



**DEFENSE INSTITUTE FOR
MEDICAL OPERATIONS (DIMO)**



**“Leadership Course in HIV/AIDS
Program Development”
Expanded IMET (E-IMET) Mobile Education Team (MET)
MASL D309040**

Background: The purpose of this MET is to develop national strategy for HIV program design and management with special attention to the unique role of the military in national HIV programs. This course is designed as a comprehensive end-to-end product, with content focusing on national HIV strategy development. Exercises are designed to allow participants to integrate curriculum material into the context of the unique epidemiologic and cultural constraints of their nation. Each day of the course begins with a focused pertinent, understandable lecture in a scientific topic regarding HIV/AIDS, then works through program and clinical areas and ends in a problem-solving exercise. The course is developed and taught by a team of infectious disease specialists who have won several awards in medical education and are currently active in clinical care as well as military program development in HIV/AIDS.

Program Scope: From the vantage point of program development in HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and sexually transmitted diseases, the focus drills down to specific problems in the design and implementation of HIV prevention strategies, institution of anti-retroviral therapy programs, and HIV/AIDS healthcare delivery in resource-constrained environs. Other exercises allow the program participants to work together in small groups to integrate the course material and address specific objectives, such as HIV prevention program development, identifying target populations for best use of screening programs, and strategies for HIV prevention programs in military peacekeeper populations. These objective-based preceptor-led small group exercises work to bring together those involved in program development and execution to solve HIV/AIDS associated problems. The program uses a vertically integrated approach stretching from macro to micro, which allows policy makers and healthcare workers to both see the full-length spectrum of the problem from the granular approach of antiretroviral therapy and efficacy up through the public health objectives served in setting up HIV prevention and treatment programs. Ethical issues in the HIV epidemic are discussed, including protection of privacy, stigma and the silence surrounding the outbreak, and protection of individual rights in scientific research. The objective is to allow individuals to gain expertise both in their own specific areas of engagement and to better understand the context of national HIV response in which their effort plays a role.

Course Duration: Five days, **Class Size:** Maximum class size is 70, classroom setting; **How offered:** The program is conducted in the host country as a Mobile Education Team; **Estimated Cost:** \$30,000-\$60,000 (based on class size and # of instructors)

Intended International Audience: The target audience includes; national leadership and leaders in development of healthcare policy, experts in public health--particularly with regard to HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and sexually transmitted diseases, and physicians and nurses doing clinical work in these areas. HIV/AIDS advocacy groups would be welcome, as would military officers involved with mitigating the affect of HIV on their national fighting force or military personnel involved with peacekeeping forces.

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