

Ask Screen

In concert with recommendations* of the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention, the Health Resources and Services Administration, the National Institutes of Health, and the HIV Medicine Association of the Infectious Disease Society of America, this modular course is designed for care providers of persons living with HIV and promotes the use of the clinical encounter for the prevention of HIV/STD transmission. Continuing Education will be offered upon completion. For course availability please contact your regional PTC, for information go to www.nnptc.org.

MODULE 1 Behavioral Risk Assessment and STD Screening

The HIV epidemic is changing. As care providers, our responses to it must evolve as well. “Prevention fatigue,” increased longevity related to antiretroviral therapy, and the role of drug use in communities at risk have affected changes in HIV transmission patterns. Yet many providers do not routinely ask HIV-positive patients about behaviors related to transmission of HIV to others.

The first Module of the Ask-Screen-Intervene curriculum addresses:

- *Emerging trends in the HIV epidemic*
- *The increasingly recognized role of other STDs in the transmission and acquisition of HIV*
- *Recommendations for enhancing STD/HIV risk screening and assessment techniques*
- *Overcoming barriers to the use of tailored prevention strategies with individual patients*

By providing you the most up-to-date information on the *whats, whens, and hows* of periodic STD screening and treatment, this session will facilitate your implementation of this effective biomedical approach to HIV prevention.

Intervene

MODULE 2 Prevention Interventions

Clinician-delivered prevention messages have been shown time and again to be feasible and effective in reducing patients’ risk of transmitting HIV to partners. In Module Two of Ask-Screen-Intervene, you will learn:

- *Strategies for addressing prevalent misconceptions about HIV transmission risk*
- *The most up-to-date knowledge of how viral load, strategic positioning, and post-exposure chemoprophylaxis can affect transmission risk*
- *Information your patients need to help them keep their partners safe*
- *Relevant prevention messages that can be delivered to all of your HIV-positive patients*

Through interactive exercises, you will practice delivering messages that can motivate patients to both assess and reduce their risk for HIV transmission. Limited time and resources mean many patients require referrals for additional services. As a health care provider, you are afforded a great opportunity to give your patients the necessary tools to help them remain healthy and safe. This session will reinforce use of those tools.

MODULE 3 Partner Services

In the United States, persons living with HIV have access to a service few know about or understand. Partner Services is a voluntary, no-fee public health program that helps HIV-positive individuals disclose their status to their sex or needle-sharing partners. Partner Services has been shown to be effective in identifying previously undiagnosed cases of HIV. In Module Three of the Ask-Screen-Intervene curriculum, you will learn about:

- *Various Partner Services program options available to patients; for those who wish to remain anonymous, the service will inform partners of their exposure to HIV without revealing the initiating patient’s identity*
- *Information about your referral options and legal responsibilities with respect to Partner Services*
- *A presentation by a liaison from the health department, who will be available to discuss locally relevant laws regulations, and practices.*

By increasing your awareness of the policies and protocols of Partner Services, you can provide a benefit to your patients, your practice, and your community.

* “Incorporating HIV Prevention into the Medical Care of Persons Living with HIV,” Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, 2003; 52 (No. RR-12):1-24. <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5212a1.htm>

The National Network of STD/HIV Prevention Training Centers

The NNPTC developed this course in conjunction with the AETCs. The NNPTC is coordinating delivery of this course. For course availability please contact your regional PTC. To learn more about your regional PTC please visit www.nnptc.org.

The National Network of STD/HIV Prevention Training Centers (NNPTC) is a CDC-funded group of regional centers created in partnership with health departments and universities. The PTCs are dedicated to increasing the knowledge and skills of health professionals in the areas of sexual and reproductive health. The NNPTC provides health professionals with a spectrum of state-of-the-art educational opportunities including experiential learning with an emphasis on prevention. For more information, please visit www.nnptc.org.

The AIDS Education and Training Centers (AETCs) are a network of 11 regional centers with more than 130 local performance site and 5 national centers whose mission is to improve the quality of life of patients living with HIV/AIDS through the provision of high-quality professional education and training. The AETCs reach out to healthcare providers in hospitals, clinics, and community health organizations to provide them with education, technical assistance, and tools to enhance patient care. For more information about resources for HIV providers or to learn about AETC programs in your area, visit: www.aidsetc.org.



HIV Prevention *A Clinical Concern*

Effective Prevention
in HIV Care