

Safety First.

Authors:

ALISON COEHLO¹, PIERRE M¹, DAMIEN FAGAN²

¹The Centre for Culture Ethnicity & Health, Melbourne, ²Gilead Sciences Pty Ltd, Melbourne

Background/Purpose:

People from refugee and migrant backgrounds, asylum seekers and mobile populations may be disadvantaged when obtaining information on the safe and appropriate use of HIV medicines. This pilot project aims to create appropriate medicines information for antiretroviral (ARVs) to be used by healthcare professionals assisting their patients while improving PLHIV's healthy literacy levels.

Approach:

Gilead Sciences in partnership with the Centre for Culture, Ethnicity and Health (CEH) identified the top four non-English languages for PLHIV provided by HIV specialist pharmacists. A plain language summary was created based on the consumer medicines information. This was then translated into four languages and community tested twice to ensure the information was appropriate for community members PLHIV to enable safe use of the medicine. The translations were then recorded and imbedded into an app with visual cues to assist healthcare professionals and PLHIV. By using an app, updated information can be automatically available.

Outcomes/Impact:

Patients from Chinese, Thai, Portuguese-Brazilian and Spanish speaking backgrounds can now access information that native English speakers take for granted. Healthcare professionals are better equipped explaining the appropriate use of ARVs with patients from these backgrounds.

Innovation and Significance:

Healthcare professionals can have confidence when communicating essential medicine information to their patients. By engaging with technology, PLHIV community members can have discrete access to up to date information on how to take their medicine and what to do should they experience adverse events. This project will be expanded to other language groups. This project is a step toward increasing the health literacy and safety for PLHIV from migrant and refugee backgrounds.

Disclosure of Interest Statement:

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