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HealthHIV.org

Intersectionality
Between
Infectious Disease
and
Drug Use

Handout


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Harm Reduction Conference
AUGUST 25, 2022

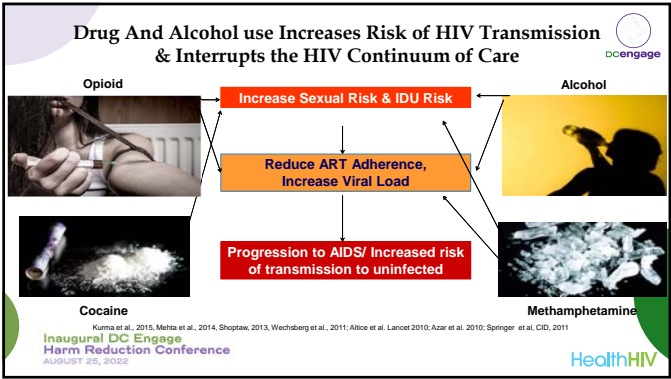
Intersection of HIV and Substance Use: The Need for Integrated Care

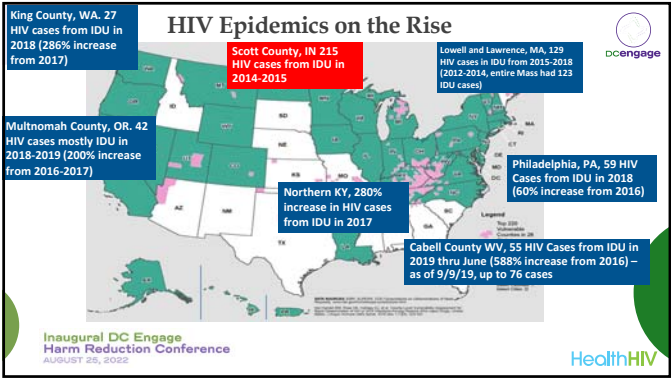
Irene Kuo, PhD, MPH
Associate Research Professor
George Washington University School of Public Health

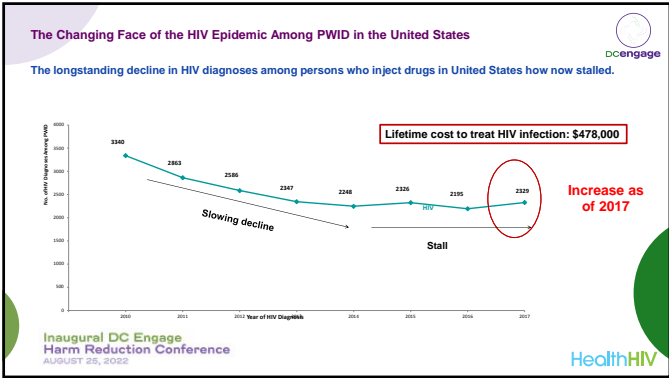
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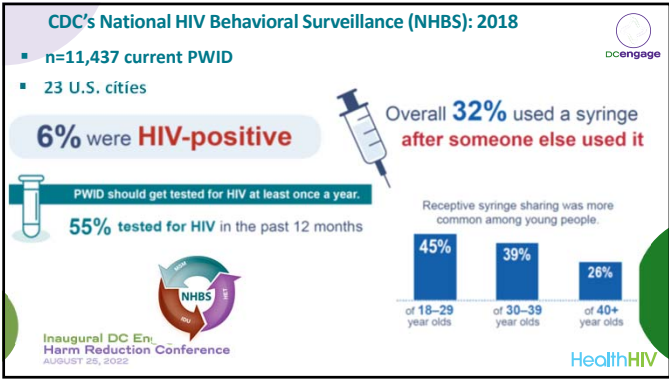
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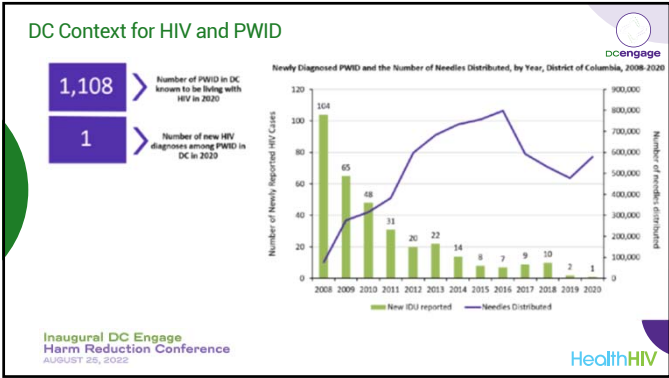












Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) Goal in the United States

GOAL: HHS will work with each community to establish local teams on the ground to tailor and implement strategies to:

75% reduction in new HIV infections in 5 years and at least 90% reduction in 10 years.

Diagnose all people with HIV as early as possible.

Treat the infection rapidly and effectively to achieve sustained viral suppression.

Prevent new HIV transmissions by using proven interventions, including pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and syringe services programs (SSPs).

Respond quickly to potential HIV outbreaks to get needed prevention and treatment services to people who need them.

TEST

Treat & VS

PrEP

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HIV Treatment as Prevention (TasP)

A key goal of ART is to prevent sexual transmission of HIV to seronegative partners

PLHIV who take HIV medication daily as prescribed

and get and keep an undetectable viral load

have effectively no risk of sexually transmitting HIV to their HIV-negative partners

*TasP applies only to sexual transmission of HIV

SOURCE: Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) - Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) and HIV Treatment as Prevention (TasP) Fact Sheet. Updated 2021. Available at <https://www.hhs.gov/od/ohrt/tas-p-fact-sheet/>. Accessed 8/25/22.

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Persons Living with Diagnosed or Undiagnosed HIV Infection HIV Care Continuum Outcomes, by Transmission Category, 2018 – United States

Transmission Category	Diagnosed (%)	Receipt of care (%)	Retained in care (%)	Viral suppression (%)
Total	86	65	50	56
Male-to-male sexual contact	84	65	49	57
IDU - male	93	60	47	50
IDU - female	94	69	54	57
Male-to-male sexual contact and IDU	92	73	57	60
Heterosexual contact - male	83	59	46	50
Heterosexual contact - female	88	67	51	56

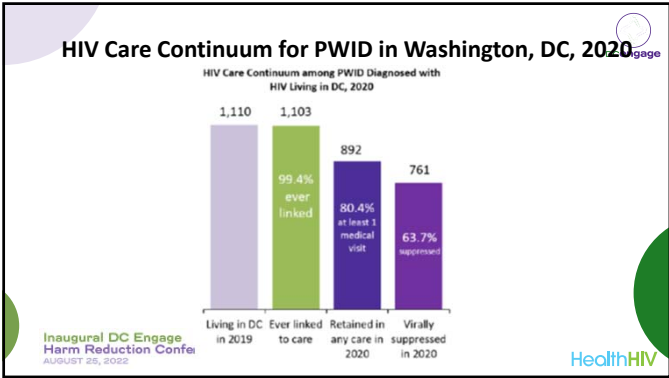
Note: Receipt of medical care was defined as at least (CD4 or VL) in 2018. Retained in continuous medical care was defined as at least (CD4 or VL) 13 months apart in 2018. Viral suppression was defined as <200 copies/mL on the most recent VL test in 2018. Heterosexual contact is with a person known to have, or be at high risk for, HIV infection. IDU, injection drug use.

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HIV Prevention: Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP)

- CDC recommends for those having condomless sexual intercourse or sharing injection equipment w/person with HIV or unknown HIV status, or for those who had recent STI (within 6 months)

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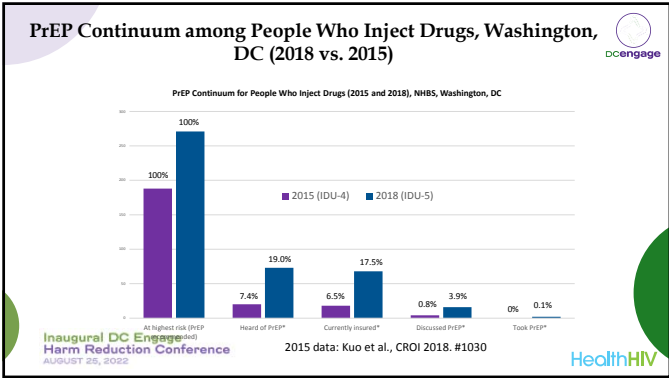
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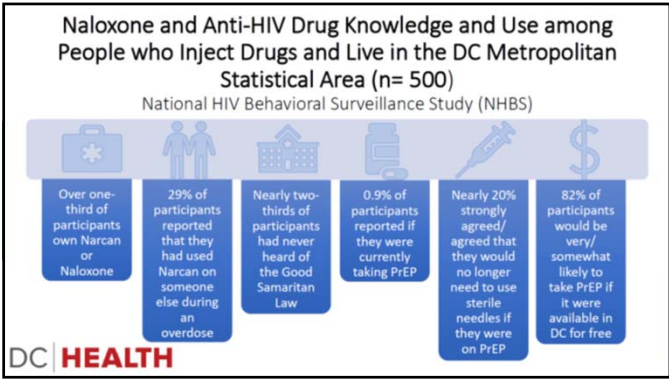
HIV Prevention: Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP)

- FDA-approved PrEP regimens
- **Oral daily pill** (Truvada or Descovy) approved for people at risk through sex or injection drug use.
 - Descovy only approved for men and transgender women (not cis-gender women)
- **Every 2 month injection** of cabotegravir (Apretude) approved for people at risk through sex
 - **Taken correctly can be **more than 90% effective in preventing in HIV transmission**

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Medication for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD)

Three forms of MOUD:


- Methadone
- Buprenorphine/naloxone (Suboxone)
- Extended-released naltrexone

Bottom line—they all work to:

- Decrease opioid use, prevent OD
- Decrease risk of transmission of infectious diseases like HIV & HCV
- Improve psychosocial outcomes (e.g. obtaining jobs, quality of life)
- Decrease criminal behavior
- Buprenorphine and Methadone also treat opioid withdrawal and pain


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Medication treatment of OUD also improves HIV viral suppression.....

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A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Studies Evaluating the Effect of Medication Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder on Infectious Disease Outcomes

Katelyn F McNamara, BS, Breanne E Biondi, MPH, Raúl U Hernández-Ramírez, PhD, Noor Taweh, Alyssa A Grimshaw, MSLIS, Sandra A Springer, MD

Open Forum Infectious Diseases, ofab289, <https://doi.org/10.1093/ofid/ofab289>
Published: 02 June 2021 Article history

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MOUD was associated with :

- Greater ART Adherence OR 1.55, 95%CI 1.12-2.10
- HIV Viral Suppression OR 2.19, 95% CI 1.88-2.56

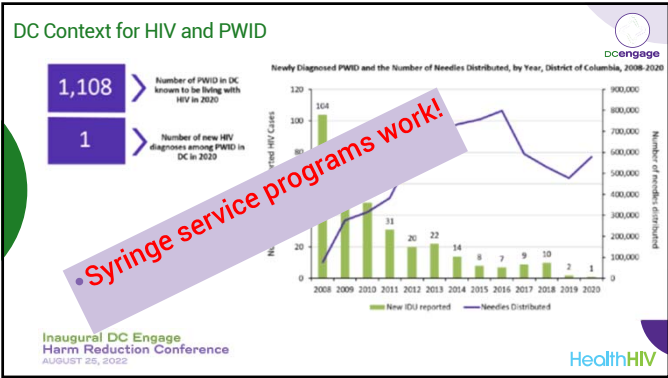


DC's Response to the HIV and Opioid Epidemics

- Expanded overdose reversal medication (i.e., Narcan or naloxone) via Live.Long.DC (Dept of Behavioral Health)
- Expanded access to treatment assessment referral sites <https://dbh.dc.gov/page/sud-assessment-and-referral-sites-faq>
- Needle Exchange (NEX) (DC Health) <https://dchealth.dc.gov/service/needle-exchange-nex>
 - Bread for the City
 - Family and Medical Counseling Service (FMCS)
 - Honoring Individual Power and Strength (HIPS)
 - Us Helping Us (UHU)

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GW INTEGRA Study (HIV Prevention Trials Network Study 094)

- “Bringing services to where people are at...”
- Integrated care on mobile unit for people who inject opioids:
 - MOUD
 - HIV care
 - HIV prevention (PrEP)
 - Hepatitis C Virus testing and care referrals
 - Primary care
- Goal is to provide “one-stop shopping” of integrated care and prevention services on the mobile unit within neighborhoods

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In conclusion...

- Drug and alcohol use lead to increased risk for HIV
- DC’s PWID cases are declining but should not sleep on this!
- Effective forms of HIV prevention
 - HIV treatment
 - HIV PrEP
 - But low engagement or knowledge
- Medication for opiate use disorder can improve HIV care engagement (and PrEP use also?)
- There is a need for more models of integrated care for MOUD and HIV care/prevention for opioid users to address the intersection of HIV and opioid use

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Questions?

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Kevon Smith (He/Him)
Regional Housing Service Chair
Oxford House Inc.



HealthHIV.org/programs/DC-Engage


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Childhood – The Building Blocks



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- A snapshot of "Mom"
- My mom was a cold woman
- She was physically & mentally abusive
- I couldn't trust her with my emotions
- I was never "Good" enough for my mom
- I was pushed further and further away



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How Childhood Informed My Adult Experience



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- Emotional detachment from my mother
- Entered adulthood with self image issues
- Inadvertently coping with depression
- Dealing with anxiety
- Inability to accept the fact that I was gay
- Unable to love myself

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Navigating The Gay Landscape In Active Use

- Looking for love in all the wrong places
- I'm Introduced to my Super Power
- Where everybody knows your name
- The Good, The Bad and the Ugly
- Trust issues realized
- Stigma amongst family
- Not knowing when to ask for help
- Life became unmanageable



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