

Drug Treatment in Myanmar

5th June, 2019 Naypyitaw Nanda Myo Aung Wan
Drug Treatment and Research Unit
Ministry of Health and Sports

outline

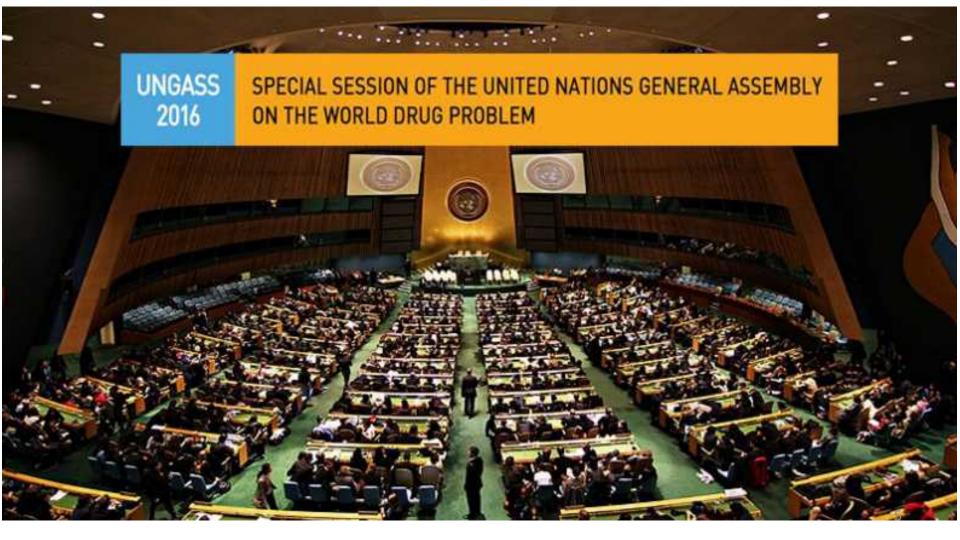
- Background
- Major and minor drug treatment centers
- Current methadone program
- Research findings on Methadone Maintenance Therapy
- Challenges and way forward

Myanmar double burden of Heroin and Amphetamine

- Long history of Heroin use and emerging of amphetamine use
- Poppy cultivation and ATS production
- 1 in 3 People who Inject Drug (PWID) is living with HIV (48 times higher than the prevalence in the general population)
- 10 new HIV infections in the country, nearly 3 occur among People Who Inject Drug
- Integrated Biological and Behavioral Surveillance (IBBS) 2017-18 estimated 93,000 PWID

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

- Drug use global problem
- SDG 3 "Ensure healthy lives and promote well being for all at all ages"
- Goal 3.5 "Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol"
- Indicator 3.5.1 "Coverage of treatment interventions for substance use disorders"





OUTCOME DOCUMENT OF THE 2016 UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY SPECIAL SESSION ON THE WORLD DRUG PROBLEM

OUR JOINT COMMITMENT TO EFFECTIVELY ADDRESSING
AND COUNTERING THE WORLD DRUG PROBLEM

UNGASS 2016

SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON THE WORLD DRUG PROBLEM

Thirtieth Special Session General Assembly New York, 19-21 April 2016

UNGASS 2016

- ✓ Recognize drug dependence as a complex, multifactorial health disorder characterized by a chronic and relapsing nature
- ✓ Encourage the **voluntary participation** in treatment with informed consent
- ✓ Prevent social marginalization and promote non-stigmatizing attitudes
- ✓ Encourage drug users to seek treatment and care and facilitate access to treatment
- ✓ Expand capacity of drug treatment

Major and Minor Drug Treatment Centers

Opening Year	# Major DTC	# Minor DTC
1975	6	22
2002	20	18
2014		7
2019	3	9
Total	29	56

မူးယစ်ဆေးစွဲရောဂါကုသရေးဌာနများ

တိုင်းဒေသကြီး	ဌာနကြီး	ဌာနငယ်
ရန်ကုန်	ရန်ကုန်	
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ပဲခူး	ပဲခူး၊ပြည်၊တောင်ငူ	သာယာဝတီ
မကွေး	မကွေး၊ပခုက္ကူ	
တနသာရီ	မြိတ်၊ထားဝယ်	ကော့သောင်း

မူးယစ်ဆေးစွဲရောဂါကုသရေးဌာနများ

ဌာနကြီး	ဌာနငယ်
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ဘားအံ	မြဝတီ
ဟားခါး	
မော်လမြိုင်	
စစ်တွေ	
လားရှိုး	ကျောက်မဲ၊ကွတ်ခိုင်၊မူဆယ်၊နမ့်ခမ်း၊မိုးမိတ်၊နမ့်ဆန်၊ မ <mark>န်တုံ၊မုံးကိုး၊ကွန်လုံ၊ပန်ဆိုင်း၊လောက်ကိုင</mark> ်
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မူးယစ်ဆေးစွဲရောဂါကုသရေးဌာန အသစ်များ ၂ဝ၁၉

တိုင်းဒေသကြီး	ဌာနကြီး	ဌာနငယ်
ရန်ကုန်	သဃန်းကျွန်းဆေးရုံ	
မွန္တလေး	မန္တလေး၊ ကုတင်၃ဝဝ သင်ကြားရေးဆေးရုံ	
စစ်ကိုင်း		ဖေါင်းပြင်
ဧရာဝတီ	မအူပင်	
ကချင်		မန်စီ၊ ရွှေကူ၊ချီဖွေ
ရှမ်း မြောက်		သီပေါ၊ နမတူ၊တန့်ယန်း၊နောင်ချို၊သိန္နီ

- Major drug treatment centers are attach to the Mental Health Hospitals and General Hospitals – except Myitkyina
- Major Specialist, in patient (at least 10 beds), methadone treatment in 7 major DTCs
- Minor out patient, methadone treatment in 34 minor DTCs

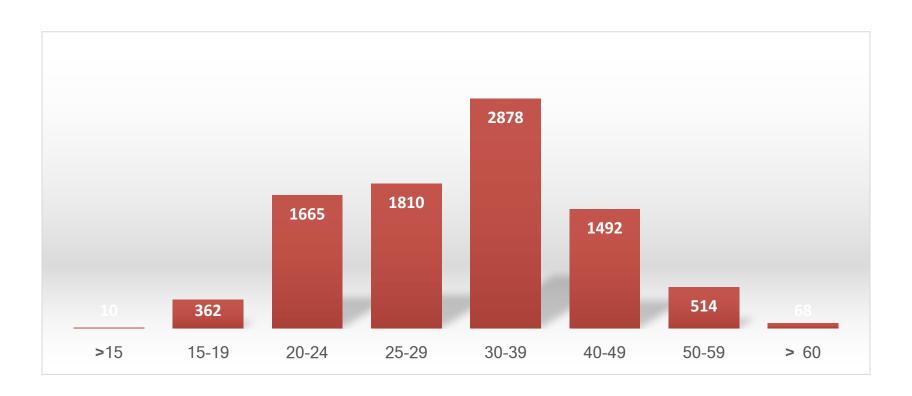
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စဉ်	သုံးစွဲသည့်မူးယစ်ဆေးအမျိုးအစား	လူနာဦးရေ
	ဘိန်းဖြူ	၆၀၇၁၆
ال	ဘိန်းမဲ	५०२९९
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911	စိတ်ငြိမ်ဆေး	၃၀၆
၅။	ဆေးခြောက်	ඉ ე
GII	အရြား	၅၄၆၂

၂၀၁၈ ခုနစ် လူနာ အသစ်၊ အဟောင်း အရေအတွက်

ပြည်နယ် / တိုင်းဒေသကြီး	လူနာအသစ်ဦးရေ	လူနာအဟောင်းဦးရေ	စုစုပေါင်း
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စစ်ကိုင်း	၂၁၀၇	J9	၂၁၃၁
မန္တလေး	29@	၉၇၃	99JJ
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တနင်္သာရီ	၁၃၇	9	၁ 90
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ကရင်	၃၅၀	290	9 60
မရ မရ	J99	၁၈၆	၄၃၁
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၂၀၁၈ လူနာ အသစ် အသက်အပိုင်းအခြား



၂၀၁၈ လူနာ အသစ် သုံးစွဲသည့်မူးယစ်ဆေးအမျိုးအစား

အမျိုးအစား	ရန်ကုန်	မန္တလေး	စစ်ကိုင်း	ကချင်	ရှမ်း (အရှေ့)	ရှမ်း (တောင်)	ရှမ်း (မြောက်)	ပဲခူး	မွန်	ကရင်	တနင်္သာရီ	စုစုပေါင်း	ရာခိုင်နှန်း
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မျို / စား	၃၁	၃၁	J9	၆၂	J၅	9	၁၃	ງ	၁၇	0	ე9	၂၆၄	2. 00
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METHADONE MAINTENANCE THERAPY

WHO 2016 Recommendations for MMT

- All individuals who are dependent on opioids should be offered MMT
 - Policies should encourage flexible dosing schedules, including level and duration
 - HIV, TB and HBV/HCV treatment should be administered simultaneously with OST
 - OST facilities should also initiate and maintain ART on-site





WHO 2016 Recommendations for MMT

- For people dependent on opioids, MMT is highly effective in improving health outcomes and reducing criminal activities
 - Reduces injecting behaviors that put opioid-dependent people at risk for HIV
 - Improves retention in HIV treatment
- MMT should be provided free of charge or covered by public health-care insurance
- Should be accessible to all those in need, including those in prison and other closed settings
- MMT should not be compulsory; patients must give informed consent for treatment

WHO HIV Consolidated Guidelines for KP 2016

UNDP, WHO and UNAIDS 2012: Guidance for Setting OST Targets

- How many PWID should be place on OST?
 - -For effective HIV prevention, 400 per 1000 PWID (40%)
 - –Programs should target about 40%





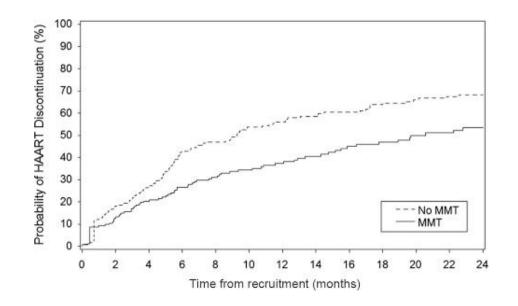
Evidence: MMT decreases injection behavior

	Substitu	ıtion	No substi	tution	Risk Ratio	Risk Ratio
Study or Subgroup	Events	Total	Events	Total	M-H, Random, 95% CI	M-H, Random, 95% CI
Dolan 2003	44	129	93	124	0.45 [0.35, 0.59]	
Mark 2006	90	120	292	326	0.84 [0.75, 0.93]	+
Meandzija 1994	63	107	290	317	0.64 [0.55, 0.76]	
Metzger 1993	125	152	97	103	0.87 [0.80, 0.95]	+
Thiede 2000	89	226	238	292	0.48 [0.41, 0.57]	
					F	0.5 0.7 1 1.5 2 avours substitution Favours control

- Compares injection drug use among cohorts in and out of MMT
- Risk of injecting 13-55% less among those in MMT

For PWID on ART treatment, MMT increases HIV treatment adherence

- Non-engagement in MMT is associated with HIV treatment discontinuation among HIV-positive drug users
- Those on MMT are at 0.58 times the risk of HIV treatment discontinuation as those not on MAT (p<0.001)



Methadone Maintenance Therapy

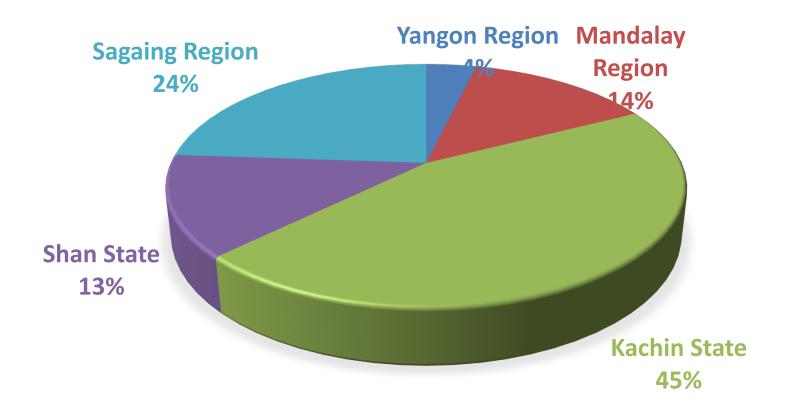
- Started at 3 Major Drug Treatment Centers in 2006 with technical assistant by WHO
- Currently 55 methadone clinics and 16,348 taking MMT
- Total cumulative number who received MMT 39,006
- Scaling up 16 methadone clinics in 2019

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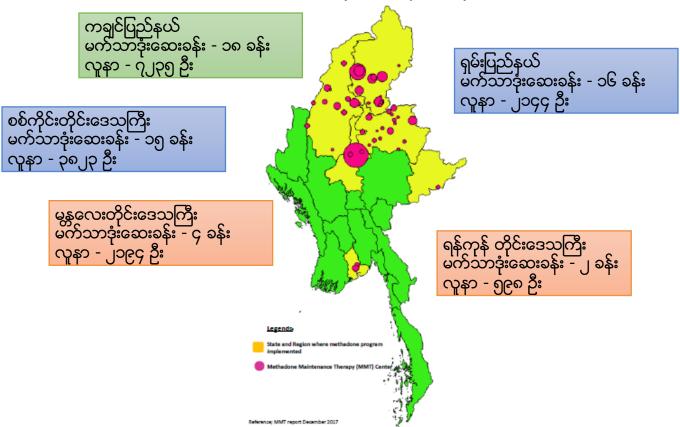
NSP III Targets on MMT program

	2018	2019	2020
MMT(current whole country Myanmar)	23316	27658	32000
MMT Achievement	15994		

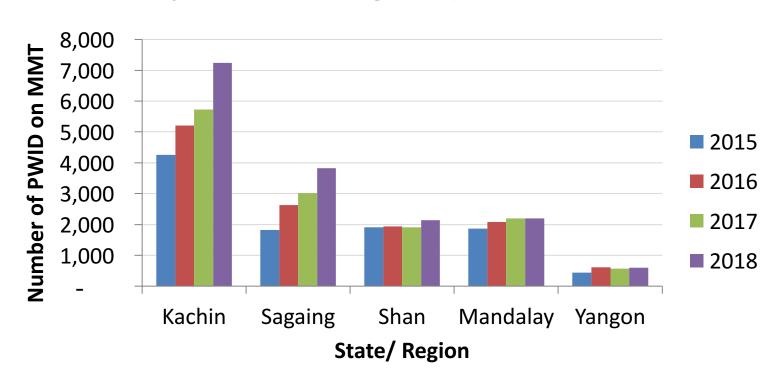
Methadone clients in State and Region



Methadone centers and density of Methadone patients in Myanmar 2017



PWID on Methadone Maintenance Therapy by States and Regions (2015-2018)



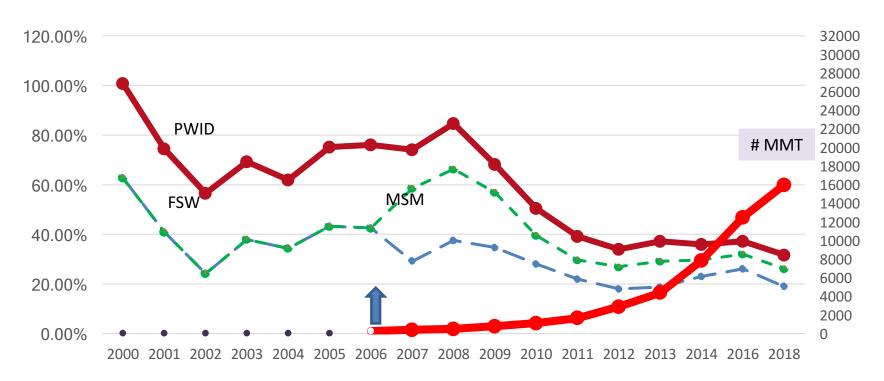
Source: MMT **Programme**

Methadone Coverage Subnational 2018

	Number of Methadone Clinic	Number of current methadone client	Number of new methadone client	PWID Population size estimate	MMT coverage	6 month retention rate	HIV positive	HIV tested
Yangon Region	2	598	145	2848	21%	63%	74	397
Mandalay Region	4	2194	422	10095	21.73%	72%	15	339
Kachin State	18	7235	3129	21827	33.15%	67%	568	1858
Shan State	16	2144	919	30288	7.08%	59%	89	773
Sagaing Region	15	3823	1757	19064	20.05%	64%	277	1760 29

RESULT

Trends of HIV prevalence among most at risk population, HSS 2000-2018 and Clients on Methadone 2006-2018



Procurement of Methadone (2011-2019)

Year	Number of bottle	Unit price USD	Year wise total USD	Funding
2011	5,718	32.00	182,976	Global Fund
2012	5,816	30.20	175,643	Global Fund
2013	10,575	30.20	319,365	Global Fund
2014	21,811	30.20	658,692	Global Fund
2015	25,585	23.60	603,806	Global Fund
2015	9,125	23.60	215,350	MOHS
2016	37,510	20.50	768,955	Global Fund
	22,400	20.50	459,200	MOHS
2017	54,200	17	921,400	MOHS
2018	32,200	16	515,200	Global Fund
2019	41,349	16	661,584	Global Fund

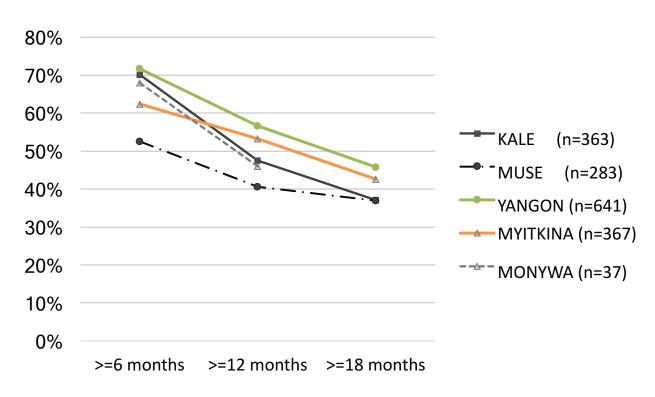
RESEARCH

1. EFFECTIVENESS OF METHADONE MAINTENANCE THERAPY IN MYANMAR (2018)

DDTRU & WHO

MMT treatment outcomes:

Client retention in methadone treatment



Note: All clients who had completed 6 months on MMT or more were included in this analysis. Those clients transferred out were excluded. Retention for >= 18 months or more not shown for Monywa due to small sample.

Predictors of retention in MMT

The single most consistent predictor of retention in MMT in all sites was "receiving a methadone maintenance dose equal or above 60mg/day".

- Daily methadone maintenance dose ≥ 60mg was a predictor of 6 to 12 months <u>and</u> more than 12 months retention in Kale, Muse, Yangon and Myitkyina;
- Demographic factors predicting MMT retention were being 30 years or older in Kale and Myitkyina, and being married in Muse;
- The sample in Monywa (n=37) did not allow for multivariable analyses.

Factors determining MMT retention

Variables	>= 6 MMT < 12 months (reference: MMT discontinued)	MMT >= 12 months or complete (reference: MMT discontinued)
30 years or older (ref: < 30 years)	Kale: OR= 2.4 (95%CI:1.2-5.1)* Myitkina: OR= 1.1 (95%CI: 1.0-1.2)	Kale: OR= 2.1 (95%CI: 1.1-3.9)* Myitkina: OR= 1.1 (95%CI: 1.0-1.2)
Being married (ref: single)	Muse: OR= 3.3 (95%CI:1.2-9.1)*	
Methadone dose ≥ 60mg/day (ref. < 60 mg/day)	Kale: OR= 3.9 (95%CI: 1.8-8.4)* Muse: OR= 2.8 (95%CI: 1.1-7.8)* Yangon: OR= 7.5 (95%CI: 4.1-14)* Myitkina: OR= 2.8 (95%CI: 1.1-7.2)	Kale: OR= 5.6 (95%CI: 2.8-11.2)* Muse: OR= 4.3 (95%CI: 1.8-10.5)* Yangon: OR= 9.0 (95%CI: 5.3-15.0)* Myitkina: OR= 6.0 (95%CI: 1.9-18.5)
Heroin (ref. opium)	Non-significant	Non-significant
Injection (ref. non-injection)	Non-significant	Non-significant
More than daily use (ref. less than daily)	Non-significant	Non-significant

Note: CI= Confidence Interval. *Regression coefficient p-value ≤0.05. Multivariable multinomial regression models adjusted for variables significant at p<0.200 in univariate analysis. Variables adjusted for were age, drug type, frequency of use, administration route, MMT dose and HIV testing in Kale (n=363); age, marital status, treatment option and MMT dose in Muse (n=283); age, methadone maintenance dose, HIV test and HBV vaccination in Yangon (n=641) and age methadone maintenance dose, shared needles and syringes and duration of drug use in Myitkina (n=367). Univariate analyses only were done for Monywa due to the small sample (n=37). The reference group is those who discontinued MMT.

Discussion

- Adapt MMT services to client characteristics in each site (eg. young MMT clients); role of functional support (for MMT clients who are single).
- Good retention in MMT at maintenance dose ≥ 60mg/day; Explore reasons for low doses and solutions to deliver them.
- MMT constitutes a good <u>entry point for drug users</u> to access prevention and treatment for HIV and hepatitis B and hepatitis C.
- Expand availability of HIV, hepatitis B and C testing services and <u>test kits</u> in MMT sites;
- Ways of <u>reflecting referrals in one-stop sites</u> to track progress?
- Challenge of measuring <u>change in drug use and risk behaviours</u> over time; follow-up data could be collected at 3/6 months.

2. HARM REDUCTION SERVICE AVAILABILITY AND LINKAGE FOR PWIDS AMONG PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDERS (2018)

- IR project ID 46
- Funded by Ministry of Health and Sports
- Date of receiving grant 1 September 2017
- Estimated date for final reporting 31 March 2018

Findings

- using different identification client codes
- lack of full time medical officer in methadone clinic
- take home methadone practice need to follow the guideline
- client assessment and urine analysis not regular basic
- dropout/defaulter tracing could not be done
- Misperceptions of community toward MMT, harm reduction services, particularly needle syringe program

RECOMMENDATIONS

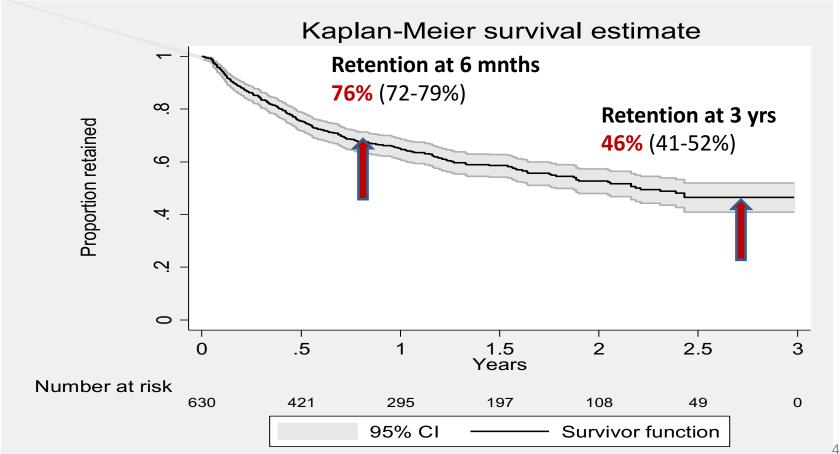
- Patient unique identifier system should be established for proper and valid recording of drug users and strategic planning
- MMT expansion is recommended considering operational factors
- Human resource problem at MMT clinics, posing barrier for effective service provision should be solved urgently
- Community awareness raising on MMT services should be organized

RECOMMENDATIONS (cont;)

- Self-help groups should be strengthened involving all NGOs and MMT programme for recovery from substance use disorder and to advocate the community
- Future study on community acceptance and looking at HR service accessibility and barriers from client perspective
- Recommended to develop the national guideline of harm reduction for PWIDs for standardization of service provision and referral among service providers

3. HIV, HEPATITIS B AND HEPATITIS C AND RETENTION IN CARE AMONGST PEOPLE WHO INJECT DRUGS AND ARE PLACED ON METHADONE MAINTENANCE THERAPY, YANGON, **MYANMAR**

Kaplan-Meier plot showing retention rates (and their 95% confidence intervals) amongst PWID enrolled for MMT in Yangon, Myanmar: 2015 to 2017



CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD

Challenges

- Treatment Gap some drug treatment centers are not full function, emerging trend of stimulant drug use, Low Coverage of MMT <20%
- Not enough human resource for drug treatment workforce
- Relapse/Drop out related mainly to transportation and unemployment
- Psycho-social support complimentary to the holistic care and treatment
- M&E system for methadone program
- Stigma and discrimination

Way Forward

- Develop the National Strategic Plan for National Drug Control Policy
- Development of Mental Health Policy
- Revise and publish the Methadone Guideline 3rd Edition
- Procurement of Methadone from Domestic manufacture by BPI, Ministry of Industry
- Develop the guideline and SOP for drug treatment centers

Way Forward (cont:)

- Overdose prevention and Naloxone distribution
- Tele mentoring program among drug treatment centers
- Operational research female PWID, community acceptance, client perspective, change in drug type of use, risk behavior and cost effectiveness study
- Scaling up the methadone clinics considering operational factors

Conclusion

- Substance abuse in rural and urban areas is a major public health concern.
- Prevention is still very important and should be highlighted.
- Addiction is a disease and should be focused on bio psycho social and behavior change as well.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH