



Quality Action
Improving **HIV** Prevention in Europe

Quality Action CASE STUDY

1. Name and country of the organisation

(Please state the name and the country of the organisation that implemented this practical application of a QA/QI tool as part of Quality Action. We do not publish this information unless you agree. You can remain anonymous by adjusting the settings at the end of this form.)

Centre for Life (Kentro Zois), Greece

2. Authors of the case study and contact details

(Please provide then name of the author(s) of this case study and any contact names, Email address or websites where readers can access more information about this practical application of a QA/QI tool.)

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3. External support (facilitators/partners/technical assistance)

(Please list the names of other organisations and/or people who were involved in this practical application of a QA/QI tool, e.g. project partners, technical assistance, external stakeholders etc..)

Ms Vasileia Konte, Hellenic Centre for Disease Prevention and Control

4. Project/programme

(Please briefly describe the project/programme to which you applied the tool.)

The tool was applied to the HIV Prevention Programme that Centre for Life has been conducting for the last 23 years. This prevention program comprises interactive lectures and a specially created educational game concerning HIV and prevention issues. The Prevention Program is conducted by specially trained volunteers of the Centre for Life and each presentation is adjusted to meet the diverse needs of each group. The goals of the Prevention Program are to maximize the community's understanding of the consequences of HIV infection, inform about how HIV is or isn't transmitted, how to access and use prevention commodities, as well as fight stigma and discrimination against people who live with HIV/AIDS. The duration of each presentation is around 1,5 hours. At the end, information materials and condoms are distributed. The special project the tool was applied to was a prevention program especially targeting high school students (adolescents 16-17 years old), in collaboration with many municipalities in the region of Attica.

5. Goals/aims of applying the QA/QI tool

(Please list the goals you wanted to achieve with the practical application of the tool.)

The goals when applying the tool were to:

- Evaluate the quality of our project internally using a structured “guide”
- Identify strengths and weaknesses of the project and plan possible modifications
- Conduct a team-bonding activity which will result in multiple benefits both for the project team as well as the project itself.
- Use this first application of the tool as a pilot for future applications in other prevention projects.
- Use this tool as part of a quality improvement process that could be used in funding applications or/and evaluations.
- Take advantage of the possible benefits of a European network of support and experience interaction.

6. Tool and methodology used

(Please indicate which of the five tools you used (Succeed, QIP, PQD, PIQA, Schiff) and briefly sketch out the steps and measures of how you applied it.)

Succeed was the tool applied in this particular project. The steps of application were:

- Internal meeting of the trainers in order to schedule the application procedure
- Communicate with the team leader of the Prevention team in order to become informed about the tool and its application.
- Define a date (beginning of January) and place (Centre for Life premises) for the application meeting
- The meeting was planned for half of a working day
- Inform the team members of the date of the meeting and the procedure
- Prepare the venue for the meeting and attend to details (coffee, material etc)
- Meeting and application of the tool.
- Discussion of the tool and future plans.

7. Results and benefits of applying the QA/QI tool

(Please describe what resulted from applying the tool and if and how your project/programme benefitted.)

Results:

- Identification of the strengths and weaknesses of our project and discussion of possible modifications.
- The tool application resulted in the need for more target group appropriate accompanying materials (informative leaflets) which is now in the production process.
- The team has agreed to schedule another meeting after six months in order to evaluate the progress of the modifications to the project.

Benefits:

- It was indeed an activity that increased team bonding
- The team managed to define the project goals more clearly
- The team received very encouraging feedback concerning its work
- The team managed to identify three basic “weaknesses” of the project and planned immediate modifications for two of them, as well as a brainstorming ideas for the third one.
- The tool application was included in two funding applications.

8. Recommendations

(Please describe the lessons learnt from positive and negative experiences during the process of using the tool itself and about the quality of projects/programmes like yours.)

It was generally a very positive experience, as we were able to receive encouragement for our work as well as food for thought and new ideas concerning possible changes, some of which were immediate and very helpful. The only problem was that it was a time consuming process, we were not able to include all the team members because of time and date restrictions, and therefore it was a less participatory process than we wished and hoped for. However, this indicated to us the need for better preparation and timeframe on our behalf concerning the tool application in future projects.

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