



# Military International HIV Training Program

## BACKGROUND

Clinicians from militaries around the world have had the unique opportunity to visit the United States for 30 days to participate in the *Military International HIV Training Program* (MIHTP). During FY07, 14 clinicians, mostly physicians, from 5 countries participated in MIHTP. 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 antiretroviral therapy (ART), treatment of opportunistic infections (OIs), and epidemiology. MIHTP, which is administered several times per year, involves intense study, collaboration, and coordination. DHAPP staff examined results from the training sessions that took place during FY07 to determine the program's effectiveness.

## MEASURES OF EFFECTIVENESS

Pretest and posttests have been developed with the expertise of the physicians and epidemiologists affiliated with DHAPP, Naval Medical Center San Diego, University of California San Diego, and San Diego State University. The test consists of 40 multiple-choice questions taken directly from the lectures, covering topics such as ART, military policies, OI, and statistical analysis. Pretests are administered during the trainees' orientation prior to any lectures; if needed, 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 for evaluation of the trainees' competence in the subject matter, and identification of areas for improvement, emphasis, or deletion.

## RESULTS

### **September through October 2006: Ghana and Mozambique Results**

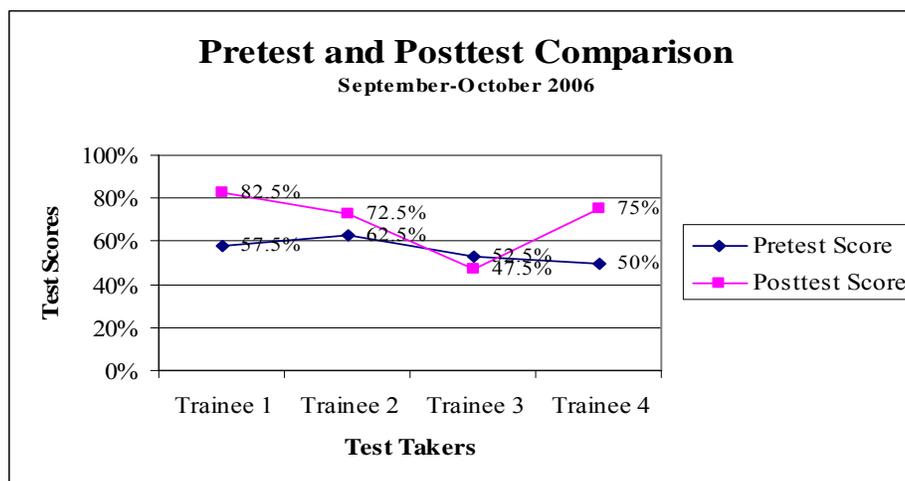
Four (4) trainees attended the training program in September and October (2 from Mozambique and 2 from Ghana). The table below shows the pretest scores, illustrating a somewhat similar competence level among the trainees. Pretest scores ranged from 50% to 62.5%, while posttest scores ranged from 47.5% to 82.5%, making it clear that it was a valuable training for some, but not for others.

Unfortunately there was not always an increase from pretest to posttest. The result from pretest to

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posttest was not significant, with a p-value of 0.15. In an attempt to find significance, Trainee 3 was removed and another *t* test resulted in a p-value of 0.057, at the  $\alpha = 0.05$  level.

	Trainee 1	Trainee 2	Trainee 3	Trainee 4
Pretest score	57.5%	62.5%	52.5%	50.0%
Posttest score	82.5%	72.5%	47.5%	75.0%

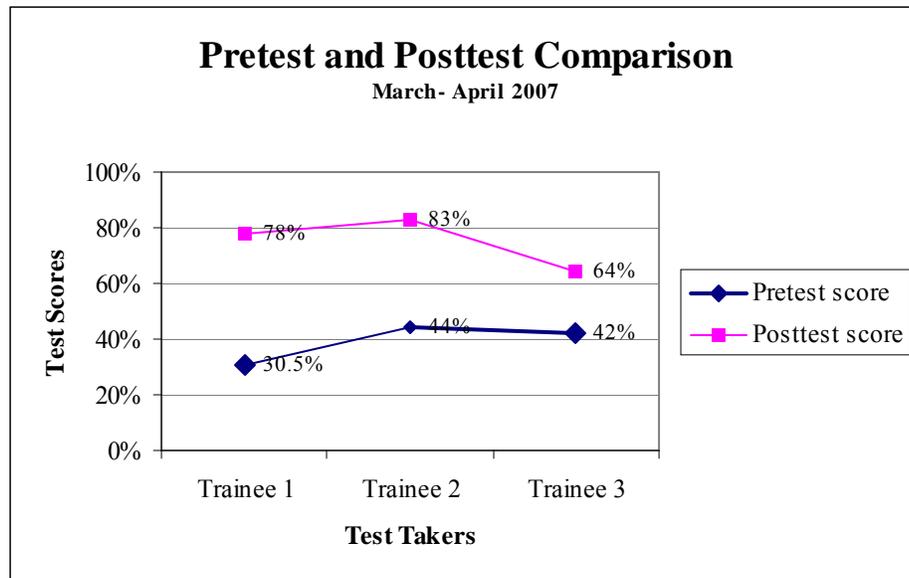


### March through April 2007: Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)

Three (3) trainees from Democratic Republic of the Congo attended the March through April 2007 training program, all taking part in the testing. The table below shows the pre-test scores, illustrating a somewhat similar competence level among the trainees. Pretest scores ranged from 30.5% to 44.0%, while posttest scores ranged from 64% to 83%, making it clear that it was a valuable training for all. The average pretest score went from about 39% to a post test average of 75%. Below is a table of the scores, followed by a graphical representation. It is clear that all participants increased in score from pre- to post-test. The result of a *t* test from pretest to posttest was significant ( $p = 0.04$ ).

	Trainee 1	Trainee 2	Trainee 3
Pretest score	30.5%	44.0%	42.0%
Posttest score	78.0%	83.0%	64.0%

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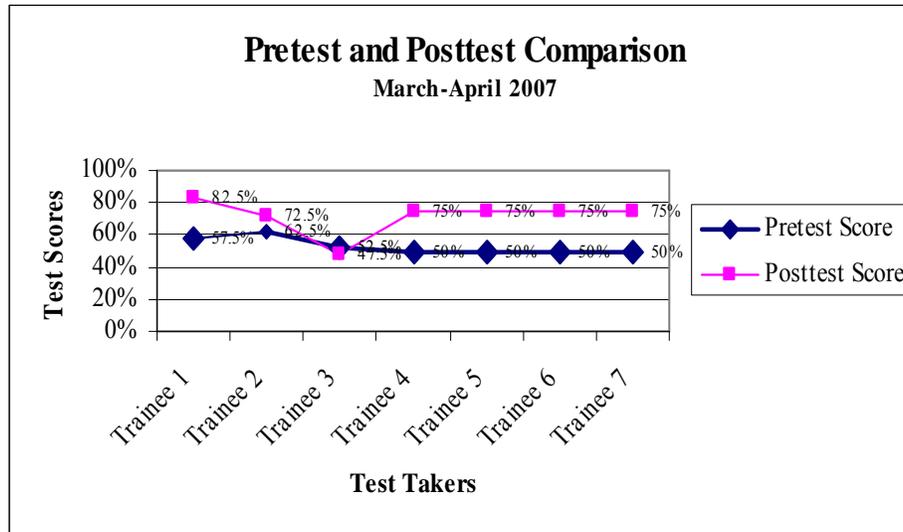


### August through September 2007: Morocco, Mozambique, and Rwanda

Two (2) trainees from Morocco, 2 trainees from Mozambique, and 3 trainees from Rwanda attended the August through September 2007 training program, all taking part in the testing. The table below shows the pretest scores, illustrating a somewhat similar competence level among the trainees. Pretest scores ranged from 35% to 57.5%, while posttest scores ranged from 55% to 67.5%, making it clear that it was a valuable training. The average pretest score increased from approximately 48% to a posttest average of 62%. Below is a table of the scores, followed by a graphical representation. All participants increased in score from pretest to posttest, making great advancements. The result of a *t* test from pretest to posttest was significant ( $p = 0.002$ ).

	Trainee 1	Trainee 2	Trainee 3	Trainee 4	Trainee 5	Trainee 6	Trainee 7
<b>Pretest score</b>	50%	35%	50%	50%	57.5%	42.5%	52.5%
<b>Posttest score</b>	65%	55%	62.5%	55%	62.5%	67.5%	67.5%

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### SUMMARY

Since 2002, 117 military clinicians (98 clinicians, 3 nurses and 16 auxiliary health care professionals) from 30 countries around the world have attended 21 sessions of 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 MIHTP students have agreed that the skills they have developed during training will be put to valuable use for their own militaries' fight in the war against HIV and AIDS.

