

## **New York State Department of Health AIDS Institute HIV Quality of Care Clinical Advisory Committee – June 15, 2017**

**CAC Update** – Julian Brown provided a summary of the Consumer Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, June 14, 2017. Key highlights of the meeting included presentations on organizational HIV treatment cascades, updates on NYLINKS activities, and an overview of a new quality initiative to examine HIV-related mortality as a sentinel event.

**Organizational HIV Treatment Cascade Panels** – Chrissy Witzke of Stony Brook University Hospital, Pedro Carneiro of Callen-Lorde Community Health Center, Julie Vaughan of Evergreen Health, Shruti Ramachandran and Rebecca Lindner of Mount Sinai Health System, Elizabeth Asiago-Reddy of SUNY Upstate Hospital and Diane Anderson of St. John’s Riverside Hospital presented their respective organizations’ HIV treatment cascades. Common themes that emerged from the presentations included the difficulties of reconciling multiple data sources, the need to target open caseload patients in quality improvement activities, and the importance of engaging organization leadership and IT personnel early in the process of cascade development.

**HIV on Long Island: Heat Maps and REDCaps** – Dr. James McGowan presented on North Shore University Hospital’s use of REDCap and heat mapping to target community outreach and prevention efforts on Long Island. Using geo-mapping to display rates of incident STIs, Dr. McGowan and his team were able to identify “hot zones” to focus their HIV testing campaigns and interventions. Dr. McGowan also described his team’s use of REDCap to track the association of viral load suppression with patient covariates that are not easily analyzed through the EMR, including mental health comorbidity and history of substance use.

**Progress of the Ending the Epidemic Initiative** – Karen Hagos provided an overview of NYSDOH AIDS Institute policy activities related to the Governor’s Ending the Epidemic Initiative, including U=U, HIV testing and minor consent to HIV treatment and preventive services, HCV elimination efforts, hubs of care for drug user health, Project ECHO for STI screening and treatment, and investigations of HIV-related mortality as a sentinel event. Dr. James Tesoriero continued the presentation by sharing data on EtE indicators, highlighting that for the first time in over a decade, there was a reduction in new HIV diagnoses among MSM in 2014-2015. Dr. Tesoriero noted that further analyses of indicator data are forthcoming as NYSDOH awaits guidance on calculations of HIV incidence from CDC.

**Morbidity and Mortality Rounds at Callen-Lorde** – Dr. Peter Meacher delivered a presentation on morbidity and mortality rounds that are conducted at Callen-Lorde, highlighting two case presentations. Dr. Meacher stated that while these rounds are not common in the community health setting, they can nevertheless be very useful for diagnosing system-level issues and barriers, sharing that SOPs regarding follow-up intervals and supervision of patients’ weight history have been adopted as a result of findings from morbidity and mortality rounds.

**Mortality Subcommittee Update** – Dr. Peter Gordon delivered an updated on mortality subcommittee activities, sharing that the subcommittee is in the process of developing a tool similar to the CoDE tool that can be used by institutes to investigate HIV mortality. Dr. Gordon also reported that the subcommittee will be preparing a formal write-up of their work—including a finalized chart abstraction tool and methodology summary—to present at the next quarterly meeting of QAC in September 2017.

**Azara Viral Load Suppression Reporting Dashboard** – Gregory Augustine presented the viral load suppression reporting dashboard, a new feature offered by Azara that allows facilities to produce month-by-month summaries and run-charts of viral load suppression rates.

*For further information on this meeting, please contact Dan Ikeda at [daniel.ikeda@health.ny.gov](mailto:daniel.ikeda@health.ny.gov).*