

# **CASE MANAGEMENT TEAM APPROACH OF A CLIENT WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DELAY AND HIV ASSOCIATED COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT USING POSITIVE REINFORCEMENTS AND STRENGTH BASE MODEL TO INCREASE MEDICATION ADHERENCE AND SERVICE ENGAGEMENT.**

## **Authors:**

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## **Background/Purpose:**

The aim of the ADAHPS services is to provide care and support to people with HIV-associated cognitive impairment and complex needs including medication adherence and service engagement.

## **Approach:**

A client presented with HIV-associated cognitive impairment. He also substance abused, engaged in sex work with suspected unprotected sex, had poor medication adherence, finance and housing problems and almost no service engagement. He always arrived early for his daily allowance from the Public Trustee Office. In order to use this strength of his, a new strategy was developed to reward the client for his compliance with tasks and his medication, using positive reinforcements. In the spirit of team work, a holistic approach was taken using all community and health workers who were involved in his care.

## **Outcomes/Impact:**

After two years of positive reinforcements, there was significant improvement in the client's health and self-care. He chases up workers for his medication with the intention of claiming his reward, attends his own case conferences, presents for medical appointments and allows for testing. His viral load is undetectable, he commenced Hepatitis C treatment, ceased using illicit drugs and has shown increasing interest in attending drug rehabilitation.

The team collaboration formed a continuous flow of shared adjustments to accommodate the client's progress and changing needs. The outcome was measured by client self-reporting, brokerage worker reports, the number of rewards the client receives, as well as the undetected viral load and the reduced number of hospital admissions.

## **Innovation and Significance:**

Using a strengths-based model over the two years, the client has fully engaged with services and medically adherent. This strategy has not only extended the client's life span, but also promoted in him a socially responsible sense of self-determination and well-being.

## **Disclosure Statement:**

ADAHPS is part of NSW Department of Health.

The client and participating health care workers from Positive Central, Mission Australia, Bobby Goldsmith Foundation, the RPA HIV Clinic, have provided consent for this presentation.