

Funded Categories

Category 1: PrEP (Preexposure Prophylaxis)

Background

As of 2014, there were nearly 60,000 people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) in Los Angeles County (LAC). Approximately 83% of all reported HIV and AIDS cases affect men who have sex with men (MSM) and communities of color. African American/black and Hispanic/Latino MSM are significantly impacted. In LAC, the estimated HIV sero-prevalence rates among MSM are 37% among African American/black and 17% Hispanic/Latino MSM. Additionally, it is estimated that transgender persons (TG) make up approximately 0.2% of the adult and adolescent population (ages 13-64) in LAC, but represent 1.2% of people living with HIV/AIDS. Transgender individuals have an estimated HIV prevalence of 15% for transgender women and 0.6% for transgender men. Transgender women of color have an even higher percent infected, with the estimated HIV prevalence for black transgender women at 48%, followed by Native Americans (27%), and Latinas (17%).

Overview of Los Angeles County's Project PrIDE Plan

Activities implemented by LAC will serve to increase the percentage of eligible MSM and TG who are prescribed PrEP, increase the number of providers using PrEP monitoring forms to capture screening, eligibility, and enrollment data, including prescriptions, for all individuals accessing PrEP-related services at LAC STD clinics and CBOs; and decrease the number and percent of new HIV infections among MSM and transgender persons, by using surveillance data to annually estimate the percent of eligible persons from prioritized populations prescribed PrEP at LAC STD clinics and CBOs.

Programmatic Activities

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health's (LACDPH) Division of HIV and STD Programs (DHSP) are implementing interventions across the continuum of HIV prevention and care to address the local HIV/AIDS epidemic within their jurisdiction. To improve health outcomes and reduce community viral load, DHSP will implement pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) activities as part of a comprehensive and customized prevention package.

Activities will include the implementation of:

- 1. Social Marketing Campaign:** Development and implementation of a bi-lingual (English and Spanish) social marketing campaign to communicate PrEP-related information to HIV-negative MSM and transgender persons who are at behavioral risk of acquiring HIV.
- 2. PrEP Provider Trainings:** PrEP-specific training and technical support for clinical providers will be provided and PrEP programs implemented in STD clinics in high-burden areas in efforts to increase access to comprehensive HIV biomedical prevention services for MSM, transgender persons and other persons at high risk of HIV acquisition in LAC. Available services will include health insurance billing as well as access to low or no cost PrEP for uninsured persons by leveraging other funding.

3. **Expanding PrEP Access:** Increase the capacity of the Health Department staff to support PrEP-related activities by increasing availability of and access to comprehensive PrEP services for MSM and transgender persons; increasing prescription of PrEP to MSM and transgender persons; and increasing provision of PrEP support services to MSM and transgender persons who are prescribed PrEP.
4. **PrEP Provider Education:** Implement Public Health Detailing activities to increase the number of LAC health care providers aware of PrEP and willing to provide PrEP management.
5. **Expanding STD PrEP clinics:** Expand STD PrEP clinics with the aim of adding 2 new PrEP clinics to STD clinic locations thereby increasing the use of third party payers of PrEP for LAC DPH's STD Clinics.
6. **Policy/Procedure Development:** Establish policies, procedures and protocols to integrate messaging about biomedical prevention into existing public health STD services serving MSM and transgender persons at risk for HIV infection, particularly persons of color

PROGRAM POINT(S) OF CONTACT

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