

THE CENTER FOR WELLNESS



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INTRODUCTION

November is here! In this month's newsletter, the Quality department will highlight HIV/AIDS awareness. Due to COVID-19's continued presence, it is important to ensure patients are exercising precaution and leading a healthy lifestyle. Because many health centers have opened up their facilities, it is important to remind people to schedule appointments with their providers to ensure quality health.

Now, more than ever, it is important to do screenings for various health measures awareness has encouraged people to seek out help and resources.

With vaccinations being made available, we encourage people to get vaccinated when possible and continue to get preventative screenings.

HIV/AIDS FACTS

HIV stands for human immunodeficiency virus. HIV is a retrovirus that infects cells of the human immune system (mainly CD4-positive T-cells and macrophages—key components of the cellular immune system) and destroys or impairs their function.

AIDS stands for acquired immunodeficiency syndrome and describes the collection of symptoms and infections associated with acquired deficiency of the immune system. Infection with HIV has been established as the underlying cause of AIDS. The level of immunodeficiency or the appearance of certain infections are used as indicators that HIV infection has progressed to AIDS.

HIV can be transmitted through:

- **Sexual Transmission**: A person with an untreated sexually transmitted infection, particularly involving ulcers or discharge, is, on average, six to 10 times more likely to pass on or acquire HIV during sex.
- **Transmission through Sharing of Needles**: Re-using or sharing needles or syringes represents a highly efficient way of transmitting HIV.

- **Mother-to-child**: Generally, there is a 15–30% risk of transmission from mother to child before and during delivery.
- **Transmission through blood transfusion**: There is a high risk (greater than 90%) of acquiring HIV through transfusion of infected blood and blood products. However, the implementation of blood safety standards ensures the provision of safe good quality blood for transfusion.





DECEMBER IS
AIDS AWARENESS
MONTH

HIV/AIDS AWARENESS AT HJAHC

World AIDS Day was on December 1st. Henry J. Austin Health Center (HJAHC) participated in a forum held by New Jersey Human Development Corporation in collaboration with Mercer County HIV Collaborative. HJAHC services were highlighted, with focus on all HIV services: HIV Testing, PrEP and Care and Treatment. Fortunately, we recently received additional funding to expand HIV and STI services to all HJAHC sites!

Two important initiatives that have been made in regards to HIV Prevention and Care and Treatment are detailed below:

Ending the HIV Epidemic:

On February 5, 2019, President Trump announced “Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America (EHE)”, an initiative to end the HIV epidemic in the United States by 2030. The goal is to reduce the number of new HIV infections in the United States by 75 percent within five years, and then by at least 90 percent within 10 years, for an estimated 250,000 total. The initiative focuses on four key strategies: increasing diagnoses, rapid treatment to achieve sustained viral suppression, expansion of PrEP and syringe services, and rapid response to new HIV transmission social networks. The EHE

strategies (or pillars) are to: Diagnose, Treat, Prevent, and Respond.

New Jersey Ends HIV by 2025:

On World AIDS Day 2018, Governor Phil Murphy announced that New Jersey would take steps to end the HIV epidemic by 2025. He called on all NJ stakeholders to work with NJDOH to create a strategic plan, outlining recommendations for statewide action. As a first step, the NJDOH announced its support for the Prevention Access Campaign’s Undetectable=Un-transmittable, or U=U, campaign. When patients with HIV (PWH) take their HIV medications as prescribed, they reach and maintain an undetectable viral load in their blood and there is effectively no risk of sexual transmission. This declaration of support was an important action because U=U encourages PWH to adhere to treatment for their own health and the health of their partners. It also reduces stigma associated with living with HIV.

HIV Counseling and Treatment at HJAHC is located at: 321 North Warren Street, Trenton New Jersey. To find out more information regarding treatment at HJAHC please see the contact details below:

Contact Info:

Location of HIV Counseling and Testing:
321 North Warren Street

On-site Lab:

321 North Warren Street, Monday through
Friday 8 AM to 4 PM

On-site Pharmacy:

321 North Warren Street, Monday to Friday
8 AM to 6 PM | Saturdays 9 AM to 1 PM

HIV Counseling and Testing Contact Number:

609-278-5900

Program Coordinator:

Marcea Patterson

Bilingual HIV Counselor:

Alberto Billini

PrEP Counselor:

Jayramar Ortiz

Linkage to Care Coordinator: Demetrius
Smith

**Disease Intervention Specialist
Worker/STD services:** Deborah Loran

HIV Screening

Description

Patients aged 15-65 at the start of the measurement period who were between 15-65 years old when tested for HIV

Patient Identification

Age: 15-65 at the start of the measurement period

Encounter: At least 1 office visits or identified by billing (CPT: 99202-99205, 99211-99215, 99381-99387, 99391-99397)

Not included in the population: Patients with a documented diagnosis of HIV on encounters or their Problem list prior to the start of the measurement period.

Measure Satisfaction

Measure is satisfied by:

Performing a HIV test with result on or after their 15th birthday and before their 66th birthday

The measure can also be manually satisfied by entering a date of the HIV test performed on or after their 15th birthday and before their 66th birthday

Note:

Documentation of the administration of the laboratory test in the patient chart is required to meet this measure standard. HIV tests performed elsewhere must be confirmed by documentation in the chart, either a copy of the test results or correspondence between the clinic personnel and the performing lab or provider showing the results. By selecting HIV test performed and entering a date of the test in the Quality Tab to satisfy this measure, you are attesting that you have sufficient supporting documentation in the patients medical record in accordance with the UDS Manual. This data cannot be based on patient attestation or self-reported lab test by the patient.

Measure satisfaction guide for this measure

Learn more about this measure

Developer

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

QUALITY MEASURE SATISFACTION



QUALITY GOALS

Ensuring that the HIV screening measure is being satisfied, we are collaborating and utilizing all our resources to ensure our patients receive quality care. Providers, clinical staff and the Quality team are among our primary resources we use in satisfying diabetes measures and spreading awareness.

In addition, as variants of COVID-19 are present, Henry J. Austin Health Center efforts are continuing to be focused on responding to our patient population needs in COVID-19 testing, providing vaccinations and flu shots.



SCORECARD

Henry J. Austin Health Center's monthly scorecard highlights or year to date (YTD) performance on 14 of our priority quality measures on an organizational level.

The scorecard is a fundamental aid to drive and monitor quality improvement at Henry J. Austin Health Center.

Measure Type	Program	2020	November	December	Month Variance	2021 Goal
Breast CA	UDS	47.0%	31%	41%	10%	49.0%
Cervical CA	UDS	48.0%	44%	44%	0%	48.0%
Childhood	UDS	42.4%	18%	16%	-2%	42.0%
Colorectal CA	UDS	33.6%	22%	22%	0%	34.0%
Hypertension	UDS	57.0%	31%	33%	2%	57.0%
Diabetes	UDS	68.0%	52%	51%	-1%	68.0%
HIV (Screening)	UDS	94.1%	37%	36%	-1%	
IVD	UDS	83.6%	91%	92%	1%	84.0%
Adult BMI	UDS	75.4%	21%	21%	0%	75.0%
Depression	UDS	82.0%	50%	50%	0%	82.0%
Pediatric Dental Sealants	UDS	-	100%	45%	-55%	-
Statin Therapy	UDS	73.7%	83%	83%	0%	74.0%
Tobacco Use	UDS	78.8%	53%	52%	-1%	79.0%
Pediatric BMI &	UDS	77.6%	53%	55%	2%	78.0%

Scorecard Key

Measure type - UDS

2020 Baseline - Average baseline percentage met for each measure

Variance - performance growth from month to month.

Goal - 2021 Goal Mark

CONTACT US



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QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Happy Holidays!"

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