HIV in MSAW Communities: Examining Challenges, Impacts & Strategies

NCFH & Valley AIDS Council

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The **National Center for Farmworker Health** is a private, not-for-profit organization located in Buda, Texas, whose mission is “To improve the health of farmworker families”.

- Population specific data resources and technical assistance
- Workforce development and training
- Health education resources and program development
- Board Governance training
- Program Management
Today’s Speakers

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HIV in MSAW Communities: Examining Challenges, Impacts & Strategies

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Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement

- Armando Molina has nothing to disclose
- Pedro Coronado has the following to disclose:
  - Has been a paid presenter for Gilead Sciences

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Unconscious Bias Disclosure

- SCAETC recognizes that language is constantly evolving, and while we make every effort to avoid bias and stigmatizing terms, we acknowledge that unintentional lapses may occur in our presentations.
- We value your feedback and encourage you to share any concerns related to language, images, or concepts that may be offensive or stigmatizing.
- Your input will help us refine and improve our presentations, ensuring they remain inclusive and respectful to participants.
Learning Objectives

1. Define the unique challenges that MSAWs face in relation to HIV, limited access to health care & stigma.
2. Identify the basic impacts of HIV on MSAW health, including medical mistrust.
3. Learn strategies and interventions that help mitigate HIV transmission and improve healthcare access.
The Reality

- Ending the domestic HIV/AIDS epidemic will require collaborative, innovative, and community-informed approaches since the factors fueling the epidemic in the United States are largely social and structural.
Valley AIDS Council (VAC)

- Prevention Services
- Treatment Services
- Social Services
- Training for the Healthcare Community
Overview of HIV and Stage 3 HIV (AIDS)
Definitions & Meanings

H
Human
- Only affects HUMANS and lives in HUMANS

I
Immunodeficiency
- Refers to a lack (deficiency) or breakdown of Immune System

V
Virus
- Virus attacks and destroys the immune system which is usually able to defend against infections
AIDS vs Stage 3 HIV

- **AIDS**: Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
- **Stage 3 HIV**: A stage of the effect that the virus has in the body.
- Updating our Language to destigmatize HIV.
HIV Progression

- Before HIV Infection
- Acute HIV Infection
- Chronic HIV Infection
- AIDS

- Weeks to Months
- Years

- CD4 Cells
- HIV

Stage 1
Stage 2
Stage 3
Treatment as Prevention

- Advancement in medical therapies
  - Antiretroviral Therapies
  - Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis
  - Post Exposure Prophylaxis
  - Harm Reduction

GOAL:
75% reduction in new HIV infections by 2025 and at least 90% reduction by 2030.

www.hiv.gov
Importance of U=U

- Continuity of HIV Care
- Reduce Stigma
- Reduce transmission of HIV
- Ending the HIV Epidemic
Unique Challenges our Migrant Communities Face
Challenges

- Language
- Culture related stigma
- Proximity to health centers
- Continuity of care affected by constant mobility
- Knowing their rights in the U.S.
- Unreported sexual assault
Challenges

▪ Migrants living in high income countries are disproportionately affected by HIV and frequently have poor HIV clinical outcomes.
▪ Migrants acquire HIV after migration. Late diagnosis often occurs.
▪ Few studies have examined interventions targeted to improve HIV outcomes among migrants.

https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5750122/
Challenges

- Who holds power in this country?
- What is Intersectionality and how does it affect our migrant communities?
Impact of HIV on Migrant Communities
Impact: New HIV Diagnoses in 2021 by Race and Ethnicity

Racial and ethnic differences in HIV diagnoses persist.

- Black/African American: 40% (14,528)
- Hispanic/Latino: 29% (10,467)
- White: 25% (9,063)
- Multiracial: 3% (1,041)
- Asian: 2% (738)
- American Indian/Alaska Native: 1% (223)
- Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander: <1% (76)

Impact: New HIV Diagnoses in 2021 by Subpopulation

Gay and bisexual men are the population most affected by HIV.

Impact

Historical Trauma: Medical Mistrust

• In 1970, a whistleblower exposed evidence of rampant abuses at the Los Angeles County/USC Medical Center, where mostly Mexican women were coerced into agreeing to be sterilized. Evidence showed that Spanish-speaking women were repeatedly approached during childbirth and pressured to sign consent forms written in English.

Reference: https://unidosus.org/blog/2021/12/16/the-long-history-of-forced-sterilization-of-latinas/
Impact

61% migrants seroconverted after arrival in the US. Data of people newly diagnosed with HIV in New York City

https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5750122/
Strategies and Interventions
Strategies & Interventions

Destigmatizing HIV within our Migrant Communities

- Stigma and limited access to care appear to be primary drivers of poor HIV outcomes among migrants in high-income countries.
Strategies & Interventions

- Cultural Humility and Awareness
- Addressing Legal and Policy Barriers
- Community Engagement and Peer Support
- Community Health Workers
Strategies & Interventions

- Language Access
- Collaboration with NGOs and Community Organizations
- Regular Health Screenings
- Data Collection and Research
Strategies & Interventions

MEET THEM where THEY are AT!

Distribution of Condoms and Educational Materials: Provide free condoms and educational materials on HIV prevention at workplaces, community centers, and other locations frequented by agricultural workers.
Strategies & Interventions

**Mobile Clinics**
- Implement mobile healthcare units to reach remote or isolated migrant worker communities, providing HIV testing, counseling, and treatment services.

**Telemedicine Services**
- Utilize telemedicine to overcome geographical barriers, allowing migrant workers to access healthcare services remotely.
Strategies & Interventions

TO TAKE DOWN A TREE, YOU MUST GET TO ITS ROOTS

The Black Church & HIV: THE SOCIAL JUSTICE IMPERATIVE
Food for Thought

“Moving allyship to activism is about looking for ways that you, as a person in a privileged position, can truly uplift the voices of those who are often out on the frontlines of change”

-Dr. Jonathan Paul Higgins
References


- NIH National Library of Medicine
  [https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5750122/](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5750122/)

- [www.hiv.gov](http://www.hiv.gov)
Resources

- National Clinician Consultation Center
  http://nccc.ucsf.edu/
  - HIV Management
  - Perinatal HIV
  - HIV PrEP
  - HIV PEP line
  - HCV Management
  - Substance Use Management

- Present on ECHO
  - https://hsc.unm.edu/scaetc/programs-services/echo.html

- AETC National HIV Curriculum
  https://aidsetc.org/nhc

- AETC National Coordinating Resource Center
  https://targethiv.org/library/aetc-national-coordinating-resource-center-0

- HIVMA Resource Directory

- Additional trainings
  scaetcecho@salud.unm.edu
  www.scaetc.org
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Thank you!

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Population Specific
- Population Estimation

Health Education/Patient Education Resources
- Resource Hubs
  - Diabetes
  - Mental Health
  - SDOH
- Digital Stories

Governance/ Workforce Training
- Health Center ToolBox
- Archived Webinars

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Helpline for Farmworkers and their families

- Connects Farmworkers to healthcare and social services
- Assists with limited financial resources for health services

Una Voz Para La Salud
Call for Health

1 (800) 377-9968
1 (737) 414-5121 WhatsApp
http://www.ncfh.org/callforhealth.html

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The Farmworker Health Network works cooperatively with HRSA to provide training and technical assistance to over a thousand Community & Migrant Health Centers throughout the U.S.
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