

Partner Services Prison Program

Conducting integrated Partner Services (PS) in the correctional setting for the prevention of HIV/STDs, requires the state nurse consultant to provide health advocacy services for inmates, provide partner services to HIV-infected clients, monitor the HIV/STD Peer education program and support the prison peer educators who provide educational in-services to inmates. In addition, the nurse consultant ensures that state corrections maintain compliance with communicable disease mandates required by prison policy as well as oversee procedures that support the provision of court-ordered testing in compliance with Michigan law. Highlights of these responsibilities are provided below:

Health Advocacy Services for Inmates:

- Assist MDOC healthcare staff with the interpretation of diagnostic test results
- Collaborate with MDOC medical staff to address the psychosocial needs of HIV infected inmates
- Assist the MDOC medical staff to ensure that inmates are promptly transitioned into 'Infectious Disease (ID) Care. Ensuring inmate transition into care requires the following actions:
 - Ensure that an infectious disease (ID) consult request has been completed. Taking this step ensures that the ID physician is aware of the inmates medical status and need for subsequent medical assessment.
 - Work closely with the ID Director and Reception and Guidance Center (RGC) Communicable Disease Coordinator, to ensure that the Standards for HIV Medical Practice are followed.
 - Review immune panel labs (CD4, % and Viral Load) and ensure that the Medical Provider (MP) is promptly notified of the results (ex: T-lymphocytes <14 require prophylaxis antibiotic)
 - Assist nursing staff with HIV infected inmates transition into care in the community setting. AIDS Partnership of Michigan (APM) is contracted with MDOC as initial community contact agency.
 - Assist clinical staff and inmates with medication verification and access to community health records

Partner Services in the Correctional Setting:

- Conduct case investigations of HIV/STD infected clients to provide prevention counseling
- Elicit demographic information of at-risk partners in need of exposure notification

- Forward partner information to appropriate local health department for follow up
- Conduct cluster interviewing to identify other persons who might benefit from counseling, testing, and other intervention services
- Support linkage to care by ensuring access to treatment and other support services
- Educate inmates on diet, exercise, stress management, expectation for MDOC and community case management, life style changes, importance of medication adherence and partnering with nursing and MP in their care

HIV/STD Peer Education Training Program

- Implement and monitor the HIV/STD Peer Education Program to ensure that incoming prisoners receive education on communicable diseases in accordance to prison policy 03.04.120 which indicates: *that there shall be comprehensive communicable disease education of blood borne infections for staff and prisoners. The programs shall be coordinated and monitored by the Infectious Disease Coordinator in BHCS in collaboration with the Department of Community Health and the Office of New Employee Training and Professional Development, Operations Support Administration, and the Operations Division, Correctional Facilities Administration (CFA). The Infectious Disease Coordinator shall work with the Department of Community Health to assure full utilization of that Department's expertise and education materials.*
- Supervise and monitor the Peer Educators (approximately 10 Inmates) to ensure the provision of accurate educational content and adherence to MDOC policy
- Provide and review up-to-date, accurate and scientifically based HIV/STD information to Peer Educator
- Organize and offer additional HIV/STD educational opportunities/ material (ex: Annual HIV/STD update for existing inmates, pamphlets)