

Module 5: HIV/AIDS and young people - Adolescent health and development with a particular focus on sexual and reproductive health - Assignment

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The groups of young people in Afghanistan who should be targeted with HIV interventions

The young people group who should be targeted with HIV intervention in Afghanistan is:

- Young people who are problem drug users.
- Young people who are displaced due to any cause.
- Young people who are in prison.
- Young people who travel outside the country.
- Young people who travel for long distance or are away of home for more time.
- Young people in Army or Police.
- Young sex workers.

The factors (the 'drivers') which make them vulnerable

- Young people who are problem drug users.
 - Young people using injection for drug are particularly prone to HIV because the second most important way of HIV transmission is through blood and blood contaminated instruments such as syringes, needle and other surgical equipments.
 - As drug users don't clean syringes and needle most of the time therefore HIV can easily be transmitted from infected person to non infected one.
 - As drug users share the syringes and needles, so they put themselves vulnerable to HIV.
- Young people who are displaced due to any cause.
 - Displaced young people are also vulnerable group, as they may not have access to proper medical services, equipment and are also in danger of sexual violence.
- Young people who are in prison.
 - Young people in prison are vulnerable because they don't have access to preventive services and share some instruments and are prone to sexual abuse.
- Young people who travel outside the country.

- Those young people traveling outside the country stay for long time away from family and there are chances of involving in unprotected sex with prostitutes.
- Young people who travel for long distance or are away of home for more time.
 - The same reason and driver is applied here which is mentioned under traveling abroad.
- Young people in Army or Police.
 - Army and Police are also staying away from home and there are possibilities of homosexual relation between them which is the most common way transmission of HIV.
- Young sex workers.
 - Sex workers are particularly prone and vulnerable to HIV because of multiple partners and unprotected sex.

The most important interventions which would contribute to achieving the UNAIDS goal

- Young people who are problem drug users.
 - The most important intervention for this category is Harm Reduction Programme (providing clean syringes, needles, treatment for their wound and injuries, condom and awareness programme, and changing IV drug use to oral and testing and counseling).
- Young people who are displaced due to any cause.
 - Provision of emergency services, post exposure prophylaxis, awareness raising and facilities for screening, counseling and testing.
- Young people who are in prison.
 - Screening, counseling and testing, provision of clean syringes and needle, awareness programme.
- Young people who travel outside the country.
 - Awareness programme and screening.
- Young people who travel for long distance or are away of home for more time.
 - Awareness, condom promotion and testing and counseling.
- Young people in Army or Police.
 - Awareness, screening.
- Young sex workers.
 - Condom promotion, testing and counseling, awareness programme.

Assignment document

1. [Ferguson J. HIV/AIDS and young people. Paper presented at: Training Course in Sexual and Reproductive Health Research; 2010 Sep 26; Geneva.](#)