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【行业新闻】



图为王部长在视察中

Wang Longde, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Health 's visit to CIPRA Core B on October 20th

撰稿: 夏天

Wang Longde, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Health, Director of the HIV/AIDS Prevention and Treatment Committee, State Department, paid a visit to the computer center of CIPRA Data Management Core located in Jingdu Jingwei Hotel on the afternoon of October 20th.

The computer center is overseen by CIPRA Core B (Data Management Core). The data management system server is located in this center. DataFax is the application software used in this system for data transportation and management. CIPRA has put in place scientific and systematic data management. Dr. Tao Jiang, co-leader of CIPRA Data Management Core, and Dr. Tao Xu, the chief technician, explained the usage and advantages of the system to Minister Wang. Recently, the researchers have helped Project 1 to complete epidemiology research on HIV/AIDS from the Shanxi site using this system.

During the visit, Minister Wang pointed out that, recently the central government has focused its attention on the financial support of disease control and prevention. Meanwhile, research on HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment is the key factor in disease control. The U.S. NIH backs China CIPRA and brings with it advantages in information exchange, international collaboration and technical support. The collaboration between China and the U.S. on HIV/AIDS research is significant to China's HIV research and HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment work. Minister Wang acknowledged the achievements that China CIPRA has made as the first large comprehensive program for research on AIDS in China, and praised China CIPRA for introducing advanced techniques and tools. He also encouraged the entire staff of China CIPRA to dedicate their efforts to HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment in China.

【现场镜头】



图为子项目 1 工作人员在现场

CIPRA staff ' s October investigation of the Yunnan Site

撰稿: 中国 CIPRA 流行病学项目 副负责人杨忠民 施小明

Reporters: Deputy Director of China CIPRA Epidemiology Research Project, Zhongmin Yang, and Xiaoming Shi

On October 25th – 29th, 2004, staff members from CIPRA Project 1, and Cores A, B and C carried out an investigation at the Yunnan site. They visited the Yunnan Province CDC ' s HIV/AIDS Department, Gejiu City and Kaiyan City CDCs, and investigated several local entertainment establishments.

At the Yunnan Provincial CDC, CIPRA staff members and the site leader, Manhong Jia and others discussed the project ' s preparation work, and also decided on a work plan, including laboratory certification, training

of personnel, organization of the work team and offices, and a mutual agreement of collaboration with the Yunnan site Financial Management Department etc. After visits to the Gejiu and Kaiyan sites, responsibilities were divided amongst all the project staff, various evaluations were cooperated on and related site personnel were decided on. Core A and two of the site leaders jointly organized the Community Advisory Board (CAB) recommendation list. Core C carried out an investigation of the local laboratory conditions, and made some suggestions. At the same time, project staff worked out a specific plan for the investigation, physical examinations, and collection of blood samples.

【行业动态】

Network for AIDS Research (CNAR)

撰稿: 核心 A 夏天

On September 27th, 2004, China CDC brought together representatives from fourteen research institutions for a conference in the Chinese Hall of Science and Technology. The goal of the conference was to set up a collaboration network for AIDS research (CNAR) in China. Dr. Yiming Shao, from China CDC, was the conference facilitator.

At the conference, Dr. Shao explained the ideas behind the Collaboration Network for AIDS

Research. He also put forward the initial protocol of CNAR and introduced its function, tasks, set up, development, management, running mechanism and support systems. Dr. Shao called on the numerous universities and research institutions to take part the work in HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment through their scientific research.

AIDS is the biggest challenge to human beings in the field of public health and the fight against HIV/AIDS is a long-term one. Only

through multi-disciplinary collaboration and the participation of many teams can viable scientific methods for prevention and control be found. A collaboration network will be able to combine forces, share resources, prompt and coordinate domestic universities and institutes to be committed to HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment work, and in this way meet the requirements of large scale HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment work.

The main function of CNAR is information exchange amongst the members, so that they can discover the overlapping parts of their research. CNAR will also facilitate the combining of resources; grant applications to special domestic or overseas funds; and the transition from a research network to a disease control and prevention network. CNAR will also be a platform for nurturing elites in the field of HIV/AIDS and newly emerging infectious diseases research.

CNAR will mainly be concerned with laboratory research. Specific standards will be developed to ensure that only capable laboratories are

enrolled. With the support and coordination of all its members, CNAR will organize an executive committee, a scientific advisory board and a coordination committee to manage its work. In order that CNAR can continue its operations, its members will apply for increased funding for scientific research through multiple approaches. China CDC and CIPRA Core A will provide assistance to CNAR with funding applications, agenda preparation, management, coordination and logistic services, etc. Meanwhile, CNAR will build up a system of quarterly and annual meetings to provide a platform for information exchange between the institutes involved.

At the conference, representatives from the institutes and universities briefly introduced their research background, equipment and conditions, research directions, subjects and results and so on. After the conference, all representatives indicated an interest in CNAR and were willing to support it. They will start the groundwork for the setting up of the network.

【项目进展】

UN Praises China's Role in Combating HIV/AIDS

13 Oct 2004

撰稿: 核心A

UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan on Monday praised China's role in combating HIV/AIDS, saying that the world is counting on China to meet Millennium Development Goals, which include halting and reversing the spread of HIV/AIDS by 2015, Agence France-Presse reports.

Annan warned that even if other countries were to meet the goals, "if China had failed to do those things, there would still be terrible consequences for humanity." Annan also urged students to become involved in the fight against HIV/AIDS. "You should join in the fight and speak about it and let people know and don't be ashamed to talk about it. When it comes to

AIDS, silence is death," he said (Agence France-Presse, 10/11).

Beijing Vending Machines

Beijing plans to install 1,000 condom vending machines in hotels, bars, university campuses and construction sites to help curb the spread of HIV, AFP/Yahoo! News reports.

The machines will dispense condoms -- which are "quality-guaranteed" -- for 12 cents each (AFP/Yahoo! News, 10/9).

The capital city currently has 1,700 condom vending machines -- most of which are out of service or empty -- that will be repaired this month, a city health official said, Reuters reports. Almost 75% of the two billion condoms used in China last year were low quality or unpackaged, according to Reuters (Reuters, 10/9).

The Chinese government in August announced plans to provide condoms at no cost to all HIV-positive people as part of an effort to ensure that at least 50% of all groups at high risk of contracting HIV use condoms by the end of 2005. The Chinese government estimates that 840,000 HIV-positive live people in the country and that 80,000 people have AIDS;

however, some experts believe that those figures are an underestimate. The United Nations estimates that there are about one million HIV-positive people living in China (Kaiser Daily HIV/AIDS Report, 8/3).

Free HIV Tests

The southern Chinese province of Guangdong on Sunday began offering free HIV tests to men who have sex with men to research and fight the spread of HIV among the population, AFP/Yahoo! News reports.

The testing is being organized by the AIDS Prevention and Treatment Institute of the Guangdong Provincial Center as a result of "heightened alarm" over the "rapid rise" of HIV/AIDS cases throughout the country, according to AFP/Yahoo! News (AFP/Yahoo! News, 10/11).

The province also is planning to build a syphilis prevention and treatment center to handle the growing number of patients in the province, which had the highest number of syphilis cases in the country last year, China Daily reports (Qiwen/Caixiong, China Daily, 10/11).

From: <http://www.kaisernetwork.org>

【项目培训】

MedDRA Clinical Research Data Coding System Training completed on November 17th



摄影: 核心 A 朱红

撰稿: 核心 A 盈盈

MedDRA, Med=Medical , D=Dictionary for , R=Regulatory , A=Activities

MedDRA software is a data coding system for use in international standard clinical medical research. It contains universally approved medical terminology for clinical use and which is widely used in the administrative and regulatory bodies at every level as well as in the fields of biology and pharmacy. The terms, which are used for administrative standardization, can be applied in data inputting, data transferring, analyses, evaluations, publications etc.

In order to deal with the lagging technical skills in the field of clinical research domestically, the China CIPRA Program, through US NIH, was the first to introduce the data coding system, MedDRA in China.

On November 15-17, 2004, China CIPRA Program Core B held a MedDRA software training session in the 4th floor meeting room in the China CDC building. Personnel from China CDC Information Center, Xihe Medical University Epidemiology Department, the AIDS Center of Chinese Academy of Medical Science, Fuwei Cardiovascular Hospital, Peking University No.1 Hospital, Wenxi People's Hospital, China CIPRA Program 3, Program 4, Core A, and Core B, and Beijing Boshi Biological Chip Corporation amongst others, participated in the training.

Miss Kathryn Huntley, who was specially invited from US NID to give this training, explained the use of MedDRA in detail. This included terminology standardization, principles of scientific writing, the scope of MedDRA's usefulness and its method of operation, MedDRA's system of classification and organ categorization, preferred terminology, the highest-grade and lowest-grade terminology, MedDRA regulations, MedDRA coding, frequently used terminology, the main SOC distribution, the Special Search Classification(SSC) and medical check ups etc.

This significance of this is that MedDRA will alter the rate of errors arising from manual operations and effectively increase the accuracy, precision, and utilization ratio of the massive amount of research data used domestic clinical research currently.

The widespread study and use of MedDRA will not only save lots of resources and effort, but also provide a very good broad foundation for integrating Chinese medical research into the international field.