Advancing tobacco dependence treatment (TDT) services through training: King Hussein Cancer Center and Global Bridges spearheading change in the region

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Rationale and design

Situation in the Eastern Mediterranean Region
• Shortage of TDT services, shortage of TDT training
• Shortage in TDT competence, curricula, and staff to teach

An initiative to train healthcare providers in TDT
• Prepare trainees to (1) value TDT as integral to tobacco control, (2) practice TDT, and (3) create an advocacy network
• An evidence-based curriculum combining didactic teaching, interactive exercises, and case studies
• Pre- and post-workshop comparison of knowledge and competence, measures of confidence, workshop evaluation

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Outcomes

• Intercepted 1828 professionals, reached 19 countries
• Trained 745 (intensive 10- to 16-hour workshops)
• Improved average knowledge scores (53% to 74%)
• High post-workshop confidence: offering counseling (79%) and prescribing medications (69%)
• Workshops valuable (3.7/4) and content practical (3.4/4)
• Countries intend to develop case for deploying TDT, prioritize TDT in treatment plans, use combination therapy
• Five clinics launched in the region

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