



# Pharmacies are key to ensuring sustainable access to comprehensive care for HIV and other STIs



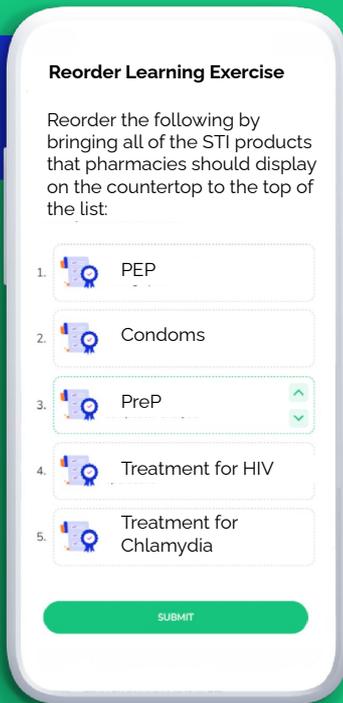
In recognition of **World AIDS Day 2023**, SwipeRx celebrates the role community pharmacies play serving key populations at risk of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs) across southeast Asia.

Using technology, it is possible to scale improvements in **pharmacist capacity, supply chain efficiency** and **referral pathways**. Between February-October 2023, SwipeRx has collaborated with the National Center for HIV/AIDS, Dermatology and STI (NCHADS) within the Ministry of Health, the Pharmacy Council of Cambodia, USAID EpiC and the Global Fund to achieve the following results:

## Capacity

**1,050** pharmacists educated in 14 weeks,

through a digital course approved by NCHADS and accredited by the Pharmacy Council of Cambodia. The digital course used interactive exercises to build competency to offer HIV self-test kits and referral care for key population clients.



## Integrated Care

**209** clients received ART, PreP, STI treatment or TB treatment as a result of referrals from 39 pharmacies in 9 months.

- Pharmacy e-Referrals through SwipeRx contributed to HIV and TB case finding as well as PreP initiation. Over 9 months, 7 cases of HIV were diagnosed and started ART; 9 HIV- clients started PreP; 179 other STI cases were treated and 14 cases of tuberculosis were diagnosed and treated.
- 68% of all clients referred by pharmacies for HIV/STI care and 75% of presumptive TB clients referred were recorded as receiving services at a health facility one month post referral.
- 27% of all referred suspect TB clients seen at a health facility included in the e-Referral system were confirmed as having TB, demonstrating appropriate referrals for TB as well as STI symptoms by pharmacists trained by SwipeRx and NCHADS.

## Access to Quality HIV Self Testing

**77%** of pharmacies using SwipeRx to e-refer clients at risk of STIs or TB also stocked at least 1 of the locally approved and commercially available HIVST kits

as a result of digital education and exposure to behavior change campaigns promoting quality assured tests distributed by local commercial suppliers.

With appreciation to partners supporting innovation and impact through the pharmacy channel described above:



For more information, please contact: [hello@swiperxapp.com](mailto:hello@swiperxapp.com) [www.swiperxapp.com](http://www.swiperxapp.com)