee 7	Average
Pretest score	50%	57.5%	43%	42.5%	45%	40%	55%	47.5%
Posttest score	65%	65%	67.5%	62.5%	65%	57.5%	70%	64.64%

The result of a *t* test from pretest to post-test was significant ($\alpha < .001$). The scores were significantly different.

11 April 2005 – 15 May 2005: Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, and Uzbekistan

Eight trainees attended this training program (2 from Kyrgyzstan, 2 from Tajikistan, 2 from Kazakhstan, and 2 from Uzbekistan), and all took part in the testing. The table below displays the wide discrepancy in pretest scores, ranging from 30% to 57.5%. Posttest scores ranged from 40% to 57.5%, creating a much narrower range among the trainees, but still not showing much improvement. Some scores remained the same, and one decreased. During this training session, students' scores had an average increase of only 6.88%, which is one of the lowest increases in the past few training sessions.

	Trainee 1	Trainee 2	Trainee 3	Trainee 4	Trainee 5	Trainee 6	Trainee 7	Trainee 8
Pretest score	35%	40%	35%	57.5%	30%	35%	35%	45%
Posttest score	45%	50%	40%	57.5%	37.5%	47.5%	47.5%	42.5%

Despite the average increase in test score, a *t* test was significant ($\alpha < .011$).

01 July 2005 – 29 July 2005: Rwanda and Zambia

Five trainees attended this training program (2 from Rwanda and 3 from Zambia), all taking part in the testing. The table below shows that the scores on the pre-test illustrate a similar competence level among trainees, with the exception of one high-scoring individual. Scores ranged from 32.5% to 72.5%. On the other

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hand, posttest scores ranged from 32.5% to 75%, demonstrating that the learning experience was quite varied for the trainees, many showing a large improvement from their pretest. There was a decrease noted in the scores of one of the trainees; it is difficult to determine where the inconsistency lies. During this training session, students' scores had an average increase of 15%, with an average increase of 21.25% if trainee #2 is removed (which is one of our highest increases in the past 6 training sessions).

	Trainee 1	Trainee 2	Trainee 3	Trainee 4	Trainee 5
Pretest score	40%	42.5%	40%	72.5%	32.5%
Posttest score	62.5%	32.5%	75%	75%	57.5%

Despite the sizable average increase in test scores, the result of a t test from pretest to posttest was not significant ($\alpha > .05$). The scores were not significantly different, again due to the decrease in Trainee #2's score. Once this score was removed, $\alpha = .05$, making the change significantly different.

SUMMARY

In summary, military clinicians from around the globe have attended the Military International HIV/AIDS Training Program in San Diego. According to all participants and instructors, the program has evolved into an experience of great professional value. All students of the MIHTP have agreed that the skills they have developed during training will be taken back to their countries and put to valuable use in their own militaries' fight in the war against HIV and AIDS.