

PRO-Act Workshop: Supporting PRO implementation in Portuguese HIV care

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Introduction

Patient-Reported Outcomes (PROs)

 Well-implemented PROs can add value to routine HIV care by facilitating improved patient-centered care:



Objectives

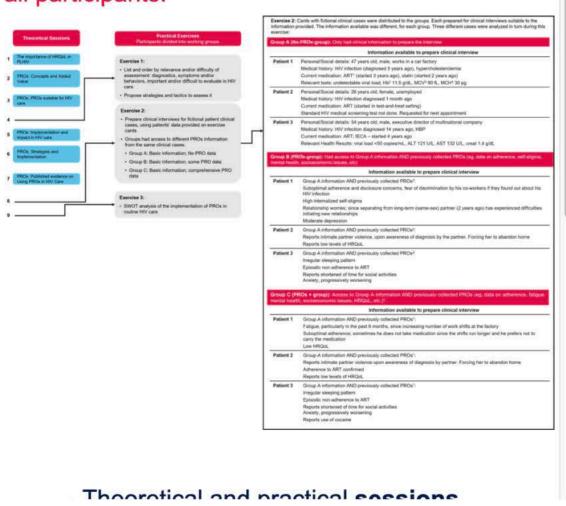
- PROs are not commonly integrated in routine Portuguese HIV care, mainly due to the absence of guidance on implementation and standardization [7,8].
- The «PRO-Act» project aims to raise awareness on the added value of PROs integration in routine HIV care and provide a replicable framework to boost PRO implementation. The first activity was a master-workshop, in which Portuguese HCPs (physicians, nurses, pharmacists) were informed on



Methods

 The workshop consisted of six brief theoretical presentations combined with three interactive practical exercises (see Figure 1).

Figure 1. PRO-Act Workshop agenda: Brief theoretical presentations, combined with interactive practical cases with the intervention of all participants.



Results

- Participants identified several common themes relating to assessment challenges where PROs can provide valuable insights.
- Following the practical sessions, participants acknowledged the value of PROs in clinical interview preparation.



Conclusions

- All participants considered the contents of the workshop pertinent or very pertinent and 90% considered the information shared to be impactful or very impactful, for clinical practice, highlighting the workshop's real-world impact.
- Participants suggested the inclusion of practical exercises using PRO scales/tools would be valuable.

















Introduction

Patient-Reported Outcomes (PROs)

- Well-implemented PROs can add value to routine HIV care by facilitating improved patient-centered care:
- PROs can:
 - Provide the patient's perspective on the effect of HIV and its treatment [1].
 - Promote the prioritization of the discussion topics in the medical appointment, thus helping to align the healthcare providers' expectations with what matters most to the patient.

PROs in Modern HIV Care

 Significant improvements in HIV medication now mean that people living with HIV (PLHIV) have a life expectancy similar to those without HIV, but compared to the general population, PLHIV have lower HRQoL [2,3].

Introduction

PROs in Modern HIV Care

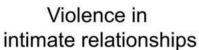
- Significant improvements in HIV medication now mean that people living with HIV (PLHIV) have a life expectancy similar to those without HIV, but compared to the general population, PLHIV have lower HRQoL [2,3].
- PLHIV experience higher rates of [2,4,5]:













Stigma, discrimination, psychosocial issues



Challenges in communication and shared decision-making with their healthcare professionals (HCPs)

Introduction

PLHIV experience higher rates of [2,4,5]:













- Many of these aspects are not directly observable and often are undisclosed to HCPs.
- An effective way to assess PLHIV's needs is to collect PROs in routine HIV care [6].

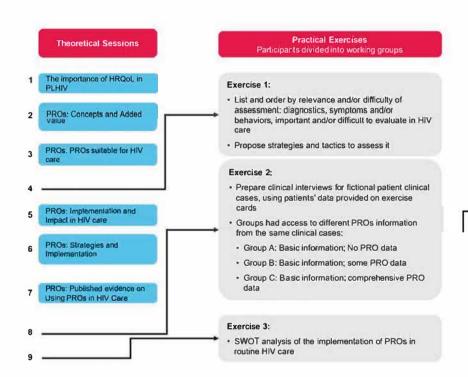
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- PROs are not commonly integrated in routine
 Portuguese HIV care, mainly due to the absence of guidance on implementation and standardization [7,8].
- The «PRO-Act» project aims to raise awareness on the added value of PROs integration in routine HIV care and provide a replicable framework to boost PRO implementation. The first activity was a master-workshop, in which Portuguese HCPs (physicians, nurses, pharmacists) were informed on the relevance of PROs, available resources, and means of implementation in routine clinical HIV care.

Methods

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xercise:	rovided. The information available was different, for each group. Three different cases were analyzed in tum during th
	p-PROs-group): Only had clinical information to prepare the interview
	Information available to prepare clinical interview
Patient 1	Personal/Social details: 47 years old, male, works in a car factory
	Medical history: HIV infection (diagnosed 5 years ago), hypercholesterolemia
	Current medication: ART1 (started 3 years ago), statin (started 2 years ago)
	Relevant tests: undetectable viral load, Hb ² 11.5 g/dL, MCV ³ 90 fL, MCH ⁴ 30 pg
Patient 2	Personal/Social details: 26 years old, female, unemployed
	Medical history: HIV infection diagnosed 1 month ago
	Current medication: ART (started in test-and-treat setting)
	Standard HIV medical screening test not done. Requested for next appointment
Patient 3	Personal/Social details: 54 years old, male, executive director of multinational company
ducing	Medical history: HIV infection diagnosed 14 years ago, HBP
	Current medication: ART; IECA – started 4 years ago
	Relevant Health Results: viral load <50 copies/mL, ALT 121 U/L, AST 132 U/L, creat 1.4 g/dL
	(Os-group): Had access to Group A information AND previously collected PROs (eg. data on adherence-self-stigma, I socioeconomic issues-etc)
	Information available to prepare clinical interview
Patient 1	Group A information AND previously collected PROs ² :
	Suboptimal adherence and disclosure concerns, fear of discrimination by his co-workers if they found out about his HIV infection
	High internalized self-stigma
	Relationship worries; since separating from long-term (same-sex) partner (2 years ago) has experienced difficulties
	initiating new relationships
	Moderate depression
Patient 2	Group A information AND previously collected PROs ² :
	Reports intimate partner violence, upon awareness of diagnosis by the partner. Forcing her to abandon home
	Reports low levels of HRQoL
Patient 3	Group A information AND previously collected PROs2:
	Irregular sleeping pattern
	Episodic non-adherence to ART
	Reports shortened of time for social activities Anxiety, progressively worsening
	Annety, progressively worsening
	R Os + group): Access to Group A information AND previously collected PROs (eg. data on adherence, fatigu h, socioeconomic issues, HRQoL, etc.) ²
	Information available to prepare clinical interview
Patient 1	Group A information AND previously collected PROs ¹ :
	Fatigue, particularly in the past 6 months, since increasing number of work shifts at the factory
	Suboptimal adherence; sometimes he does not take medication since the shifts run longer and he prefers not to
	carry the medication
	Low HRQoL
Patient 2	Group A infonnation AND previously collected PROs1:
	Reports intimate partner violence upon awareness of diagnosis by partner. Forcing her to abandon home
	Adherence to ART confirmed
	Reports low levels of HRQoL
Patient 3	Group A information AND previously collected PROs¹:
	Irregular sleeping pattern

Methods

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- Theoretical and practical sessions provided an overview of PROs and their added value in HIV care from implementation studies.
- The groups sequentially presented their thinking on clinical interviews based upon their increasing availability of data.
- Practical exercises using PLHIV examples with both the presence and absence of previously collected PROs showed the impact of successfully addressing patient-specific issues and how to conduct clinical interviews more efficiently.

- Participants identified several common themes relating to assessment challenges where PROs can provide valuable insights.
- Following the practical sessions, participants acknowledged the value of PROs in clinical interview preparation.
- The PROs-groups would be much more likely to successfully address important patient-specific issues than the non-PROs-group.

Table 1. Results from exercise 1

Exercise 1

Aspects of HIV Considered of greatest relevance in Deemed as most difficult to assess in Potential strategies to overcome assessment challenges in Clinical Practice, proposed by participants Clinical Practice, by participants HIV Clinical Practice, by the participants · Neuropsychiatric symptoms Neuropsychiatric symptoms Anonymous questionnaires · Socioeconomic conditions · Sexual risk behavior Strategy adaptation to individual cultural context and literacy level · Patient-HCP communication Addictive behaviors (alcohol, drugs) Multidisciplinary teams · Depression · Changes in memory Promotion of simultaneous direct contact with HCPs from different medical specialties · Alcohol consumption Substance abuse (drugs) Collaboration with community-based non-governmental organizations Self-stigma Stigma (NGOs) · Neurocognitive changes (memory, sleep · Adherence to therapy Communication improvement between patients, physicians, nurse, · Domestic/Work violence, discrimination NGOs, and healthcare administrators · Sexuality (maternity, breastfeeding, Improvement of patients and general population (eg, in schools) health contraception, relationships) literacy · Substance abuse · Better communication skills of HCPs: focusing on sensitivity and Adherence to therapy Training HCPs to correctly interpret and act accordingly to PROs' findings

Table 2. Results from exercise 2

Exercise 2

Groups effectively identified several issues relevant to clinical practice.

The no-PRO-group was unable to identify important issues that are difficult to observe, for example, the need for social support and the presence of depression in clinical case #1

Table 3. Results from exercise 3

Exercise 3

Participants' Analysis of the implementation of PROs in routine HIV care in Portugal

Strengths

- · Improved communication between patients and HCPs
- · Enhanced problem identification
- Time optimization
- Creation of interdisciplinary channels
- · Increased HIV care team motivation
- · Improved patient satisfaction
- Autonomy to develop local PRO pilot projects

Challenges

- · Difficulty in connecting already existing patient information to new PRO data
- Logistical issues for the patients to fill out the questionnaires (ie, who would oversee and explain, how to get the information to HCPs)

Opportunities

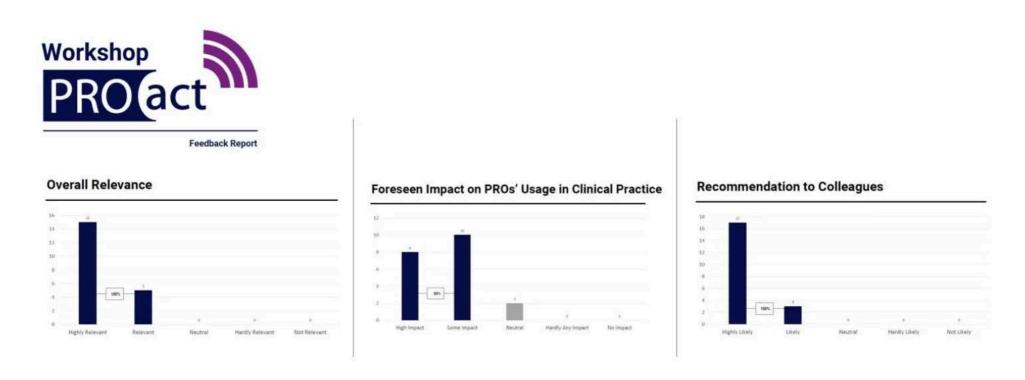
- Even the smallest action would add value (compared to the absolute lack of PROs)
- · Useful availability of this new kind of data for lobbying activities

Threats

- Lack of quick and useful reactions (ie, concrete actions by HCPs) considering the pre-workshop situation
- · Lack of community-based responses
- Following the workshop, the participants were asked to (optionally and anonymously) share their input:
- Overall workshop relevance 20 participants (100%) found it relevant or very relevant
- Workshop's foreseen impact of PRO usage in clinical

- Workshop's foreseen impact of PRO usage in clinical practice - 2 participants found it to be neutral and 18 participants (90%) found it to have some or high impact.
- Likelihood of recommending the workshop to other colleagues: 20 participants (100%) found it likely or highly likely
- Positive highlights mentioned by participants:
 - Addressing innovative approaches in HIV patient management;
 - Singular forum to collectively think about new strategies amongst peers;
 - Opportunity to share heterogenous regional/local experiences, in small groups;
 - Content and quality of practical exercises implemented;
 - Workshop structure and facilitation methods implemented:

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- Quality of speakers/presentations and speakers' interaction;
- Impact on clinical practice of operational strategies addressed;
- Usefulness and 'real impact' on everyday clinical practice with HIV patients.



 Participants' suggestions to inform and/or improve subsequent events:

subsequent events:

- Presenting real-word evidence from studies including PROs;
- Presenting operational details regarding some PRO tools;
- Implementing further exercises addressing real-world usage of selected PRO tools;
- Sharing real-world strategies and results of PRO implementation in Portugal;
- Addressing Portuguese model-examples of PRO integration in clinical practice;
- Tackling team work (physicians/nurses) strategies in PRO implementation;
- Promoting further sharing moments amongst experts working in heterogenous contexts;
- Ensuring the consistent establishment of similar workshops.

Conclusions

- All participants considered the contents of the workshop pertinent or very pertinent and 90% considered the information shared to be impactful or very impactful, for clinical practice, highlighting the workshop's real-world impact.
- Participants suggested the inclusion of practical exercises using PRO scales/tools would be valuable.
- Participants experienced the importance of collecting PROs to help structure clinical appointments and to prioritize specific and personal issues of PLHIV.
- This workshop highlighted the value of structured and routine PRO collection, to support holistic and individualized care, a paramount pillar in patientcentered care in HIV – a strategy in which PROs play a key role.
- Our methods and strategy demonstrated to HCPs how PROs go beyond clinical data, helping to fully and multidimensionally understand and act on PLHIV's

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- This workshop highlighted the value of structured and routine PRO collection, to support holistic and individualized care, a paramount pillar in patientcentered care in HIV — a strategy in which PROs play a key role.
- Our methods and strategy demonstrated to HCPs how PROs go beyond clinical data, helping to fully and multidimensionally understand and act on PLHIV's needs, resulting in better health outcomes and better HRQoL in HIV care.

References:

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