

Quality improvement of outpatient initiation of HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis

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Background: 151 people in Newark, NJ were newly diagnosed with HIV in 2019, or 67 of 100,000 compared to 14 across the state. HIV led to 98 deaths in Newark in 2019. Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) with oral emtricitibine/tenofovir disoproxil fumarate reduces the risk of HIV infection by >90%. It was approved by the FDA in 2012, but less than one fifth of men who have sex with men are estimated to have taken PrEP in 2016. Barriers to use include lack of awareness from both patients and providers leading to lack of initiation. This study aims to maximize the rate that patients at high risk of acquiring HIV infection are appropriately started on PrEP at the University Hospital Ambulatory Internal Medicine Clinic (AIMC).

Methods: Among new patients in the AIMC, we plan to collect data on sexual and recreational substance use history and whether pre-exposure HIV prophylaxis was offered and initiated by the patient. Our planned interventions include resident education prior to their two-week ambulatory blocks and adding to the new patient note template in the electronic health record (EHR). We plan to iteratively assess and adjust our interventions accordingly.

Results & Conclusion: IRB pending