THE PSYCHIATRY OF HIV & AIDS

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Disclaimer

All materials have been prepared for general information purposes only.

The use of words such as 'must', 'should', and 'always' are not meant to be construed as rules which can not be violated in a given situation. Variances from these recommendations may be necessary. This material is to be thought of as a general guideline only. The information presented is not legal or medical advice, is not to be acted on as such, may not be current, and is subject to change without notice.
HIV in Missouri

Local Data: Missouri

There are approximately 11,887 people living with HIV in Missouri.
# HIV in Missouri

## Missouri Highlights

### Prevalence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of people living with HIV in 2015</th>
<th>Number of people living with HIV in 2015, by Race</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>11,887</strong></td>
<td><strong>43.8% Black</strong></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of people living with HIV in 2015, by Sex</th>
<th>Rate of people living with HIV in 2015 per 100,000 people</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>82.7% male</td>
<td>234</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.3% female</td>
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HIV in Missouri

Estimated Percent of AIDS Diagnoses Within 3 Months of Initial HIV Diagnosis, 2015

United States

Diagnosed with AIDS: 21.6%
Diagnosed with HIV: 78.4%

Missouri

Diagnosed with AIDS: 20.4%
Diagnosed with HIV: 79.6%
Objective

■ HIV must be taken seriously
HIV Basics

■ HIV makes copies of itself quickly after infection

■ People are often unaware that they are infected with HIV

■ Medication is started at the time of diagnosis in most cases
HIV and HIPAA

- HIV status is protected by HIPAA just like any other protected health information

- Do not share HIV status with those who do not need to know for the function of their job

- Do not announce HIV status among other inmates/patients
AIDS is advanced HIV where patients have low immune system response and often times difficult to treat infections.
Initiation of Antiretroviral Therapy in Early Asymptomatic HIV Infection

The INSIGHT START Study Group*
HIV Treatment: Early Intervention

■ Patients with HIV need early assessment and intervention by medical staff
Questions to Ask

■ Do they take medication?
■ Do they have the medication with them?
■ Have they taken medication recently?
■ Who prescribes the medication?
What if the patient doesn’t take meds?

- HIV can progress without medication

- Progression can lead to deadly opportunistic infections
Is there a test for that?

- HIV testing requests should be forwarded to the medical department for evaluation
Pearl Of Wisdom

■ HIV must be taken seriously
Objective

- HIV: think mental health emergency
HIV Patients are a Vulnerable Population

- A vulnerable population within a vulnerable population
  - Higher rates of HIV among gay and bisexual men

- PREA=protection
“However, this does not suggest that an LGBTI inmate is entitled to the care of his/her choosing.”
HIV and Mental Health

48% of HIV patients have a probable psychiatric disorder

13-23% of HIV patients experience both a mental health disorder and substance use disorder
MAT and ACH

- ACH is actively developing a medication-assisted treatment program to better address opioid use disorder in the incarcerated population
Depression

■ Around 35% of HIV patients meet criteria for depression

■ Of these patients, only 45% of them had an actual diagnosis in their medical record
  – Why is this?
Trust=Adherence

- One study in the South showed that 23% of minorities and 11% of non-minorities with HIV believe AIDS was created by the government to suppress minorities.
US Veteran’s Aging Cohort Study

- 23% increased risk of death for HIV patients screening for greater levels of depression on a self-assessment tool
  
  - Think about intake and mental health screening
HIV and Suicide

- HIV patients have a similar risk of suicide as those with other chronic health conditions (neurodegenerative diseases, end-stage renal disease, spinal cord injuries)

- 1 in 5 HIV patients in the US have thought about suicide in the last week
Depression Treatment

- ACH offers both qualified mental health practitioners and prescribing healthcare practitioners for screening and treatment of depression.
- Referral to these professionals should happen early and often.
Anxiety and PTSD

- Generalized anxiety disorder found at 16% and panic disorder found at 10.5% in the HIV patient population
- PTSD prevalence is much greater in HIV patients than in the general population
Stigma

“an undesirable or discrediting attribute that an individual possesses, thus reducing that individual’s status in the eyes of society”

Stigma

- 30% of people in the general public were “somewhat comfortable” and 21% were “not (too) comfortable” working with a person with HIV.
- Greater HIV stigma has been identified in rural areas.
Stigma and Transmission

HIV 101

Without treatment, HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) can make a person very sick and even cause death. Learning the basics about HIV can keep you healthy and prevent transmission.

HIV Can Be Transmitted By

- Sexual Contact
- Sharing Needles to Inject Drugs
- Mother to Baby during pregnancy, birth, or breastfeeding

HIV Is NOT Transmitted By

- Air or Water
- Saliva, Sweat, Tears, or Closed-Mouth Kissing
- Insects or Pets
- Sharing Toilets, Food, or Drinks
What does this all mean?

- Unaddressed psychosocial symptoms in HIV patients lead to poorer outcomes
String of Pearls

- HIV must be taken seriously
- HIV: think mental health emergency
Resources


- https://aidsvu.org/state/missouri/

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