HIV in Massachusetts: A state's action plan and two community responses

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Population Health Clerkship 2019
Geographic Distribution of HIV/AIDS Prevalence: Massachusetts 2016

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Who is living with HIV in Massachusetts?

Data from MPDH Bureau of Infectious Disease and Laboratory Sciences (as of 1/1/2018)
Percentage Distribution by Gender & Exposure Mode

MSM = Male-to-Male Sex, IDU = Injection Drug Use, Pres. = Presumed, Het. Sex = Heterosexual Sex, NIR = No Identified Risk
Data Source: MDPH Bureau of Infectious Disease and Laboratory Sciences, Data as of 1/1/18
Percentage Distribution by Age

Data Source: MDPH Bureau of Infectious Disease and Laboratory Sciences, Data as of 1/1/18
Percentage Distribution of Race & Ethnicity by Gender

1 Other include Asian/Pacific Islander and American Indian/Alaska Native
Data Source: MDPH Bureau of Infectious Disease and Laboratory Sciences, Data as of 1/1/18
How were those living with HIV/AIDS infected?

Data from MPDH Bureau of Infectious Disease and Laboratory Sciences (as of 1/1/2018)
Percentage Distribution of Exposure Method in Race & Ethnicity

MSM = Male-to-Male Sex, IDU = Injection Drug Use, Pres. = Presumed, Het. Sex = Heterosexual Sex, NIR = No Identified Risk, NH = Non-Hispanic, Data Source: MDPH Bureau of Infectious Disease and Laboratory Sciences, Data as of 1/1/18
Interprofessional teams

Everyone is working together to give holistic, comprehensive care

+ HIV Test

Field Epidemiologist
Links patient to care, works for the public health department

Assigned a case manager
Overview of the walk-in center, on-call services, insurance discussions, book appointments with providers, address attrition if needed

Nurse
Assists case manager and provider in patient care and support

Provider (MD, DO, NP)
Run labs (viral load, CD4+), monitor for OIs, becomes patient’s PCP

Social Worker
Help with food access, housing, transportation, insurance, employment, etc.
U = U
Population Health Advocacy: Strategies and Opportunities

Family Health Center
Worcester

- PrEP
- Testing/Screening (HIV, HCV, STIs)
- ARCH outreach program

Greater Lawrence Family Health Center

- PrEP
- Testing/Screening (HIV, HCV, STIs)
- Safe Syringe Program
- Mobile Clinic

U=U
Population Health Advocacy: Strategies and Opportunities

AIDS Project Worcester
- PrEP
- Testing/ screening, treatment counseling
- Safe Syringe Program
- Addressing social constraints:
  - Food access
  - Housing
  - Transportation
- Mental health
  - Peer support
  - Support groups
- Community Outreach
Population Health Advocacy: Strategies and Opportunities

Project ABLE

• State funding for HIV/AIDS
• HIV service providers, community advocates, people living with HIV/AIDS, state governors and administration
Massachusetts Integrated HIV/AIDS Prevention And Care Plan

Goals of HIV services in the commonwealth: 2017 - 2021 (Office of HIV/AIDS)
1. Reduce the impact of HIV
2. Improve health outcomes for persons living with HIV
3. Reduce persistent HIV-related health disparities

Goal: Considering the community response at the level of the community health centers, hospitals, and AIDS Service Organizations (ASO).
Assessing the Community Responses to the Massachusetts State Action Plan

Interviews revealed a robust community response

Services directed toward addressing the HIV/AIDS Prevention Care Plan

1. **Reduce the impact of HIV**
   - Expansion of PrEP
   - HIV, HCV, STI testing
   - Syringe service programs (SSPs)
   - Community based outreach and linkage
   - Overdose education and naloxone distribution
   - 100% ART prescription to pregnant women

2. **Improve health outcomes for persons living with HIV**
   - Expand interdisciplinary team outreach to newly diagnosed
   - Expand HIV testing
   - Provide access to HDAP
   - Reduce HIV stigma
   - Enhanced engagement and retention

3. **Reduce persistent HIV-related health disparities**
   - Expand HIV prevention, testing, and medical case management services for black, Hispanic, and transgender populations (ARCH)
   - Expand PrEP access for black, Hispanic, and transgender populations
   - Administer access to HDAP for black, Hispanic, and transgender populations
   - Increase HIV/HCV testing, prevention, and outreach in young people who inject drugs
1. Reduce the impact of HIV
   • Accessing and sharing data between health centers
2. Improve health outcomes for persons living with HIV
   • Increase HCV testing, notably in young people who inject drugs
   • Offer peer support for persons living with HIV
   • Expand housing for persons living with HIV
   • Expand services of health centers to minimize patient travel
3. Reduce persistent HIV-related health disparities
   • Services directed at female HIV+ and at-risk population
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