

# eTeens STIs (Sexually Transmitted Infections) / HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) Prevention Programme in Schools

- 1. In view of the increasing number of STIs reported among youth aged 10-19 years<sup>1</sup>, HPB, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health (MOH) and the Ministry of Education (MOE), developed an STIs/HIV prevention programme titled *eTeens* for students in secondary schools and JC/CIs. The programme aims to raise awareness on STIs/HIV, inform students about ways to prevent infection and discourage risky sexual behaviours. Abstinence and upholding family values are the key messages in the programme.
- 2. *eTeens* for JC/CI 1 students comprises an assembly talk. It covers information on the transmission modes of STIs, the signs, symptoms and consequences of contracting STIs/HIV, effective methods of preventing infection including abstinence from pre-marital sex, being faithful to one's partner in the context of marriage as well as condom use. *eTeens* is conducted in schools by trained personnel from HPB. A factsheet on the programme, which is available on the MOE website<sup>2</sup>, is enclosed.
- 3. If you <u>do not</u> wish your child/ward to attend this programme, please complete the form on the next page and return it to the school. For any clarification regarding this programme, please email us at hpb\_vhp@hpb.gov.sq.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely

Dr Chris Cheah Deputy Director Communicable Diseases Education Preventive Health Programmes Division Health Promotion Board

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Reported cases of STIs among youth aged 10-19 years increased from 379 cases in 2014 to a peak of 442 cases in 2016.

 $<sup>^2\</sup> www.moe.gov.sg/education/programmes/social-and-emotional-learning/sexuality-education//scope-and-teaching-approach-of-sexuality-education-in-schools$ 

# eTeens Opt-out Form

Please complete this section if you DO NOT wish your child to attend the eTeens Programme and return it to the school.

I, (name)	, do not wish my son/daughter/ward*,
(name) _	of class, to attend the
eTeens STIs/HIV Prevention Programme conducted by the Health Promotion Board.	
My reason(s) for opting out:	
	My child is too young.
	I would like to personally educate my child.
	I am not comfortable with the topics/content to be covered.
	Religious reasons
	I have previously taught my child the topics/content to be covered.
	I do not think it is necessary for my child to attend.
	Others (please state):
Ciana atum	of Development Dete
Signature of Parent/Guardian Date	

## eTeens

Wise.Informed.Sensible.Empowered

### AIMS OF ETEENS

- 1. The Empowered Teens (*eTeens*) programme aims to provide students with accurate information to help them make good decisions in their life choices. It raises awareness and knowledge about the following:
  - a) awareness of the different sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and HIV/AIDS:
  - b) modes of transmission for STIs and HIV/AIDS;
  - c) modes of protection against infection, specifically abstinence and the correct use of condoms;
  - d) consequences and impact of STIs/HIV;
  - e) ways of managing the impact of STIs

#### FORMAT OF PROGRAMME

- 2. eTeens (JC/CI) consists of an assembly talk of about 1 hour. The talk will be delivered through a multi-media presentation, a video screening and presentation of key learning points. It will be conducted by a speaker engaged by the Health Promotion Board (HPB) from an approved panel.
- a) The video depicts the health, social and financial implications of STIs/HIV on an individual and his family, and emphasises the importance of responsible decision-making.