National and Local HIV/AIDS Strategies

National HIV/AIDS Strategy
The National HIV/AIDS Strategy envisions that, “The United States will become a place where new HIV infections are rare, and when they do occur, every person, regardless of age, gender, race/ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, or socio-economic circumstance, will have unfettered access to high-quality, life-extending care, free from stigma and discrimination.”

Local HIV/AIDS Strategy
Latterman Family Health Clinic and UPMC are collaborating with the AIDS Free Pittsburgh initiative.

This initiative is a collaborative public health movement that aims to reduce the rate of new HIV cases by 75% and eliminate new AIDS diagnoses in Allegheny County by the year 2020. The initiative’s key strategies include normalizing routine HIV screening, increasing access to Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) for HIV prevention, and facilitating immediate linkage to care for persons newly diagnosed with HIV.

HIV Care at Latterman Family Health Center

Latterman Family Health Center
2347 Fifth Ave.
McKeesport, PA 15132
412-673-5504
Monday, Wednesday and Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday and Thursday: 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Funding for the patient education materials is made possible by the Special Projects of National Significance (SPNS) initiative funding: System-level Workforce Capacity Building for Integrating HIV Primary Care in Community Health Care Settings, Grant #H97HA27434. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the government.

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What is HIV/AIDS?
HIV stands for human immunodeficiency virus. If left untreated, HIV can lead to the disease AIDS (acquired immunodeficiency syndrome). HIV affects specific cells of the immune system called CD4 cells, or T cells. Over time, if left untreated, HIV can destroy so many of these cells that the body can’t fight off infections and disease.

Who is at risk?
Anyone who engages in risky behaviors can be exposed to the HIV virus. Risky behaviors include having unprotected sex with someone of unknown HIV status or sharing injection drug needles. Anyone who engages in risky behaviors can contract the virus regardless of age, sex, race, income, or sexual orientation. It is important that you are tested if you do not know your HIV status. If you believe you may be regularly exposed to HIV, ask your doctor about PrEP. PrEP is a once daily pill that can provide a high level of protection against HIV.

Why Should I Be Tested?
Approximately 36.9 million people are living with HIV/AIDS worldwide. More than 1.1 million Americans are living with HIV and about 1 in 7 are unaware of their infection. HIV transmission cannot be eliminated if individuals do not know their HIV status (i.e., whether they are HIV-infected or HIV-negative). An HIV test is the only way to determine if a person is living with the virus. Once an individual knows if s/he is living with HIV, safer behaviors should be practiced to reduce or eliminate the risk of transmission.

How Do I Get Tested?
You can ask your primary care physician to include a test when the physician does routine blood tests for other medical conditions. Also, you can obtain a free HIV test at locations such as the Allegheny Health Department or Allies for Health + Wellbeing.

HIV Care and Treatment at Latterman Family Health Center
Physicians provide comprehensive (preventive, acute, and chronic) care to all family members regardless of age or gender. Whether you have the flu, are managing diabetes, or need prenatal care, you can count on Latterman Family Health Center.

Latterman Family Health Center has multiple physicians to provide HIV treatment and help you manage the disease. All staff are trained to understand HIV and to provide confidential, supportive care for those living with the disease. Additionally, Latterman has an in-house laboratory for blood draws and a pharmacist available for consults and medication counseling.

The UPMC Family Medicine program has a dedicated HIV Primary Care track. Its mission is to train future family medicine physicians with an interest in HIV medicine to provide comprehensive and high-quality care to HIV-infected individuals and their families.

Assistance Programs
Uninsured patients who are HIV-infected can receive care, regardless of ability to pay. Our program receives federal funding through the Ryan White CARE Act. These funds support medical care and support services for HIV-infected individuals who do not have health insurance or are under-insured. Pennsylvania has an AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) known as the Special Pharmaceutical Benefits Program (SPBP) which helps individuals obtain medications at no cost or significantly reduced rates.

For those who qualify, assistance is also available for dental and vision care, health insurance premiums, and other support services.

A medical case manager is available to help determine if you qualify for any assistance.

Local Patient Resources

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<th>AGENCY</th>
<th>CONTACT</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mon Yough Community Services</td>
<td>412-675-6927</td>
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<tr>
<td>UPMC PACT Clinic</td>
<td>412-647-7228</td>
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<tr>
<td>Allegheny County Health Department</td>
<td>412-578-8081</td>
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Confidentiality
At UPMC, service to our patients is our top priority, and we understand your concerns about privacy. Medical records are available only to those involved in your treatment or research, and no information is released without your permission unless required by law.