

the everywhere project

Responsible and safer places
where men have sex with men.....everywhere

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on behalf of the Everywhere Project Steering Committee²

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Background

Coordinated by the University of Brighton, the Everywhere Project (2008-2010) is a multi-partner consortium comprising 17 partners from 8 European countries including the UK, Italy, France, Poland, Cyprus, Slovenia, Hungary, & Spain. The consortium includes public health organisations, academic organisations, NGOs active in HIV issues, & organisations that unite gay business owners.

Objectives

Everywhere aims to develop an innovative & culturally adapted European model of good practice of HIV prevention focusing on Men who have Sex with Men (MSM) for use across Europe, & in particular, 'gay tourist destinations'. The specific aims are to:

- Collaborate with businesses from environments associated with MSM tourism & entertainment in Europe (e.g. sex venues, hotels, travel agencies, & gay dating websites) to put safer sex & prevention materials in clients' hands;
- Create & train a network of social mediators to identify, access, & achieve the commitment of the business sector in the prevention of HIV in MSM;
- Define a series of standards for businesses (whose clients are MSM), the adoption of which will certify the business as being socially responsible in preventing HIV;
- Conduct a pilot action over 5 months (March-July 2010) to certify at least 30 businesses with the Everywhere Seal of Approval.

Findings

Everywhere provides an important opportunity to improve HIV operational interventions targeting MSM by utilising learning from Member States to form common strategies & synergies. Everywhere demonstrates that it is possible to create & implement a European framework of HIV prevention/risk reduction that is both sensitive & culturally adaptive to the needs & interests of its stakeholders: 'gay' businesses; MSM; public health administrations; and NGOs.

²Members of the Everywhere Project Steering Committee:

Constantinos Phellas (RUBSI), Miran Šolinc (SKUC), Izabela Pazdan & Tomek Malkuszewski (SKA), Carmine Falanga (ANLAIDS), Antonio Alexandre & David Friboulet (SNEG), Ibrahim Osmani & Tania Re (SRF), Ben Tunstall (THT), László Mocsosni (HTM), Monica Moran (DGAP), Nigel Sherriff, Elizabeth Pottinger, & Fiona Sutton (UoB).

Everywhere Seal of Approval

The Everywhere Standards (leading to the award of the Seal) have been developed & agreed by members of the project consortium in relation to businesses that facilitate sex between men. The Everywhere Seal of Approval is awarded to businesses that are committed to being socially responsible in caring for their customers' health. The Seal is awarded when businesses can demonstrate that they have met either the Everywhere Minimum or Premium Standards set out below:



Everywhere Minimum Seal



Everywhere Premium Seal

- Condoms and lubricant provision*
- Information about:
 - Where to get tested for HIV/STIs
 - Where to get treated for HIV/STIs
- Staff knowledge about the Everywhere Project

*Or information on where to get them for websites

- Free condoms & lubricant
- Information about:
 - Where to get tested for HIV/STIs
 - Where to get treated for HIV/STIs
 - How to protect yourself & your partners from HIV/STIs
- A safer environment for your sexual health
- Welcome of sexual health outreach workers*
- Regular staff updates about HIV/STI issues & the Everywhere Project
- Commitment to anti-discrimination in relation to HIV positive staff & customers

*Except for travel agents & hotels