HIV

Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) is a virus spread through contact with certain fluids of an infected person, attacking the immune system and affecting the body’s ability to fight infections and certain cancers. HIV is incurable and can progress to the most advanced disease stage if left untreated, known as Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS).1

TREATMENT

With proper medical care and a potent combination of antiretroviral therapy (ART), HIV has become a manageable chronic condition. ART therapy has proven to reduce health complications associated with the disease, increase life expectancy and prevent transmission.2

The goal of therapy is to reduce the amount of HIV in the body (viral load) to a very low or undetectable level, which keeps the immune system working and prevents complications. When the viral load reaches this level, it is referred to as viral suppression, or having less than 200 copies of HIV per milliliter of blood.3, 4

Average % of patients who reach viral suppression

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>National Average 1</th>
<th>Ryan White HIV/AIDS 6</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>64.6%</td>
<td>89.7%</td>
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SHIELDS 93%

WHY VIRAL LOAD MATTERS

Keeping a patient’s viral load low is essential in helping them live longer, healthier lives while also reducing their chances of transmitting the virus to others. To maintain a low viral load, patients must adhere to ART and keep up with routine appointments. Nonadherence to ART may reduce treatment response, increase drug resistance and morbidity, and even result in death.7 Assessment of viral load suppression on an annual basis is a core performance measurement for patient qualification in the Ryan White & Global HIV/AIDS Program.8

SHIELDS NETWORK OUTCOMES*

1.2 MILLION HIV PATIENTS IN THE U.S.*
HIV

Our proven care model breaks down barriers to care to optimize patient outcomes

Shields Health Solutions’ dedicated clinical team of pharmacists, liaisons and patient support advocates engages patients and their families to help educate, coordinate care and ensure patients receive specialty medication without significant delays.

**SHIELDS NETWORK OUTCOMES**

**ENGAGE**

Our clinical team engages with patients at the clinic and through telehealth appointments.

**INTERVENE**

Clinical pharmacists intervene to improve the patient’s care plan when drug interactions, related side effects, barriers to adherence or other concerns are identified.

**COORDINATE**

Liaisons investigate patient benefits, complete prior authorizations and identify financial assistance, minimizing barriers to optimal therapy.

**ENHANCE**

Through clinical pharmacist interventions, we can enhance patient care by providing support and education, and by optimizing therapy when challenges arise, and treatment goals are not met.

**RENEW**

Pharmacists provide ongoing interactions beyond refills, proactively identifying opportunities to improve patient care and outcomes at each touchpoint.

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**SHIELDS CARE CONTINUUM**

- **Engage**
  - FAs/PAs Completed: Clinical staff utilizes their time to focus on patient care.
  - Net Promoter Score: Patients have a seamless experience.
  - Average Provider Score: Providers have a seamless experience.
  - Patient Reported Treatment Efficacy: Percentage of HIV patients that report they feel very well/well with how their specialty medication is helping them with HIV.

- **Intervene**
  - Clinical Interventions: Preemptively adjust patient medication to prevent complications.

- **Coordinate**
  - Average Time to Therapy: Patients start medication on time.
  - Coordination of Care: Total amount secured.

- **Enhance**
  - Cost Avoidance: Maximize cost avoidance.
  - Financial Assistance: Total amount secured.

- **Renew**
  - Med Adherence: Proportion of Days Covered: Patients receive and take medications on time.

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*Shields Health Solutions Network includes data from a collective of member health systems that partner with Shields to elevate an integrated specialty pharmacy model.

*All metrics are reflective of data collected in 2022.

1. About HIV/AIDS | HIV/AIDS | CDC Accessed 06.08.23
2. What Are HIV and AIDS? | HIV.gov Accessed 06.08.23
3. AdultandAdolescentGL.pdf | HIV.gov Accessed 06.08.23
4. Treatment | Living with HIV | CDC Accessed 06.08.23
5. HIV Treatment as Prevention | HIV Risk and Prevention | CDC Accessed 06.08.23

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*Primary Care Guidance for Persons With Human Immunodeficiency Virus. 2020 Update by the HIV Medicine Association of the Infectious Diseases Society of America | Clinical Infectious Diseases | Oxford Academic (oup.com) Accessed 06.08.23
4. Treatment Goals | NH (hRSA.gov) Accessed 06.08.23
5. https://ryanwhite.hrsa.gov/sites/default/files/ryanwhite/grants/core-measures.pdf Accessed 06.08.23