Sex workers are one of the populations most affected by HIV, due to criminalisation, unsafe working conditions, barriers to consistent condom use, lack of access to health services, etc. The Sex Worker Implementation Tool (SWIT), is a document that provides recommendations for implementing HIV and STI testing, treatment and prevention strategies that empower sex workers. This infographic provides a short summary of the good practice and evidence-based recommendations in the SWIT, and the principles for implementation.

**GOOD PRACTICE RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Governments should establish antidiscrimination and other rights-respecting laws to protect against discrimination and violence, and other violations of rights faced by sex workers in order to realise their human rights and reduce their vulnerability to HIV infection.
- All countries should work toward decriminalisation of sex work and elimination of non-criminal laws and regulations against sex workers.

**EVIDENCE-BASED RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Offer a package of interventions to enhance community engagement among sex workers.
- Offer female sex workers, in settings with high prevalence and limited clinical services, periodic presumptive treatment (PPT) for symptomatic STIs. PPT should be implemented only as a short-term measure in settings where STI prevalence is high.
- Use the current WHO recommendations on harm reduction for sex workers who inject drugs (in particular needle and syringe programme and opioid substitution therapy).
- Include sex workers as targets of catch-up hepatitis B immunisation strategies in settings where infant immunisation has not reached full coverage.
- Offer monthly STI screening for asymptomatic STIs to female sex workers.
- Offer voluntary HIV testing and counselling to sex workers.
- Offer periodic screening for asymptomatic STIs to female sex workers.
- Promote correct and consistent condom use among sex workers and their clients.
- Use the current WHO recommendations on antiretroviral therapy (ART) for HIV-positive general populations for sex workers (and refer to the latest ones published in 2013, i.e. begin ART below a CD4 count of 500).
- Include sex workers as targets of catch-up hepatitis B immunisation strategies in settings where infant immunisation has not reached full coverage.

**Principles for implementing comprehensive HIV and STI programmes with sex workers**

These principles underlie the 2012 recommendations and the recommendations in the SWIT:

- These recommendations and principles should be seen as a minimum global standard, applying equally to higher income countries and lower and middle income countries.

To learn more about SWIT, read NSWP’s Smart Sex Worker’s Guide to SWIT:

www.nswp.org/resource/the-smart-sex-worker-s-guide-swit

or at http://bit.ly/nswp-swit

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This document contains information and data collected from diverse sources. It is not intended to be a comprehensive or exhaustive review of all available research on the topics it addresses.