AETC Program related news, resources & events

IMMEDIATE ART INITIATION: GUIDE FOR CLINICIANS

Source: AETC National Coordinating Resource Center, University of California
San Francisco Center for HIV Information

This resource provides practical guidance for the initiation of antiretroviral therapy (ART) immediately and soon after the diagnosis of HIV infection. It includes a program overview, steps for patient screening and baseline testing, and recommended regimens for immediate ART and follow-up, with special considerations outlined. The details of this guidance are fully described in an AETC ShareSpot blog post, and also available as a PDF document. A pocket guide outlining the steps for rapid ART initiation is in development and hard copies will be available to order in spring 2019. Click here for PDF of ART Initiation Guide

PRESCRIBING PRE-EXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS (PrEP) FOR HIV PREVENTION: A GUIDE FOR MEDICAL PROVIDERS

Source: AETC National Coordinating Resource Center, Oregon AETC, Cascade AIDS Project

This PrEP provider resource was adapted from the Cascade AIDS Project and Mountain West AETC - Oregon Program’s Prescribing PrEP for HIV Prevention pocket guide for providers, and was modified for a national audience. It offers practical guidance on what to consider when prescribing PrEP, presents a timeline for lab screening and visits, identifies side effects and other considerations, PrEP-related billing codes, medication assistance programs and other resources, and more. PrEP is recommended as one HIV prevention option for men who have sex with men, injection drug users, and heterosexual men and women at substantial risk of acquiring HIV infection. The guide can be downloaded and printed on demand; however, hard copies will be available to order in spring 2019. Click here for resource.

nPEP PRESCRIBING MYTHS FLYER

Source: AETC Rural Health Committee

This resource dismisses some of the common provider myths about prescribing HIV non-occupational post-exposure prophylaxis (nPEP), highlighting evidence-based recommendations for who should prescribe and when to start treatment, medication safety and side-effects, assessing patient risk behaviors and more. This flyer is another tool in the nPEP Toolkit. Hard copies will be available to order in spring 2019. Click here for a link to Toolkit

TRANS WOMEN & TRANS MEN – HEALTH SCREENING RECOMMENDATIONS POCKET CARDS

Source: MidAtlantic AETC

These pocket cards are accessible and easy to read resources that can be utilized in primary care and specialty care settings. The purpose is to increase providers’ competency in discussing sexual and reproductive health with transgender patients. These guides reference recommendations from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, U.S. Preventive Services continued on page 2
Both MI and SBIRT can be integrated into primary and public harms. This pocket guide provides an overview and lays out the “dos and don’ts” of eliciting and strengthening motivation for change with patients. MI elicits the patient’s motivation and personal reasons for changing and has been empirically validated for culturally diverse populations in the context of chronic medical problems, psychiatric disorders, medication adherence, diet and exercise, and drug and alcohol use. This pocket card lays out the “dos and don’ts” of eliciting and strengthening motivation for change with patients. SBIRT is an evidence-based public health approach designed to motivate patients to commit to altering patterns of alcohol and drug use and to prevent, reduce, or eliminate personal and public harms. This pocket guide provides an overview and lays out the “dos and don’ts” of the SBIRT approach. Both MI and SBIRT can be integrated into primary and specialty care settings.

- Click here for the MI Pocket Guide
- Click here for the SBIRT Pocket Guide

14TH HIV CARE IN THE CORRECTIONAL SETTING CONFERENCE, MARCH 9, 2019, OLYMPIA, WA

Source: Mountain West AETC, University of Washington STD Prevention Training Center

HIV risk is disproportionately high among incarcerated individuals, yet important gaps exist in the implementation of effective HIV services for preventing, testing for, and treating HIV. Studies of jail and prison populations have indicated substantial proportions of undetected infections, including hepatitis C, and opioid use disorders. This conference will offer critical and updated information to clinicians providing care in the correctional setting. Key topics include:
- 2019 HIV/Hepatitis C Update
- Primary Care
- Aging and HIV
- Medications for Opioid Use Disorder

The patient panel will share their experiences in receiving medication-assisted treatment (MAT) in regional prisons. This conference is FREE to healthcare providers working with justice populations. Registration fee is $50 for all other providers. CMEs are available, breakfast and lunch will be provided. To register for the conference click here.

HIV MEDICATION ERRORS AND DRUG INTERACTIONS IN HIV CARE (WEBINAR) – APRIL 14, 2019, 12:00-1:00 PM ET & 8:00-9:00 PM ET

Source: Northeast/Caribbean AETC, Albany Medical College

This activity is being offered twice. The interactive webinar is intended for community pharmacists. The purpose is to review drug interactions likely to impact HIV care, describe the role of newer regimens for HIV, review guidelines for preferred HIV regimens from U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services and the International Antiviral Society-USA Panel, and describe common errors in HIV care. Registration is required by 03/07/19. CPEs are available. Contact Ranita Flanagan at 518-262-4674 or flanagr@amc.edu with any questions. Register here.
INCORPORATING HCV TREATMENT INTO HIV SERVICES, APRIL 17, 2019, PHILADELPHIA, PA
Source: MidAtlantic AETC
This full-day course is designed for HIV care providers who wish to start treating their HCV infected patients onsite rather than referring to other providers. It includes the latest treatment considerations, HIV/HCV drug interactions, treating patients with substance use disorders, as well as information on prior authorization, patient education and adherence. The didactic half-day will be followed by a clinical half-day observing HCV mono-infected patients. CME will be available. Register for the course here.

Mental Health is Public Health Conference, May 7, 2019, Cranberry Township, PA
Source: MidAtlantic AETC
This conference will focus on the importance of mental health as an essential part of overall health. Presentations will include mental health and mental illness; substance use and mental illness; suicide, overdose, and mental illness; concurrent epidemics of HIV, HCV and substance misuse; early childhood trauma and trauma-informed care; STDs and risky sexual behavior; and LGBT youth and mental health. Professionals working in these areas will be able to increase their knowledge of new updates in an interprofessional environment. Registration fee is $25. General registration will close on Tuesday, April 30, 2019. To register here.

Visit the National Clinician Consultation Center to obtain timely and confidential clinician-to-clinician consultation related to treatment of people living with HIV infection (HIV Warmline, Perinatal HIV Hotline), occupational and non-occupational exposure to HIV (PEPline), prevention of HIV (PrEPline), hepatitis C virus infection (Hepatitis C Warmline), and substance use (Substance Use Warmline).

Practice Transformation

Southeast Practice Transformation Expansion Project (SEPTEP): An Overview Presentation (Archived Training)
Source: Southeast AETC
This session provides an overview of the Southeast Practice Transformation Expansion Project (SEPTEP) and discusses successes and challenges with the cultural change process used to pilot and implement HIV testing, improve linkage to care, prescribe PrEP and reduce stigma in 16 urban and rural sites across 8 states served by the Southeast AETC. The session is presented by Jennifer Budge, MEd, Program Director of the Southeast AETC. For session recording and slides click here.

Patient Family Engagement Bite-Sized Learning Series
Source: Patient-Centered Primary Care Collaborative Support & Alignment Network, X4 Health, Inc.
These short videos (less than 10 minutes) are designed to quickly guide practices and quality improvement teams on how to engage patients and families in their health care. The videos provide a foundational level of knowledge about engagement and implementation strategies for participants working towards practice transformation. There are currently three modules available:
1. Understanding Patient and Family Engagement and Why is it Essential to Quality Payment Program Success
2. Tactical Ways My Practice Can Effectively Engage Patients and Families
3. Applying Patient and Family Engagement Strategies to the Choosing Wisely Campaign
Follow the link below to sign up and register. Sign up & register
**Interprofessional Education (IPE)**

**ONLINE INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION PRECEPTOR TOOLKIT**

Source: University of Washington, HHS

This toolkit consists of three interactive learning modules that cover the fundamentals of teaching in a clinical setting, and provide guidance for introducing students to interprofessional, team-based practice. The main purpose of the toolkit is to help preceptors working in heart failure clinics advance their teaching skills and incorporate interprofessional practice (IPP) concepts in their clinical instruction, so that upon graduation students are able to deliver high-quality, team-based care. The developers worked to ensure the toolkit could serve as a comprehensive resource for busy preceptors that included elements of adult learning theory, teaching tools and strategies, and IPP core competencies. This resource can be a useful tool for AETC IPE projects and other programs to enhance interprofessional education.

Click here for the toolkit.

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**Minority AIDS Initiative/Secretary’s Minority AIDS Initiative Fund (SMAIF)**

**HEPATITIS C: GETTING CURED IS EASIER THAN EVER POCKET GUIDE**

Source: AETC HIV/HCV Coinfection Community of Learning and Practice, AETC National Coordinating Resource Center

This patient resource is designed to address the reluctance patients sometimes feel regarding hepatitis C treatment initiation based on past experiences with old hepatitis C treatment regimens. It explains how the regimen has changed and improved which has helped to increase hepatitis C cure rates for people living with HIV and hepatitis C as well as for those who only have hepatitis C. Hard copies will soon be available to order.

Click here for a PDF of the Pocket Guide.

**ENDING THE HIV EPIDEMIC: A PLAN FOR AMERICA**

Source: U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services (HHS), HIV.gov

The HHS proposes a new initiative to address the HIV epidemic with goals of first reducing numbers of incident infections in the U.S. by 75% within 5 years, and then by 90% within 10 years. The initiative will target resources to the 48 highest burden counties, Washington, D.C., San Juan, Puerto Rico, and 7 states with a substantial rural HIV burden. This new plan detailed in the Journal of the American Medical Association editorial written by HHS leaders. Click on the link below to read HIV.gov’s summary and download the fact sheet which highlights key strategies for this new plan. Click here for the summary & fact sheet.
RESOURCES/TRAININGS

ACTION COLLABORATIVE ON COUNTERING THE U.S. OPIOID EPIDEMIC (WEBINAR RECORDING & MATERIALS)
Source: National Academy of Medicine (NAM)

(Recorded February 13, 2019) This webinar provides an overview of NAM’s Action Collaborative on Countering the U.S. Opioid Epidemic initiative. It outlines the goals and working group steps of the Action Collaborative and presents opportunity for participants/programs to join as Network Organizations, which are active supporters and contributors who provide support and input on the work of the Action Collaborative, but do not participate in the Action Collaborative’s working groups. Webinar recording & materials click here.

INTERSECTION BETWEEN OPIOIDS AND HIV (WEBINAR) – MARCH 25, 2019, 3:00 – 4:00 PM ET
Source: Denver Prevention Training Center, Capacity Building Assistance Provider Network

The purpose of this training is to increase participants’ understanding of the connection between opioids and HIV and other complications like hepatitis B and C. Learning objectives include identifying factors that contribute to opioid dependence, understanding the intersection between opioid addiction and HIV transmission, and learn strategies and best practices to assist patients with opioid dependence. This course will be presented by Hermoine Hurley, MD, Infectious Disease & Addiction Medicine Physician, Denver Health, Assistant Professor of Medicine, University of Colorado. Register here.

Other Resources, News and Events

AMERICAN CONFERENCE FOR THE TREATMENT OF HIV (ACTHIV) – APRIL 11-13, 2019, MIAMI, FL
Source: American Conference for the Treatment of HIV, Beaumont, American Academy of CME

ACTHIV is an annual state-of-the-science conference specifically targeted toward U.S. frontline providers of care to persons at risk of, or living with HIV. The conference delivers information to learners on new developments and research findings that can be rapidly translated and directly applied to the clinical setting. While the conference is targeted toward the frontline care team, psychologists, mental health and substance abuse workers, treatment advocates, treatment educators, researchers and other healthcare professionals are also encouraged to attend. Register here.

BEST OF ACTHIV 2018 ONLINE CURRICULUM
Source: American Conference for the Treatment of HIV, Beaumont, American Academy of CME

The best of last year’s conference sessions is available online for CE credit through September 15, 2019. Topics include HIV epidemiology in the U.S., the management of hepatitis C in people living with HIV, STI evaluation and treatment, and more. Visit the 2019 ACTHIV conference site to view the available courses and accreditation. ACTHIV Online Curriculum

SYNCHRONICITY 2019: THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON HIV, HCV, STDs, & LGBT HEALTH – APRIL 14-16, 2019, WASHINGTON, D.C
Source: HealthHIV

Over 1,300 medical providers, service providers, government officials, and health advocates are expected to convene for this distinct conference to sync program, policies, and purpose to create effective approaches to address HIV, HCV, STD, and other health issues facing the LGBT community. Register here.
MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES FOR SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS (WEBINAR) – APRIL 23, 2019, 1:00-2:15 PM ET

Source: International Antiviral Society-USA

This webinar will discuss the current STI epidemiology, diagnosis, and management strategies, and will discuss the standard screening recommendations, emerging antimicrobial resistance, and prevention approaches per national guidelines. Kimberly A. Workowski, MD, FACP, FIDSA, Professor of Medicine Division of Infectious Diseases at Emory University, Atlanta, GA, will present. CEUs are available. Register here.

MEDICAL MANAGEMENT OF HIV AMONG TRANSGENDER ADULTS (WEBINAR) – MAY 7, 2019, 1:00-2:15 PM ET

Source: International Antiviral Society-USA

This advanced webinar is designed for clinical decision makers who are actively involved in HIV care and research, as well as registered nurses, PharmDs and other healthcare professionals. The purpose is to increase participants’ understanding about common gender-affirming medical interventions, recent data on drug interactions between gender-affirming hormone therapy and antiretroviral agents, and best practices for medical monitoring of transgender people with HIV on hormone therapy. This session will be presented by Tonia C. Poteat, PhD, MPH, PA-C, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. CEUs are available. Register here.

ANNUAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL WORK AND HIV/AIDS, MAY 22-25, 2019, WASHINGTON, D.C.

Source: Professional Association of Social Workers in HIV/AIDS, Collaborative Solutions

This year’s conference theme, “Social Work: Leadership. Change. Hope.” will focus on the role social workers as leaders for social change, ending HIV/AIDS, best practices, prevention, research, and giving a voice to the profession; while empowering those we serve to be heard. Recipients of Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) formula and competitive grants may use funds to pay for the cost of grantee and project sponsor staff attending this conference (U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development statement). Register here.

23RD ANNUAL HIV UPDATE: CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN MANAGEMENT, MAY 30 – JUNE 1, 2019, BOSTON, MA

Source: Harvard Medical School, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

This meeting will provide an opportunity for participants to increase their knowledge in HIV clinical care, management and treatment to address limitations in accessing care, renal, cardiovascular and liver diseases and other illnesses associated with aging, and coinfections with hepatitis B and/or C for people living with HIV, in addition to adherence to lifelong antiretroviral therapy. Key topics include:

- Diagnosing and managing HIV — tools for the primary care provider
- Identifying optimal antiretroviral
therapy (ART), treatment initiation, salvage therapy, and pre- and post-exposure prophylaxis and adherence to lifelong therapies
- Integrating HIV management and opioid addiction treatment
- Addressing opportunistic infections, dermatologic conditions, malignancies and hepatitis B and C coinfections
- Examining contemporary HIV topics including aging in the HIV population, renal, cardiovascular and liver diseases; and the management of HPV-related anogenital infection
- Overcoming barriers for marginalized populations
- Utilizing practical tools to address gender and sexual health challenges, including screening and treatment of sexually transmitted infections

Whether you are a recent or an experienced provider of HIV care, this program is designed to educate providers at all levels. CEUs are available. Early bird rates end March 22, 2019. Register here.

**FOA: SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENT FOR RACIAL/ETHNIC MINORITY POPULATIONS AT HIGH RISK FOR HIV/AIDS**

Source: HHS, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

The purpose of this FOA is to increase engagement in care for racial and ethnic minority individuals with substance use disorders (and/or co-occurring substance use and mental disorders) who are at risk for HIV or are living with HIV and receive HIV services/treatment. Approximately 24 grants will be awarded. Applications are due April 22, 2019. Click for application here.

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**National Awareness Days/Events**

- HIV Vaccine Awareness Day – May 18 [https://www.hiv.gov/events/awareness-days/hiv-vaccine-awareness-day](https://www.hiv.gov/events/awareness-days/hiv-vaccine-awareness-day)

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