



## IHIPC Joint Sub-Committee Meeting

Linkage to Care, Retention and Reengagement in Care, ART, and Viral Suppression

Tuesday, October 13, 2020 Meeting Minutes

**Present:** S. Zamor, D. Hunt, J. Nuss, M. Andrew-Conrad, L. Choat, C. Montgomery, D. Carter, J. Burns, J. Moore, W. Bradley, M. Benner, R. Jimenez, K. Lewis, L. Meyer, B. Olayanju, S. Rehrig, K. Cleveland, J. Koechle, C. Crause, J. Dispenza, J. Erdman, T. Box, R. Johnson

### **Finalize 2021 Interventions and Services Guidance**

De-prioritization of HIV Testing for PWID: J. Dispenza discussed the document in relation to the success of reducing HIV infection for PWID but need for HCV services for this population. HIV testing can still be offered but will be paid as a supplemental service. She went on to highlight the need for more HCV service due to the successful treatment options. M. Andrews-Conrad clarified that an HIV test would be considered a full payment service for MSM/WID and if a person tests HCV positive. Dispenza noted a typo to be corrected. M. Andrews-Conrad thanked C. Hicks for the document.

Safer Services Protocol: J. Erdman explained that prevention providers asked for direction on services delivery during COVID-19. He noted the recommendation for virtual services through phones and telehealth. PPE use is also highlighted. Other service delivery options include curbside and home delivery. J. Dispenza noted a typo to be corrected. C. Montgomery asked for clarity on telehealth and if providers are ready and have capacity to be successful. He noted his concerns of telehealth with delays in seeing his own provider. D. Hunt explained that the medical system has been expanded through increased billing and infrastructure but a person may have to request a telehealth visit. C. Montgomery reminded the group that we need to do a better job of promoting the availability of telehealth. B. Olayanju discussed that Care has telehealth options for clients which has been very successful. D. Hunt said that these documents are for providers and do not necessarily get to the public. M. Andrews-Conrad also noted that this is a guidance document for IDPH-funded prevention providers; it is not a required policy and may not be applicable to providers outside of these networks.

Common Interventions: J. Erdman gave background of the need to make it easier for providers to select an intervention. He reviewed a summary from C. Hicks of common interventions, ease of use, number of sessions, and cost to create the "common interventions" list. J. Dispenza said that the list would be helpful in prioritizing interventions. J. Nuss noted that this would assist the IDPH training unit as well. The group thanked J. Erdman for creating the list.



Care Compendium: B. Olayanju reported being relieved that the document is completed and thanked the team for working on this document.

J. Nuss suggested that we vote on the documents by consensus. M. Andrews-Conrad asked for any disapproval, none noted. The documents will be recommended for addition to the I&S Guidance.

### **HIP and Care Compendium Training Updates**

M. Andrews-Conrad asked that all complete the training before the Oct Mtg. The group thanked the Care Compendium Workgroup for their efforts.

### **Workgroup Activities**

**Care Compendium Update**: S. Zamor asked if the workgroup should continue now that the document is completed. J. Nuss reminded the group that the workgroups will be restructured so this workgroup could be disbanded.

**Gender Terminology Update**: L. Meyer reported that the group is working on resource lists and educational opportunities next year.

**Health Equity**: D. Hunt reported that the group will be presenting goals for the workgroup to the larger membership in Oct. He reported that they are defining terms and ideas that will be helpful in the work that we do in HIV. He said that group is meeting this Thursday at 10a and all are welcome.

**Announcements**: M. Andrews-Conrad asked if the committees would like to meet together in November to review the results of the RW Satisfaction Survey. D. Hunt asked that they groups meet separately.

J. Dispenza said that the HUB has a new logo that is very exciting and adaptable to different HIV events.

J. Nuss asked about B. Olayanju promotion and she explained that she has been promoted at AFC to a VP over Care Services.