



PEPFAR eLearning Initiative

Using a Proven Approach

Due to the growing demand for technical assistance and training across countries with PEPFAR programs, new and alternative training tools are needed. eLearning – electronically supported learning and teaching – can function as an essential component of capacity building and integrates seamlessly with other learning activities, such as in-person trainings and workshops. The PEPFAR eLearning Initiative consists of a series of online courses that expand the reach, use, usefulness and adaptation of critical strategic information (SI), technical and programmatic guidance.

eLearning:

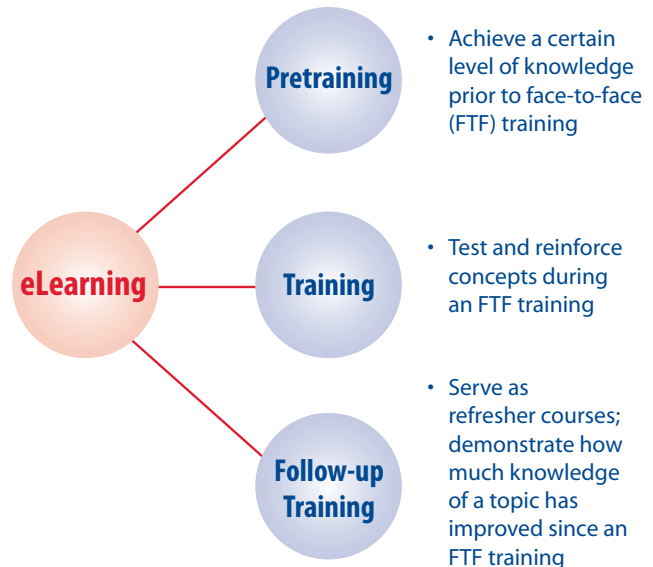
- Enables information to be easily updated
- Quickly communicates state-of-the-art technical and programmatic information
- Allows learners to work at their own pace
- Minimizes time spent away from the office and travel costs
- Tests user knowledge at checkpoints throughout, including pre- and post-tests as well as in-progress quizzes
- Demonstrates how to apply evidence-based information to real situations in program implementation
- Provides concrete country examples or case studies to stimulate a learner's thinking

What the evidence says about eLearning

A large meta-analysis of studies conducted between 1990 and 2007 involving learners in the health professions found that Internet-based instruction had a consistently large positive effect compared with no intervention and was equivalent to traditional instruction (Cook et al. 2008).

eLearning modules were found to be popular and effective at helping health professionals in the UK learn about and implement National Institute for

Blended Learning Approaches



Health and Clinical Education guidelines (Walsh et al. 2010). The CDC partnered with African Medical and Research Foundation (AMREF) in Kenya to convert a classroom curriculum into a computer-based eLearning training package focused on respiratory infection control (RIC) so that the training could reach all “front-line” healthcare workers who needed it. Evaluation data indicated almost identical knowledge gains between eLearners and classroom-trained groups; eLearners reported appreciating the flexibility and independence provided by eLearning (CDC 2010).

Benefits to the Learner

- Addresses specific training needs and allows individuals to learn in a range of ways, utilizing quizzes and case studies.
- Enables learners to assess their knowledge before and after training.
- Delivers training directly to the desktop, online or offline, making it easier to incorporate learning into individual schedules. Offline versions of all the HIV/AIDS-related courses (7 PEPFAR courses and 5 other HIV/AIDS topical courses) are available on CD-ROMs.



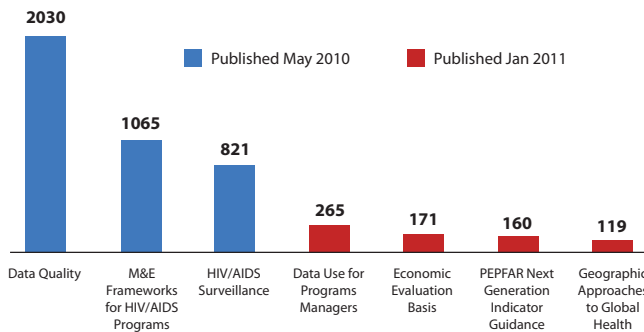
Overview of the PEPFAR eLearning Initiative

Since 2007, the Center for Communication Programs at Johns Hopkins University (JHU/CCP) has designed and implemented eLearning courses which can be taken at any place and any time to meet the diverse needs of SI specialists with the United States government as well as partners involved in implementing health programs in developing countries.

Courses are generally designed to be completed in one to two hours. Learners can download course materials for further study or use the print-friendly option to select and print portions of the course or the entire course.

PEPFAR eLearning Certificate Holders

(Total number of learners who scored 85% or higher on the final exam)



Reach of PEPFAR eLearning Courses

Currently, the PEPFAR eLearning Initiative is comprised of seven launched courses. The first three courses – Data Quality, M&E Frameworks for HIV/AIDS Programs, and HIV/AIDS Surveillance – were published in May 2010. In late January 2011, four new courses were published, including: Data Use for Program Managers, Economic Evaluation Basics, Geographic Approaches to Global Health, and PEPFAR Next Generation Indicator Guidance. As of March 2011, the courses have reached 13,879 learners from 157 countries. Of these, over 85% are non-USG learners.



Incorporating PEPFAR eLearning into Your Activities

The Global Health Initiative (GHI) offers PEPFAR a unique opportunity to utilize eLearning to help support the agencies’ overall goals under the GHI. Specifically, eLearning courses can enhance the goal of supporting the training and retention of more than 140,000 new health care workers as part of an integrated learning and capacity building strategy. eLearning thus has the potential to contribute to achieving improvements in health outcomes in developing countries.



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