

CHRONIC CONDITIONS OF PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV: A QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.

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Background/Purpose

The success of anti-retroviral therapy has shifted HIV to a chronic disease, presenting new challenges for care. A range of HIV-associated non-AIDS co-morbidities impact people living with HIV (PLWHIV).

This project aimed to understand and confirm the priority areas of chronic condition management from an Australian perspective. These priority areas informed the development of a quality improvement program.

Approach

This project had three components:

1. Multi-disciplinary symposium: to discuss and identify current issues in supporting the chronic condition health needs of PLWHIV.
2. MedicineInsight* report: Analysis of data looking at the care provided to PLWHIV by GPs.
3. Medical education program: Delivery of facilitated small group meetings to general practices, using data at national and individual practice level to inform the discussion.

* MedicineInsight is an Australian large-scale national general practice data program which extracts and collates longitudinal, de-identified patient health records from clinical information systems

Outcomes/Impact

The symposium outcomes recommended focusing on cardiovascular and renal conditions. Data from 315 practices, including 4492 patients with HIV was analysed. Analysis revealed differences in monitoring practices for cardiovascular & renal risk factors of PLWHIV compared with best practice guidelines and people without HIV. Differences were also seen between high and low caseload practices.

The program was delivered to 101 health professionals in 15 general practices with high and low caseloads of PLWHIV in Sydney and Melbourne.

Innovation and Significance

Reflection on current management of PLWHIV, using data and a facilitated discussion as a basis for a quality improvement program, prompted improvements in patient care.

Disclosure of Interest Statement

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