Delivering the resources to support effective HIV care in NSW
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Background - the HIV Support Program
The NSW HIV Strategies since 2012 committed NSW to achieving the virtual elimination of HIV transmission in NSW by 2020. A priority action area was to enhance support for diagnosing doctors and people newly diagnosed, with the aim to improve case management and public health outcomes at the time of diagnosis. In NSW over one third of people newly diagnosed with HIV are diagnosed by a doctor inexperienced in HIV management. In May 2013 the HIV Support Program (HSP) commenced to provide advice and support for doctors at the time of making a diagnosis. By supporting doctors, people diagnosed with HIV can receive improved access to 5 Key Support Services (SKSS). The 5 Key Support Services are to be offered at the time of diagnosis and during subsequent care by diagnosing and/or treating doctors.

Results – resources produced
36 resources were developed for doctors and for people newly diagnosed with HIV: 9 printable resources, 25 short videos and a web based directory of all HIV related services in NSW. A website at http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/endinghiv/Pages/support-program.aspx hosts the resources.

Resourses to support doctors
• What is the HIV Support Program (HSP)?
• Giving an HIV diagnosis: a resource for diagnosing doctors
• The 5 Key Support Services - guiding principles for doctors
• HIV shared care for GPs
• Preparing a patient with HIV for antiretroviral therapy (ART)
• Supporting adherence to HIV antiretroviral therapy (ART)
• Brief interventions for prevention of HIV and STI infections

Resources for newly diagnosed patients
• Just diagnosed with HIV?
• Benefits of HIV treatment

Short videos
25 short videos for doctors, health care workers and people newly diagnosed with HIV (each 3-6 minutes duration). These videos present aspects of the 5 Key Support Services and a diverse range of peer and community services.

Conclusion
A rigorous and inclusive approach resulted in high quality resources, agreed upon by a diverse range of stakeholders in the NSW HIV sector. The approach helped further align the sector and the HSP towards the goals of the NSW HIV Strategy 2016-2020. For more information on the HIV Support Program and resources visit: http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/endinghiv/Pages/support-program.aspx

WHAT IS THE HIV SUPPORT PROGRAM (HSP)?

DOCTOR VISITS DOCTOR ON HIS/HER FIRST AND SECOND DAY TO PROVIDE SUPPORT

1. MANAGEMENT OF HIV TREATMENT (ART)
2. PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT
3. PREVENTION OF TRANSMISSION
4. PARTNER TESTING AND INTERVENTIONS
5. SUPPORT TO ALL AT RISK CONTACTS OR PARTNERS

Q. WHAT ARE THE 5 KEY SUPPORT SERVICES THAT EVERY PATIENT NEWLY DIAGNOSED SHOULD BE OFFERED?

• MANAGEMENT OF HIV TREATMENT (ART)
• PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT
• PREVENTION OF TRANSMISSION
• PARTNER TESTING AND INTERVENTIONS
• SUPPORT TO ALL AT RISK CONTACTS OR PARTNERS

Q. HOW CAN A DOCTOR INSURE THEY GET SUPPORT FROM AN HSP COORDINATOR BEFORE GIVING AN HIV DIAGNOSIS TO A PATIENT?

MANAGEMENT OF HIV TREATMENT
• 1. MANAGEMENT OF HIV TREATMENT (ART)
• 2. PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT
• 3. PREVENTION OF TRANSMISSION
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