

Visual access to create greater comprehension: Incorporating the visual arts into a representational analysis of HIV community dialogue on living with HIV and a quality of life

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Background/Purpose:

Over the course of 2021, the National Association of People Living with HIV Australia (NAPWHA) set out to discover what constitutes a quality of life (QoL) for people living with HIV (PLHIV) in Australia. As part of this project, they engaged an artist living with HIV to sit in on the webinars, debates, discussions, and briefings with the explicit intention of capturing the key messages that came out of the project. Five unique pieces of art have been created to compliment a narrative position describing what a QoL means to PLHIV in Australia.

Approach:

With the support of ViiV and utilising the ViiV Positive Perspectives 2 Manifesto as the catalyst for discussions, NAPWHA held a number of events over 12 months which interrogated issues such as polypharmacy, intersectionality, healthcare and patient relationships, health literacy and quality of life through a variety of online formats.

NAPWHA recruited an artist living with HIV to sit in and take part in these sessions with the explicit instruction to capture essence and key aspects of these sessions. In the end five pieces of artwork have been developed which have reflected the issues and discussions.

Outcomes/impact:

Examples of the co-creation of art within the HIV academic, research and service provision spheres are rare. Co-creative activities are an integral part of artistic experiences, as participants in collaborative learning engage and are engaged in cognitive, emotional, and imaginal practices to appropriate and make sense of lived experiences.

Innovation and Significance:

The artworks created through this project will be integrated as visual elements of a final report on the activities. They will speak to the discussions that were had and draw attention to the elements that were seen at the different activities for those who could not be present.

Disclosure of Interest Statement:

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