



**Organización
Panamericana
de la Salud**



Oficina Regional de la
Organización Mundial de la Salud

discrimination

**If it doesn't break your heart,
get a check up**



PAHO MATERIALS ON STIGMA AND DISCRIMINATION IN THE HEALTH SECTOR

Dear colleagues,

We would like to take this opportunity to share with you information about the activities the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) promoted in Latin America and the Caribbean for the World AIDS Day.

This year, PAHO has focused on “stigma and discrimination in the health sector”.

The highlight of our activities was the launch of the report, “[Understanding and Responding to HIV/AIDS-Related Stigma and Discrimination in the Health Sector](#)”, with a preface by Dr. Mirta Roses Periago, director of PAHO.

Several PAHO offices used World AIDS Days events to launch the report. Some are now planning to organize specific forums to further discuss the issue, like meetings with health sector personal, NGOs, professional associations, and ethics committees.

In addition, PAHO produced several materials for use during World AIDS Day and beyond. See them on the right column, with links to their respective web pages.

PAHO sees these activities as an important element of the “3 x 5 Initiative”, announced by the Director General of WHO at the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS in September this year, which aims to assure antiretroviral treatment to 3 million people with HIV from the developing world by the end of 2005. The fear of

REPORT

[Understanding and Responding to HIV/AIDS-Related Stigma and Discrimination in the Health Sector](#)

POSTERS

[Get a checkup for discrimination \(4 different posters\)](#)

POWER POINT PRESENTATION

[Stigma and discrimination in the health sector Power Point presentation](#)

PRESS RELEASES

[PAHO Committed to Doubling Number of Persons Treated For HIV/AIDS World AIDS Day Seeks to Get Rid of Stigma and Discrimination](#)

[HIV/AIDS-linked Discrimination Continues Among Health Workers](#)

discrimination is a major reason preventing more people to seek counseling, testing and care.

PAHO will continue working on this subject next year, as part of our “3 x 5” activities. Combating HIV-related stigma and discrimination is a long term process, for which we count on your initiatives and support.

As Dr. Roses once said: “Science has yet to find a cure for AIDS. But there is a cure for discrimination. It can be found in the thousands of health workers in the Americas.”

Best regards,

Carol Vlassoff
Chief, HIV/AIDS
PAHO/WHO

[Homophobia Shapes Treatment of HIV/AIDS Patients in Latin America and The Caribbean HIV/AIDS Discrimination in Health Services is Human Rights Violation, new PAHO Report says](#)

FACT SHEET

[World AIDS Day: Fighting HIV Discrimination in the Health Sector](#)

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS (TV “COMMERCIALS”)

[AIDS doesn't discriminate. Do you?](#)

HOW TO GET HARD COPIES OF THE REPORT AND POSTERS

Send an email to sida@paho.org