

Study : Quebec's deaf youth (16-30 years) faced with HIV/aids and STBBIs : between confidence and a lack of knowledge, a collective issue (Gaucher et Bernard-Hamel, 2017)

Recommandations

As a result of the various findings we have made in this study, it appears that certain measures or practices could be put in place to improve knowledge of sexual health among Deaf and hard of hearing youth. Three areas seem relevant to explore in terms of access to information:

Access to reliable resources

Based on qualitative findings regarding the sources that young Deaf and hard of hearing people use to find information about their sexual health ...

1. It would be important to provide a list of referrals from screening clinics, with schedules and practical information in formats suited to Deaf and hard of hearing clientele (videos in LSQ / ASL with subtitles).
2. A list of reliable sexual health reference websites should be developed and made available in formats adapted to Deaf and hard of hearing clientele (videos in LSQ / ASL with subtitles).

Access to sharing networks supervised by competent professionals

Taking into consideration the knowledge-based survey items least understood by Deaf and hard of hearing youth ...

3. It would be wise to set up discussion workshops supervised by skilled workers to show Deaf and hard of hearing youth how to find information relevant to their sexual health concerns.
4. It would also be interesting to create interactive activities on the the CSSQ website that present scenarios demonstrating where to find reliable information on sexual health.

Access to support for parents of Deaf and hard of hearing youth

Based on personal experiences expressed by Deaf and hard of hearing youth regarding the lack of communication with their parents about sexual health ...

5. Parents should be offered individual or group counselling to help them improve their sexual education practices with their Deaf and hard of hearing youngsters.
6. It would be important for the CSSQ to organize information sessions with the parents of Deaf students at Lucien-Pagé High School and with the parents of AQEPA, in order to inform them of the services available at the CSSQ and to discuss the sign language vocabulary that could be used to address issues related to sexual health.

