

HIV syndemic care in health professions education

HIV syndemic care is a health care approach that treats HIV and other co-occurring conditions and addresses social and structural factors that worsen a person's health outcomes.

Integrating HIV syndemic care in health professions education prepares future clinicians to deliver comprehensive care addressing HIV, viral hepatitis, STIs, TB and substance use.

HIV workforce: 18% decline in HIV providers by 2030¹

A shrinking HIV workforce will²:

- Disrupt retention and treatment
- Worsen health disparities
- Be unprepared for an aging population
- Increase burnout on ID/HIV providers



Call to action

The integration of syndemic care in health professions education is critical in addressing HIV-related disparities and growing the HIV workforce to meet the demand for HIV syndemic care.

Policy recommendations adapted from [Promoting HIV Syndemic Care in Health Professions Education: Linking Workforce Demands to the Aspirations of a Rising Generation](#) include:

Create specialized HIV syndemic care pathways or areas of concentration

Develop community-based and innovative health care models that address health inequities

Leverage open-access syndemic-focused educational resources

Establish licensing, credentialing and continuing education competencies in social determinants of health, social justice and health equity

Advance payment reform to appropriately value primary care and ID specialists

What is an example of an HIV syndemic care model?

The [Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program](#) serves as a model that incorporates the HIV syndemic care approach to patient care by addressing medical, behavioral and social services that address the cyclical and structural needs of individuals living with HIV. In addition, the Ryan White HIV/AIDS program provides access to care and services for those who are underinsured or uninsured, which is essential to keeping individuals in care and achieving viral suppression.

HIV syndemic educational resources

Curriculum

- [National HIV Curriculum](#)
- [National STD Curriculum](#)
- [Hepatitis B Web Study Program](#)
- [Hepatitis C Web Study Program](#)
- [National PrEP Curriculum](#)

Training & education

- [SAMHSA trainings](#)
- [AIDS Education and Training Centers](#)
- [American Academy of HIV Medicine trainings](#)
- [HIVMA's list of HIV training programs](#)

Clinical guidelines

- [HIV Clinical Guidelines](#)
- [STI Treatment Guidelines](#)
- [PrEP Clinical Guidelines](#)
- [Tuberculosis Clinical Guidelines](#)
- [Hepatitis C Guidelines \(AASLD/IDSA\)](#)

Clinical support tools

- [National Clinician Consultation Center](#)
- [HIV-ASSIST tool](#)

Learn more about HIV syndemic care

