



Integrating Whole-Person Care to End the Syndemic: A Quality Improvement Summit

October 18, 2023 | 9:30am - Noon
[Zoom Link](#) / [Registration Link](#)

The **Quality and Performance Measures (QPM) Team** of the CT HIV Planning Consortium is proud to present this summit.

Summit Goals Include:

1. Address critical issues that will help us end the HIV syndemic in Connecticut:
 - a. Disparities in HIV Testing and HIV Prevention
 - b. Unmet needs for people with HIV - highlighting projects that address Oral Health, Housing, and Retention in Care;
 - c. Related epidemics including Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) and Viral Hepatitis C (HCV).
2. Inspire participants to engage in Quality Improvement (QI) projects that help end the HIV syndemic.



AGENDA

- 9:15 am** Pre-meeting Welcome
- 9:30 am** Opening and Introduction | Peta-Gaye Nembhard, QPM chair
- 9:40 am** STIs and Doxy PEP | Dr. Amit Achhra
- 10:15 am** Quality Improvement / Oral Health presentation | Dr. Michael Virata
- 10:35 am** Bio-Break (feat. various campaign videos & a 1st hand look at the Connecticut Routine HIV Testing Toolkit)
- 10:45 am** Breakout Sessions
- **PrEP and HIV Testing**
 - CHC | Michael Judd & Maria Lorenzo
 - Chat 4 Change | Katie Clark
 - APNH | Barry Walters & Josh Chandler
 - Q & A with presenters
 - **Addressing Unmet Needs: Oral Health**
 - ACT | Erika Mott & HGLHC | Ruth Murray
 - Stamford CARES | Gigi Chaux
 - GBAPP | Jean Brown
 - Q & A with presenters
 - **Whole-Person Care: Housing, Retention in Care, Viral Hepatitis C**
 - CCMC / UConn | Danielle Warren-Dias, Consuelo Munoz, & Nilda Fernandez
 - Mercy Housing and Shelter | Marcus Vassell
 - DPH / Yale Hepatitis C Project | Lisa Nichols & Max Wegener
 - Q & A with presenters
- 11:50 am** Summary and Next Steps
- Noon** Adjourn



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

**Dr. Amit Achhra, Assistant Professor of Medicine
Yale University**

STIs and Doxy PEP:

I completed my internal medicine residency training at the NYP/Weill-Cornell, New York, and fellowship in Infectious diseases/HIV at the Massachusetts General Hospital and Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard University, Boston. Prior to that, I did a PhD at the Kirby Institute/University of New South Wales (Australia) in epidemiological studies in HIV/AIDS. My work has focused on impact of weight gain from antiretroviral therapy on diabetes and cardiovascular outcomes; dual-drug therapies for HIV/AIDS; inflammatory markers and clinical outcomes in HIV; and implementation research on improving HIV treatment outcomes in Asia-Pacific, amongst others. Clinically, I'm interested in HIV primary care, cases of HIV with complex resistance history, STIs, COVID-19 therapeutics, and general infectious diseases.

PRESENTERS

**Dr. Michael Virata, MD FACP, FIDSA, AAHIVS
Associate Professor of Medicine
Yale University**

New Haven EMA Region 1 Approach to Oral Health for PWH as part of the Ryan White Part A program. A CQM initiative:

This presentation gives and overview of the approach taken by the CQM (continuous quality management), team in addressing Oral Health service delivery in Region 1 of the New Haven EMA (eligible management area), using process mapping, drivers and the Ishikawa diagram.



PRESENTERS | BREAKOUT SESSION #1

PrEP and HIV Testing



Michael Judd & Maria Lorenzo
Community Health Center, Inc. (CHC)

Increasing PrEP Discussions:

The goal of the PDSA is to increase the number of PrEP discussions between CHC providers and their patients who were identified as high-risk for HIV exposure based on specific criteria.

Katie Clark
CHER Solutions

Beyond Numbers: Data Insights and Lessons Learned from a PrEP Community-Based Evaluation:

The evaluator of one of APNH's community-based PrEP interventions shares data recommendations and lessons learned for teams conducting program evaluation and implementation of community-based programs.



Barry Walters & Josh Chandler
APNH: A Place to Nourish Your Health

Using Social Media to Improve PrEP and HIV Testing Access:

This presentation will provide an overview of strategies used to promote HIV testing and PrEP across social media platforms. Examples of social media advertisements will be shown to illustrate the application of these strategies.



PRESENTERS | BREAKOUT SESSION #2

Addressing Unmet Needs: Oral Health



Erika Mott | ACT (Advancing Connecticut Together)
Ruth Murray | Hartford Gay & Lesbian Health Collective
ACT Oral Health PDSA:

ACT has been working to improve the tracking of our Medical Case Management clients in regards to their oral health care. We've partnered with the Hartford Gay and Lesbian Health Collective to accurately represent clients who are engaged at varying levels and then beginning to use strategies to engage clients who are less compliant as well as folks who are disengaged from their oral health care entirely.



Gigi Chau
Stamford CARES
Oral Health Project:

The project aimed to increase Oral Health Screening from a baseline of 13% to 75%. Strategies included first identifying gaps using different QI (Quality Improvement) techniques including Fish Diagrams and mapping, engaging regional partners, and conducting a stand-alone dental clinic event.

Jean Brown
GBAPP (Greater Bridgeport Area Prevention Program)
Oral Health Screenings:

To better understand the reporting measures, Region 3 of Ryan White Part A conducted a thorough Process Map to understand the gaps in the workflow when clients present to their clinic and how the data is entered into their CAREWare database. This included who entered the information and where so that standardization was possible to understand the entire EMA Oral Health Screenings percentage outcomes.





PRESENTERS | BREAKOUT SESSION #3

Whole-Person Care: Housing, Retention in Care, Hepatitis



**Consuelo Munoz, Nilda Fernandez, &
Danielle Warren-Dias**
CT Children's | UCONN Health

Healthier Housing Systems = Healthier Youth with HIV:

The housing continuum for youth with HIV experiencing homelessness is broken. Therefore, viral suppression for program's youth experiencing homelessness was at a baseline of 43% (2019). This project sought to increase viral load suppression among youth experiencing homelessness, and improve housing stability and employment.



Marcus Vassell
Mercy Housing and Shelter

Housing Services: Retention in Care:

Mercy aimed for a goal of 90% housing stability and 90% of clients meeting care retention goals.



Lisa Nichols, MPH (Program Manager)
Maximilian Wegener, MPH (Epidemiologist)

Leveraging a Data to Care Approach to Cure Hepatitis C within RWHP (Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program):

Collaboration between health departments and clinics is essential to improving Hepatitis C cure for those with HIV/HCV coinfection. Viral clearance and treatment cascades built using data from the health department and clinics can facilitate cure and we will briefly share methodologies for creating these, along with examples of such cascades for the state of CT (using surveillance data provided by DPH) and for a collaborating clinic (Charter Oak). Finally, we will share resources (e.g., training videos) created as a result of the initiative.



**THE QPM TEAM WOULD LIKE THANK
ALL OF OUR PARTNERS WHO HELPED
PLAN AND EXECUTE THIS EVENT**



**THIS EVENT WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE ON THE
CONNECTICUT HIV PLANNING CONSORTIUM'S WEBSITE
FOLLOWING THE CONCLUSION OF THE EVENT.**

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