

Ondo launches HIV/ AIDS counselling in rural areas

The Ondo State Action Committee on AIDS (ODSACA) has embarked on mobile HIV/ AIDS counselling and training in the local government areas to further reduce the prevalence of the virus in the state.

The Project Manager of the committee, Dr Dayo Adegbulu, told reporters in Akure that the motive was to let the rural dwellers know their HIV status and take preventive measures.

He said the programme had successfully kicked off at Iju Ita-Ogbolu in the Akure North Local Government Area.

Adegbulu said the mobile counselling and training would cut across the 18 councils, noting that “initially, the prevalence rate was 3.2 per cent.

“It has dropped to 2.3 per cent and we want to ensure that it drops further with this rural counselling and training we are embarking on.”

He pointed out that enlightenment on HIV and AIDS in the rural communities was still low, hence the need to embark on another round of campaign against the virus. The project manager said the ODSACA was collaborating with committees on AIDS in the council areas for the programme to succeed.

He praised Governor Olusegun Mimiko and the Secretary to the State Government, Dr Aderotimi Adelola, for giving approval for the programme.

Adegbulu also lauded the state government for aggressively fighting the virus by providing anti-retroviral drugs in the hospitals and taking various preventive measures to curtail its spread.