Module 4. Introduction to the Stepwise Process for Improving the Quality of HIV Rapid and Recency Testing (SPI-RRT) Checklist and Users’ Guide

Purpose: To become familiar with the SPI-RRT Checklist and Users’ Guide and to understand how to complete the SPI-RRT checklist and submit audit findings.

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| Pre-requisite  Modules | Modules 1 to 3 |
| Module Time | 1 hour |
| Overall Learning Objectives | At the end of this module, you will be able to:   * Be familiar with the Stepwise Process for Improving the Quality of HIV Rapid and Recency Testing (SPI–RRT) checklist and SPI-RRT Users’ Guide * Understand how to use the SPI-RRT checklist * Understand the SPI-RRT report scoring systems * Understand SPI-RRT Summary Page * Understand “What to ask for” and What to Look for” |
| Resources | PowerPoint slides, SPI-RRT checklist, SPI-RRT Users’ Guide |

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| **Slide #** | **Title** | **Teaching Points** |
| 1 | Stepwise Process for Improving the Quality of HIV Rapid Testing | DISPLAY this slide before you begin the activities for this module. Make sure participants are aware of the transition into a new module and activities related to the SPI-RRT checklist and SPI-RRT Users’ Guide |
| 2 | Content Overview | **Content overview**  EXPLAIN that the SPI-RRT Checklist and User Guide will be introduced in this module and direct participants to where each is in the training manual  EXPLAIN the purpose of the SPI-RRT Checklist and User Guide to provide guidance for QA and Quality Improvement at HIV testing sites |
| 3 | SPI-RRT Checklist | DIRECT participants to the SPI-RRT Checklist in training manual |
| 4 | Standard Audit Checklist for Quality Improvement | EXPLAIN the checklist was first introduced as SPI-RT thru the RTCQI initiative. SPI-RT is one of the key pillars of RTCQI to monitor quality compliance and certify HIV rapid testing sites. A checklist was developed that focused on those resource limited setting where HIV rapid testing was happening since it was important to ensure that the client gets the right result. |
| 5 | SPI-RRT Checklist | EXPLAIN that after SPI-RT was developed and rolled out during our implementation of RTCQI it was accepted by WHO in 2015 and included in their quality handbook, Improving the Quality of HIV related point-of-care-testing.   * Approved by WHO to evaluate a site against quality standards required for improvement * Guidance QA practices for HIV RT/RTRI testing sites * One of the key pillars of RTCQI for certification of HIV rapid and recency test sites * Acts as a guide for development of policies and procedures to address gaps identified at the site   In 2019 there was an opportunity to revise the handbook based on lessons learned from RTCQI implementation and include quality measure for the rapid test for recent infection,  EXPLAIN the 8 sections of the SPI-RRT checklist |
| 6 | SPI-RRT Section Standards | State content on slide |
| 7 | SPI-RRT Checklist Part A | DIRECT participants to Part A the SPI-RT Checklist EXPLAIN this section is to gather information on the demographics of the HIV Testing site/point  EXPLAIN that at the bottom certain testing data elements are being collected. Describe the data elements on the slide. Use this data to monitor data quality  EXPAIN that for each program (e.g., HTS, PMTC, etc.) with HTS services at a site will need an SPI-RT Checklist to be completed |
| 8 | Organization of the SPI-RT checklist: Part B | EXPLAIN that the SPI-RRT Checklist contains 8 main sections (a total of 75 questions) for a total of 75 points. Responses to all questions must be, “yes”, “partial”, or “no”.   * Items marked “yes” receive the point value (1 point each)- when all elements are satisfactorily present. * Items marked “partial” receive 0.5 points- some but not all elements are present, inconsistent implementation or non-adherence to procedures. * Items marked “no” receive 0 points – no elements present.   When marking “partial” or “no”, notes should be written in the comments field to explain why the RT site did not fulfill this item to assist the site with addressing these areas of identified need following the audit. |
| 9 | Organization of the SPI-RT checklist: Part C | EXPLAIN how to score results of SPI-RT checklist  EXPLAIN score will put HIV RT site into different levels depending on % score  DISCUSS that the percent score obtained by the audited testing point will correspond to a specific performance level  This checklist consists of five different levels to indicate status toward national certification.  What do these scores really mean and how do you translate them to actionable measures for CQI?  EXPLAIN that scoring system indicates the sites readiness for certification to perform HIV Rapid Testing.  EMPHASIZE the purpose of the SPI-RRT audit to guide sites for HIV RT/RTRI QA. Scores will help sites to set goals for quality improvement |
| 10 | Organization of the SPI-RT checklist: Part D | EXPLAIN the Summary Sheet and its purpose  EXPLAIN who get Summary Sheets  EXPLAIN how to calculate the Duration of the Audit |
| 11 | Organization of the SPI-RT checklist: Part D | STATE the points on the slide.  USE scenario- Corresponds to question 5.3 and 5.4.  Section no. 5.3 and 5.4  Deficiency- Tester not using the correct specimen collection device for Determine rapid test.  Auditors’ comments – stock out issue of capillary tubes. Corrective action – immediate.  Recommendation action – onsite refresher training,  Timeline person responsible- auditor and person in-charge to observe testing for a period of time to ensure tester understood procedure and following it correctly, ensure that there is a system in place to forecast the amt of capillary tubes needed and when to order to prevent future stock outs. |
| 12 | Section Header - SPI-RRT Users Guide | DIRECT participants to the SPI-RRT Users’ Guide in the training manual  EXPLAIN what is in each section of the SPI-RT Users’ Guide |
| 13 | SPI-RRT User Guide | EXPLAIN that for each section of the SPI-RRT checklist the standards are included in the top line.  HAVE participant review the standards at their own time to understand what is expected from the HIV RT site for quality assurance and quality improvement |
| 14 | Section 1.0 Personnel Training and Certification | ASK the participants “What to ask for” and What to Look for” in terms of training and certification |
| 15 | Section 2.0 Physical Facility | ASK the participants “What to ask for” and What to Look for” based on the pictures representing section 2.0 |
| 16 | Section 3.0 Safety | ASK the participants “What to ask for” and What to Look for” based on the pictures representing section 3.0 |
| 17 | Section 4.0 Pre-Testing Phase | ASK the participants “What to ask for” and What to Look for” based on the pictures representing section 4.0 |
| 18 | Section 5.0 Testing Phase | ASK the participants “What to ask for” and What to Look for” based on the pictures representing section 5.0 |
| 19 | Section 6.0 Documents and Records | ASK the participants “What to ask for” and What to Look for” based on the pictures representing section 6.0 |
| 20 | Section 7.0 External Quality Assessment | ASK the participants “What to ask for” and What to Look for” in terms of PT and site supervisions |
| 21 | Section 8.0 HIV-1 Recent Infection Surveillance | ASK the participants “What to ask for” and What to Look for” based on the pictures representing section 8.0 |
| 22 | Identify Areas for Monitoring for Recency | DESCRIBE the different areas for recency monitoring based on the slide |
| 23 | Site Audit Practical | DESCRIBE the site audit process as depicted in the slide |
| 24 | Implementing Corrective Actions | State the points on the slide |
| 25 | Take home messages | STATE the key messages on the slide. |
| 26 | Section Header | Data Management |
| 27 | SPI-RT/SPI-RRT Audit Tools | EXPLAIN that the SPI-RT/SPI-RRT paper-based checklist was transferred to a tablet application called ODK collect. ODK collect can be used by the auditors to conduct the SPI-RRT audit and the data would be uploaded to a web-based dashboard. |
| 28 | Section Header | Certifying Testing Sites Through a Stepwise Process – Implementation Considerations |
| 29 | Overview of National HIV Certification Program | EXPLAIN that there are two arms to the national HIV certification Program. One focuses on the certification of testers using competency assessment tools and the other focuses on site certification using the SPI-RRT checklist (paper-based or tablet ODK collect). |
| 30 | Road Map | STATE the points on the slide. |
| 31 | Role of POCT Site Certification Stakeholders | STATE the points on the slide. |
| 32 | Frequency of Monitoring | STATE the points on the slide. |
| 33 | Auditors and Audit Number by Country | STATE the points on the slide. |
| 34 | Review | EMPHASIZE the SPI-RRT checklist and ask participants to review:   * What is the purpose of SPI-RRT auditing? * What are the key elements of the SPI-RRT? * What are “What to ask for” and What to Look for”? * Name two elements of the SPI-RRT audit process? * What are the roles and responsibilities of the certification body? * What is the frequency of monitoring if a site achieves level 2 in the certification process?ANSWER any questions participants may have. |