

# Enhancing Workforce Capacity for Care in HIV and Aging Populations

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Insights from the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Special Projects of National Significance (SPNS) Aging with HIV Initiative

May 13, 2025



# Acknowledgment

This project is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of an award totaling \$2,400,000 with zero percentage financed with non-governmental sources. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by HRSA, HHS, or the U.S. Government. For more information, please visit [HRSA.gov](http://HRSA.gov).

# Zoom Reminders

- Please mute your line when you are not speaking.
- There will be 20 minutes for questions and answers at the end of both presentations.
  - Please enter all questions in the chat.

# Agenda

1. Welcome and Introduction
2. Presentation by Lydia Aoun-Barakat, MD, Yale University
3. Presentation by Jacob Walker, MD, University of Chicago
4. Question and Answer Session
5. Upcoming Webinars & Closing



**The SPNS Initiative, Emerging Interventions to Improve Health Outcomes for People Aging with HIV (SPNS Aging with HIV Initiative)** implements emerging interventions that comprehensively screen and manage comorbidities, geriatric conditions, behavioral health, and psychosocial needs of people with HIV aged 50 years and older.

## The Aging with HIV Initiative's goals include:



**Implementing emerging interventions that screen and manage comorbidities, chronic conditions, geriatric conditions, behavioral health, and psychosocial needs of people with HIV ages 50 and older;**

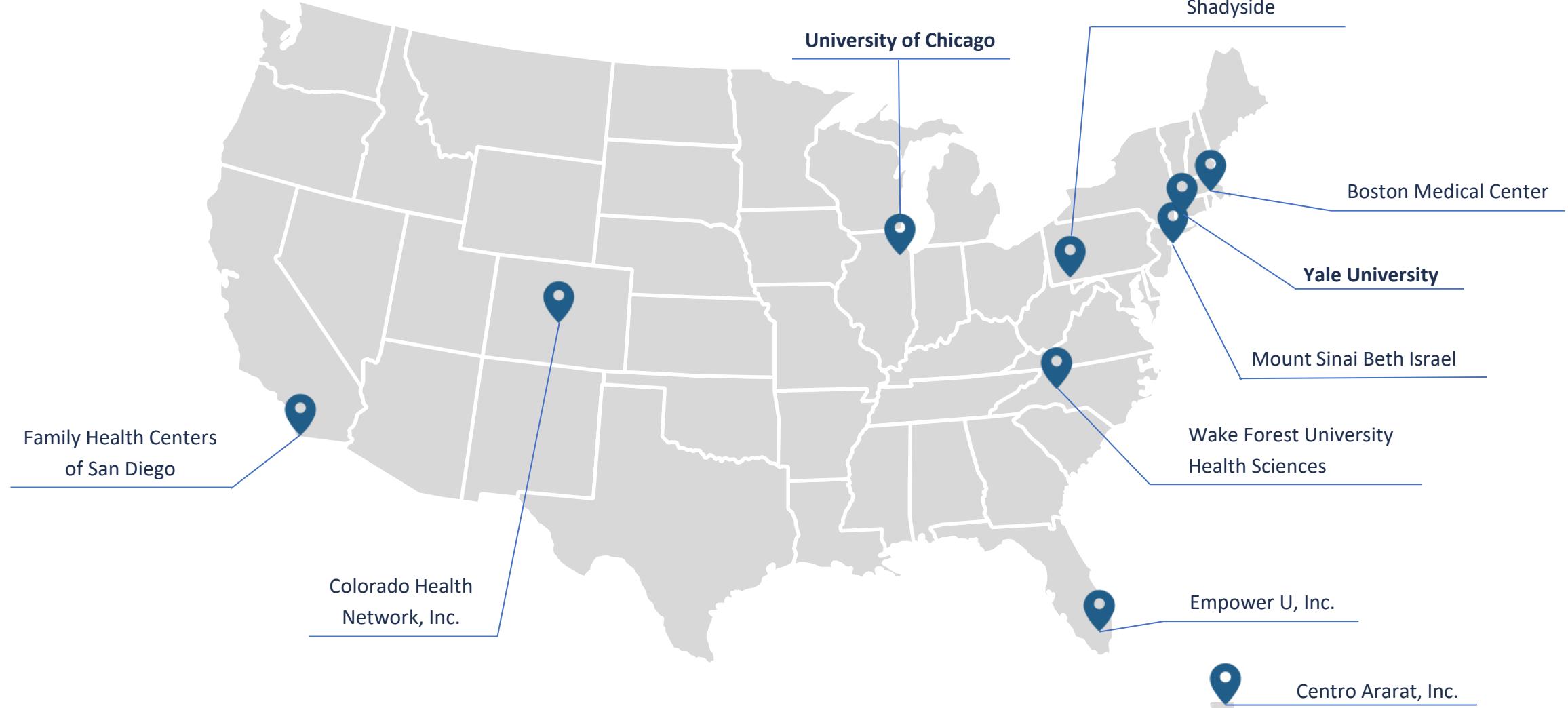


**Assessing the uptake and integration of emerging interventions; and**



**Evaluating the impact of the emerging interventions.**

## Demonstration Sites



# Why Enhance the Aging with HIV Workforce?

- Prepare the workforce for the aging with HIV population
- Address complex and interconnected care needs of people aging with HIV
- Close the geriatric-HIV care gap

# Trainings to Enhance the Aging with HIV Workforce

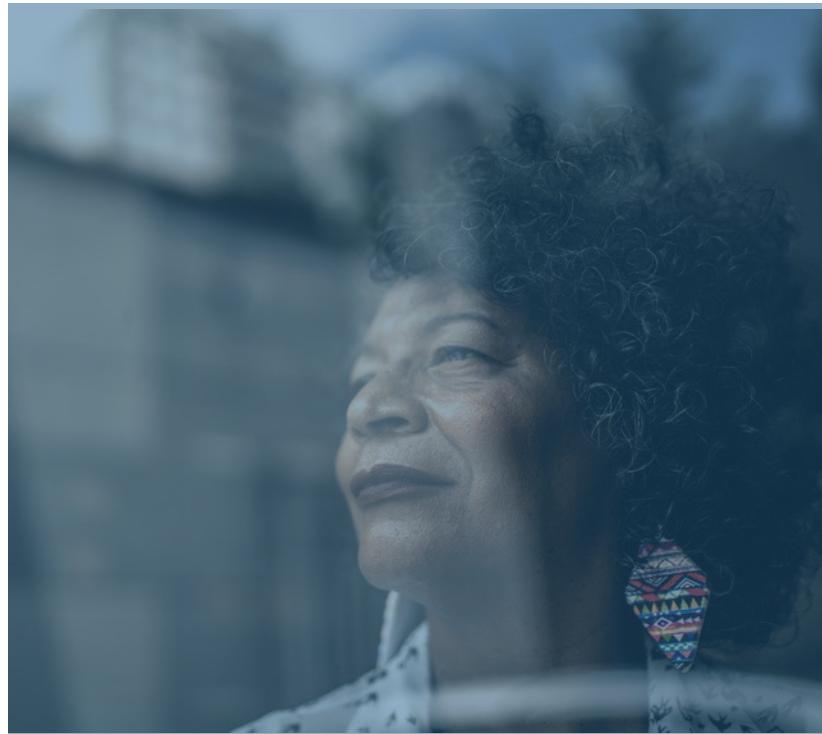
**(Intervention for Collaborative Care to Assess Risk and Eliminate Polypharmacy, Falls, and Fragility Fractures for Patients Aging with HIV (I-CARE-4-PAH))**

Yale University

Lydia Aoun-Barakat, MD



# Case Study



**Ms. C is a 62-year-old woman with HIV who comes for a routine follow up visit.**

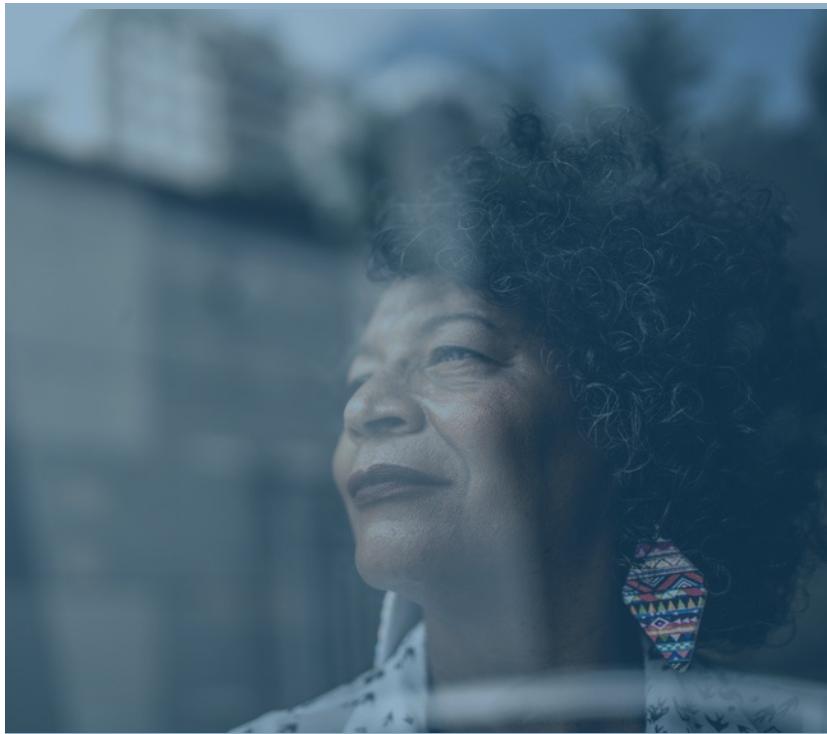
## **Past Medical History:**

- HIV for 30 years well controlled
- Hypertension
- Diabetes Mellitus Type 2
- Depression
- Low back pain

## **Medications:**

- TAF/FTC/BIC 1 tablet daily
- Lisinopril 20 mg daily
- Metformin 500 mg twice a day
- Citalopram 20 mg daily
- Rosuvastatin 10 mg daily
- Acetaminophen 500 mg/Oxycodone 5 mg, 1 tablet 1-2 times/week
- Vitamin D/Calcium 1 tablet daily

# Case Study



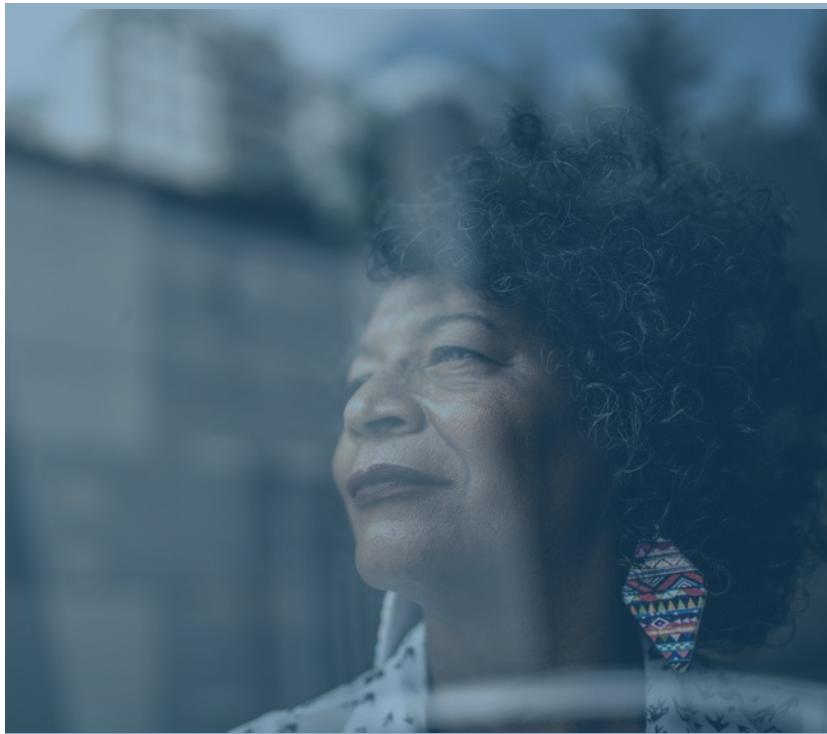
## Social History:

- Lives home with her partner of 25 years also person with HIV
- 2 adult children
- Florist and has her own business
- Physically and financially independent
- Nonsmoker
- Drinks alcohol 1-2 drinks, 2-3 times/week
- No recreational drug use

## Pertinent data:

- Her HIV viral load undetectable for years
- Her CD4 count 400-600 cell/dl
- The rest of her blood work within normal limits

# Case Study



## Other than appropriate

- Age-appropriate cancer screening
- Appropriate vaccination
- Eye and foot exam

## What other health risk should be addressed?

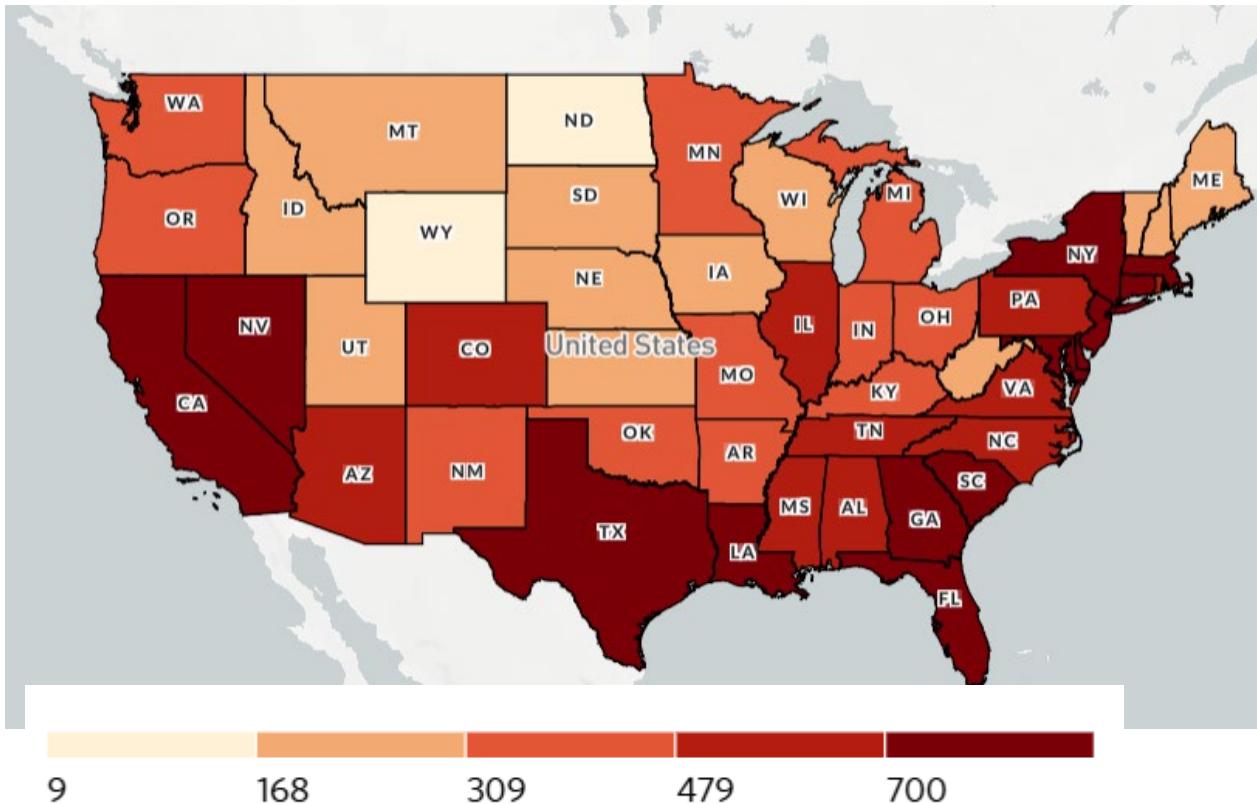
- Polypharmacy
- Fall
- Fragility Fractures

**HIV providers don't feel equipped to address these aging related conditions.**

**There is a need and interest in training HIV providers in geriatric assessment.**

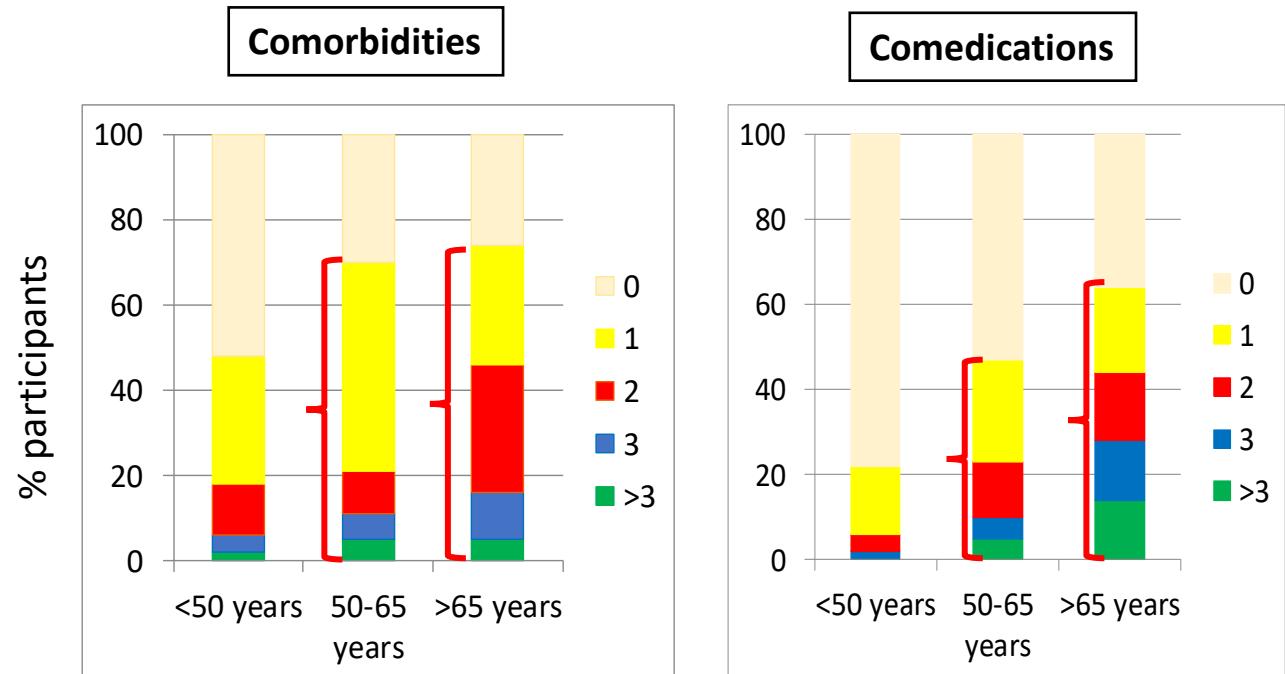
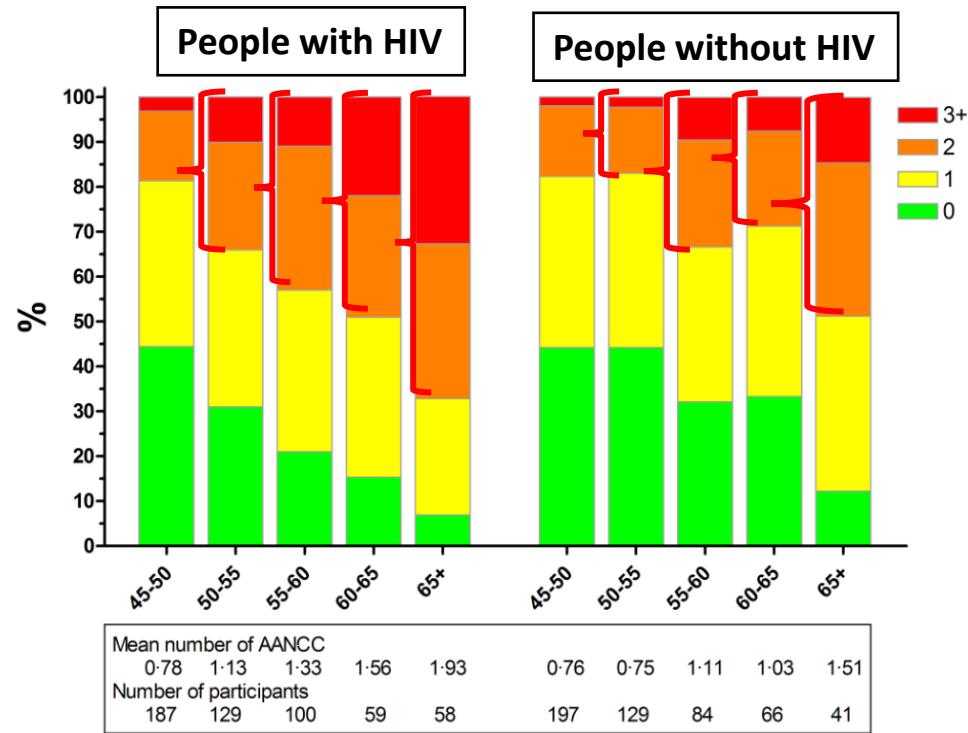
# People with HIV are Growing Older

**In 2023: In the U.S. 596,044= 54% of the people living with HIV are 50 years or older**



*AIDSvu map: <https://map.aidsvu.org/>*

# HIV and Polypharmacy



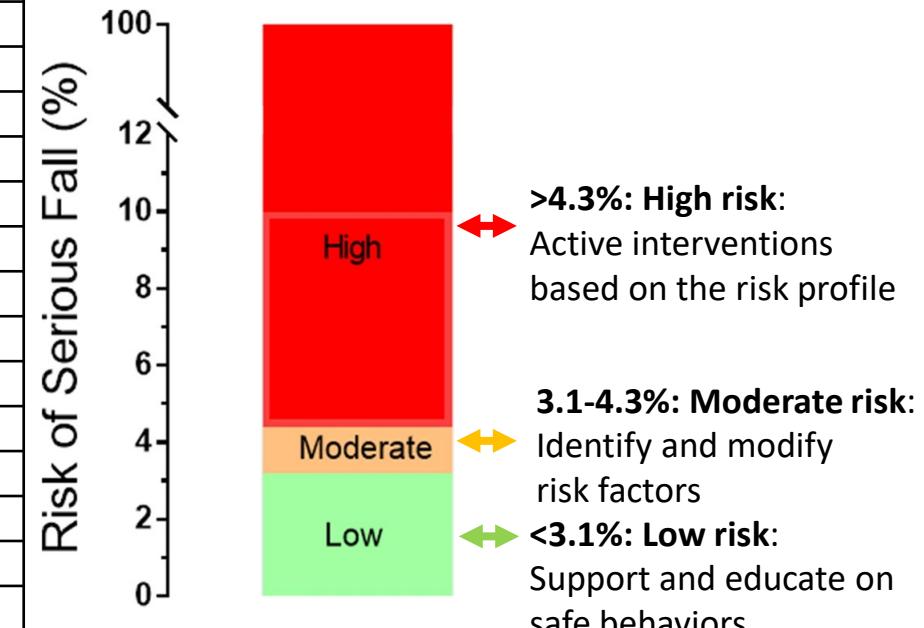
- 15-39% of people aging with HIV are exposed to polypharmacy
- People aging with HIV are exposed to polypharmacy  $\geq$  10 years earlier than general population
- Multiple medications are associated with significant drug-drug interactions

# HIV and Fall Risk



- Prevalence of Falls is estimated to be ~30% among people aging with HIV
- A predictive Risk Score for serious falls using certain modifiable variables could be used to predict falls in persons with HIV

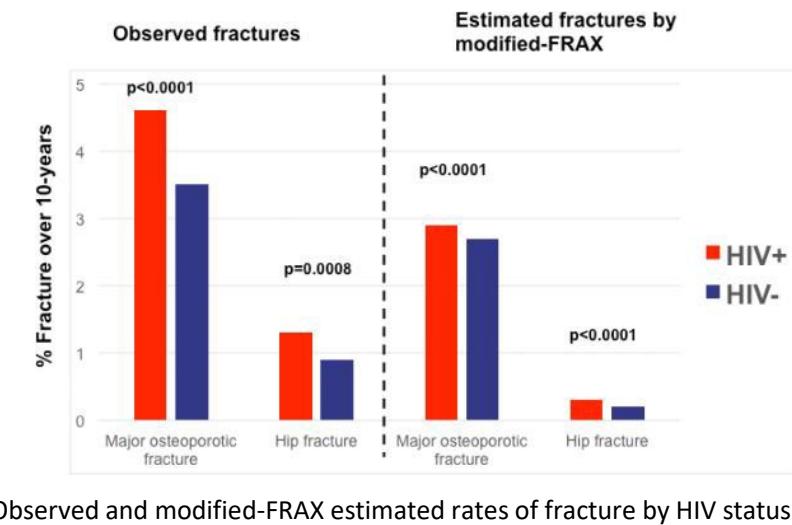
Predictor
Female sex
Person of color
BMI $\geq 25 \text{ kg/m}^2$
Fall within the past year
Diagnosis of alcohol abuse disorder
Audit C score
Anticonvulsants
Benzodiazepines
Muscle relaxants
Opioids
Selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors
Count of non-ART medications
Count of mental health comorbidities
Count of physical comorbidities
Pain score
VACS Index Score 2.0 (5-point increments)



# HIV and Fracture Risk

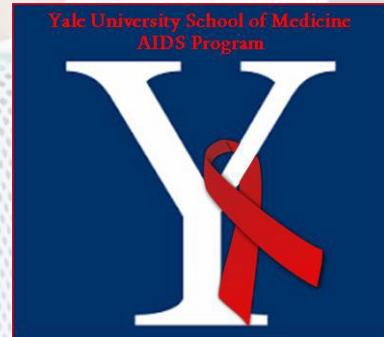


- Risk for fracture is higher among people with HIV aged 50 years and older compared to those without HIV even after adjusting for demographics, comorbidities, smoking, and alcohol use (HR 1.32 and 1.24 respectively).
- Modified-FRAX underestimated the fracture rates persons aging with HIV compared to those without HIV. The accuracy improved when HIV was included as a cause of secondary osteoporosis.





# HRSA-028 SPNS Grant on HIV & Aging Yale Demonstration Site



Ryan White HIV/AIDS  
Program Initiative

Stock photos. Posed by Models.

# HIV Epidemiology in CT - 2024

~10,738 persons with HIV

~ 64% are  $\geq 50$  years

~ 32% are  $\geq 60$  years



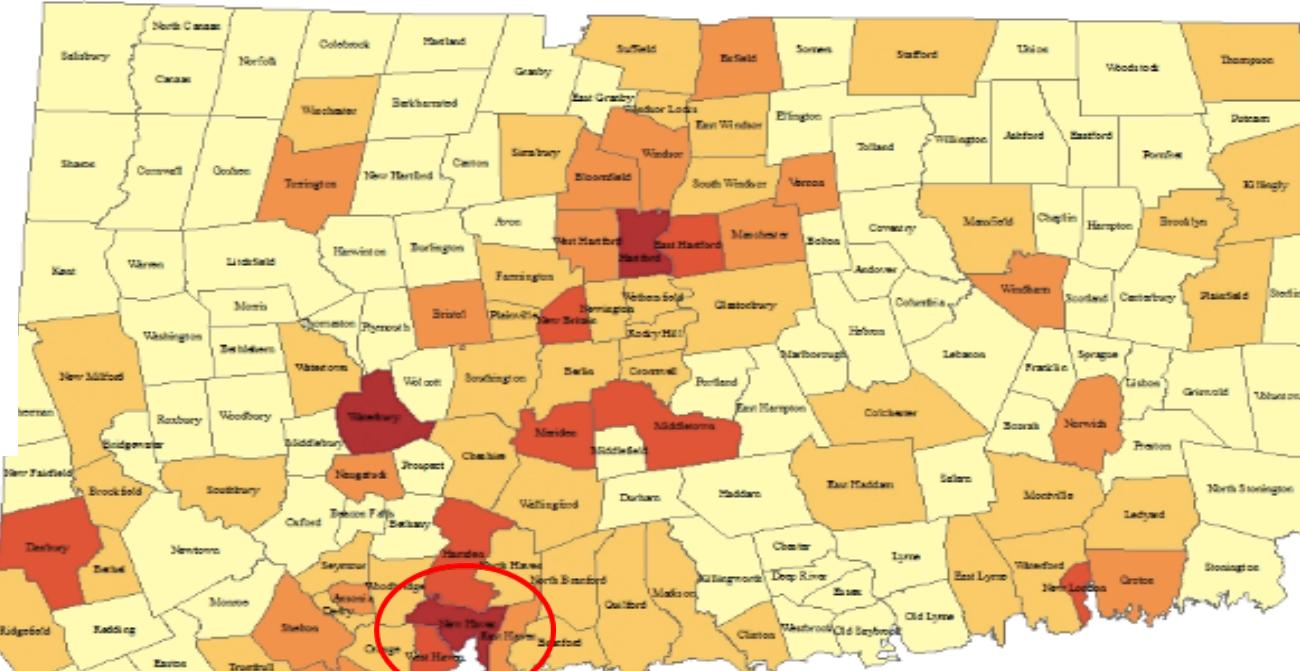
Number of PLWH\* per town

- <12
- 12 - 49
- 50 - 149
- 150 - 500
- >500



State of Connecticut  
Department of Public Health  
TB, HIV, STD & Viral Hepatitis

0 12.5 25 50 75 Miles





**Yale University and Yale New Haven Hospital Medical Center  
New Haven, CT**

**HIV Rate in New Haven ~1,000/100,000 population**



**Yale Center For Infectious Diseases**

**Cohort of ~1,600 people with HIV**

- ~ 1,150 of people with HIV (69%) are 50+ years of age
- ~ 31% are 60 years and older
- ~ 67% are persons of color.

# Project: I-CARE-4-PAH

**Intervention for Collaborative Care to Assess Risk and Eliminate Polypharmacy, Falls, and Fragility Fractures (4F) for People Aging with HIV**

## **Brief Description:**

The intervention aims to develop a collaborative care model that will build the capacity of providers at Yale Center for Infectious Diseases to assess and manage conditions associated with aging (4F) in their population through training on improved care delivery and health disparities.

# Project Personnel

## Team Lead



Dr. Lydia Aoun-Barakat  
Co-PI



Dr. Julie Womack  
Co-PI



Dr. Michael Virata  
Evaluator



Chloe Johnson, MPH  
Project Coordinator

## Advisory Board



Dr. Marottoli  
Geriatrician



Dr. Hsieh  
Rheumatologist



Dr. Payne  
PharmD



W. Stewart  
Lead Nurse



L. Sheehan  
Physical Therapist



Anne Murphy  
LCSW



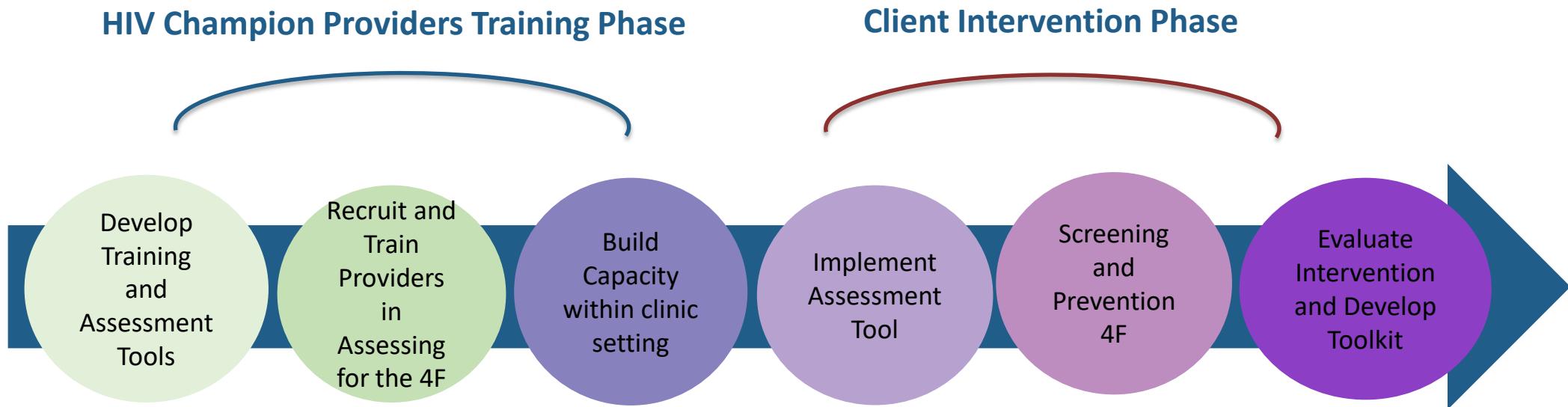
K.D.  
Peer Liaison



M.L.  
Peer Liaison

# Project Implementation

- Launched in September 2022
- Train HIV Champion Providers to conduct a 60 minutes wellness visit for geriatric assessment addressing and preventing the 4F
- 2 Phase Process:



# Resources

## Provider Educational Videos:

- How to think like a Geriatrician
- Polypharmacy for providers
- Fall risk and Fragility fractures
- Live Gait and Balance Session

## Patient Educational Videos:

- Fall prevention
- Basic exercises
- Advanced exercises
- Polypharmacy for patients
- Healthy diet for patients

Spanish translation in process

## Provider Tools:

- EPIC Note Template
- Tip sheet
- Toolkit



Postcard of fall educational video

## Patient Educational Material:

- Educational resource brochure
- Calcium rich diet
- Calcium and vitamin D for bone health
- Getting up from a fall
- Preventing falls in adults
- Fractures – The Basics
- Osteoporosis- The Basics

# Website Development

Yale School of Medicine / Internal Medicine /

Infectious Diseases

≡ MENU



Home / Areas of Interest / HIV/AIDS +

## Yale Infectious Diseases' 4Fs Program

More than half of people living with HIV in the US are 50 years or older, and it is estimated that almost 25% will be 65+ years of age by 2030. At the Yale Center for Infectious Diseases, 2/3 of patients living with HIV are older than 50 years and almost 1/3 are older than 65 years.

Many patients cared for at our Center have two or more co-morbid conditions and are prescribed more than five medications. Fifty percent of men in our cohort report a fall in the past year. While not all these falls have resulted in a visit to a healthcare provider, it is well established that falls are a key cause of fragility fractures and hospitalization among older adults.

While HIV providers have expertise in providing outstanding care, they may lack the expertise in screening for and managing geriatric conditions such as polypharmacy, falls, and fragility fractures. Yale Infectious Diseases' 4Fs program seeks to help HIV providers improve the care they give to older adults living with HIV.



Polypharmacy for Providers - Part 1  
[Watch the video →](#)

Fall Prevention Advice  
[Watch the video →](#)

<https://medicine.yale.edu/internal-medicine/infdis/research/hiv-aids/aging/>

# 4F Wellness Visit Time Study

Time Study Time Sheet- I-CARE-4-PAH pilot 5/16/2023

Start Time	Task	Personnel or Screeners	Task Completion check	Time Spent
8:30 AM	PAH arrives to appointment Checks-in	Front desk	1 min	8:31 AM
8:53 AM	Consent Patient	Project Coordinator	3 min	8:56 AM
8:59 AM	PAH completes NORC Survey	Project Coordinator	12 min	9:11 AM
9:13 AM	PAH brought to exam room	ACA or Nurse	2 min	9:15 AM
	PAH Demographics	Project Coordinator	skip	
9:29 AM	BRIEF Health Literacy Screening Tool	Project Coordinator	5 min	9:34 AM
9:15 AM	PAH vitals AUDIT C PHQ-2 GAD-7 Pain score Orthostatic check	ACA or Nurse	12 min	9:27 AM
9:39 AM	Pharmacy Assessment	Provider	5 min	
	Sleep Quality Assessment	Provider	1 min	
	Osteoporosis Screening	Provider	1 min	
	Fall Risk Assessment	Provider	1 min	
	Foot Exam / Footwear	Provider	3 min	
	Vision Assessment	Provider	2 min	
	Gait Assessment	Provider	3 min	
	Mental Health Diagnoses check list	Provider	1 min	
	Physical Health Diagnoses check list	Provider	2 min	
	Substance Use Disorders check list	Provider	1 min	
	What matters most?	Provider	2 min	10:26 AM
	Labs to be ordered	Provider enters necessary labs	none	
	FRAX Calculator Serious Fall risk Calculator VACS Index	Provider Project Coordinator Done in REDCap	skip	
	PAH gets labs drawn	Nurse	none	
	Gift card provided to PAH and signed paper	Project Coordinator	1 min	
	PAH Checks-out	Front desk or nurse	1 min	10:28 AM

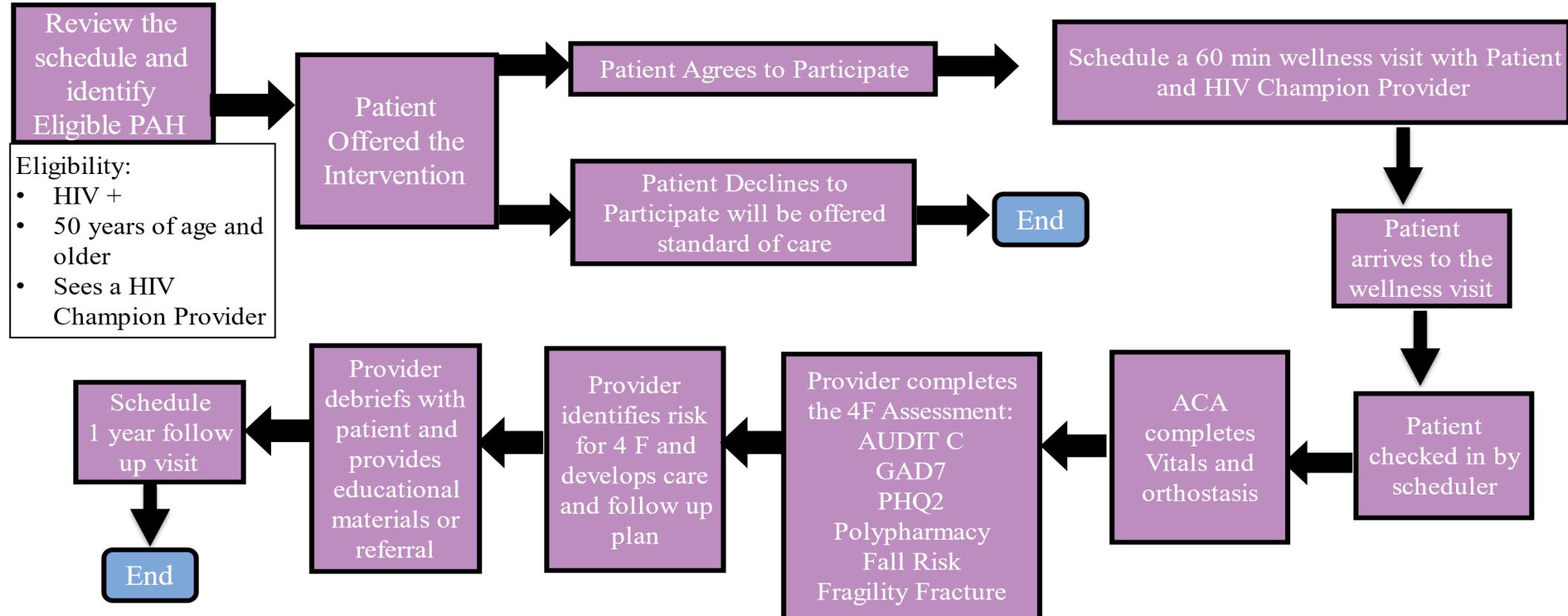


# Recruitment Flyer



# Visit Workflow Process Mapping

## 4F Intervention Key Activities Workflow



# 4F Wellness Visit EPIC Note

- Demographics
- PHQ-2, GAD-7, and AUDIT- C
- Smoking and Substance Use History
- Sleep Quality Assessment
- **Polypharmacy/Medication Reconciliation/Medication count**
- **Fall Risk Questionnaire**
- **Fragility Fracture Risk Questionnaire and Calculator**
- Footwear and Foot Exam- Assessment for Neuropathy
- Vision Exam
- Gait Assessment
- Social determinants of health questions
- What Matters Most Question
- **Patient Care Plan:**
  - Summary of Findings
  - Educational material
  - DXA Scan if indicated
  - Referral if indicated

## Polypharmacy:

- <9 not polypharmacy → Education on drug-drug interaction and adverse events
- 9-14 polypharmacy → De-prescribing if possible
- >15 hyperpolypharmacy → Refer to pharmacist

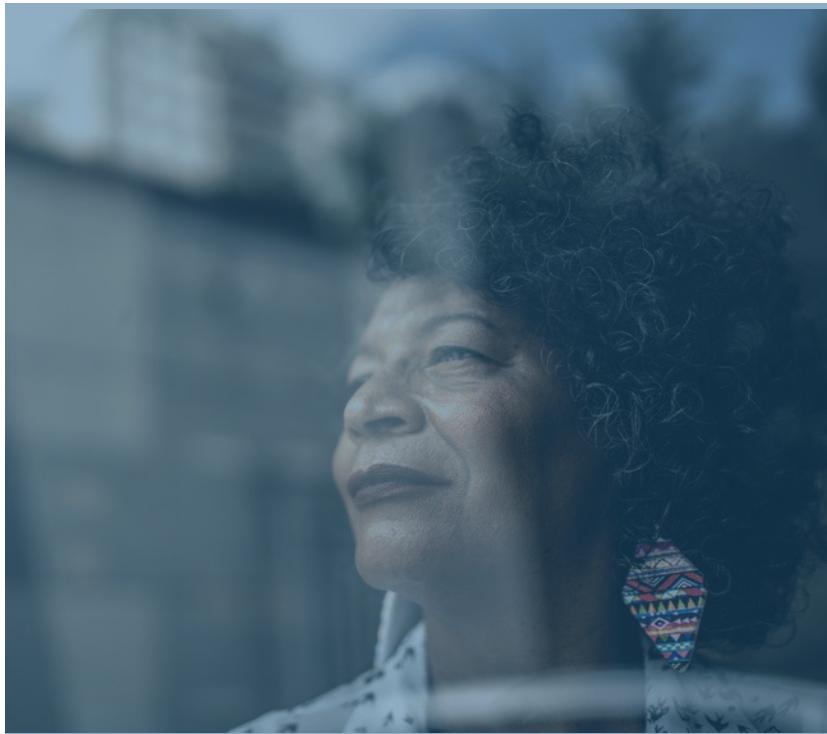
## Fall Risk Score:

- <3.1% low risk → Support and encouragement for helpful behaviors
- 3.1-4.3% moderate risk → Identify and modify key risk factor/physical therapy
- >4.3% high risk → Active interventions based on the risk profile/ physical therapy

## FRAX Risk Score:

- <10% low risk for 10 y risk for major fracture → Lifestyle counseling
- 10-20% moderate risk → dual-energy X-ray absorptiometry (DXA Scan)
- >20% high risk → Start treatment +/- DXA Scan – Refer to specialist

# Back to our patient Ms. C



## Polypharmacy:

- 7-8 pills a day (<9 medications)
- Changed Metformin to extended release

## Predictive Risk Score: 3.9% (moderate risk)

- Referral was made for physical therapy
- Discussed her alcohol use
- Discussed alternative medication to opioid
- Decided not to change selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor

## FRAX Risk Score for 10 y risk for major fracture: 15% (moderate risk)

- DXA scan revealed osteoporosis
- Started on Bisphosphonate

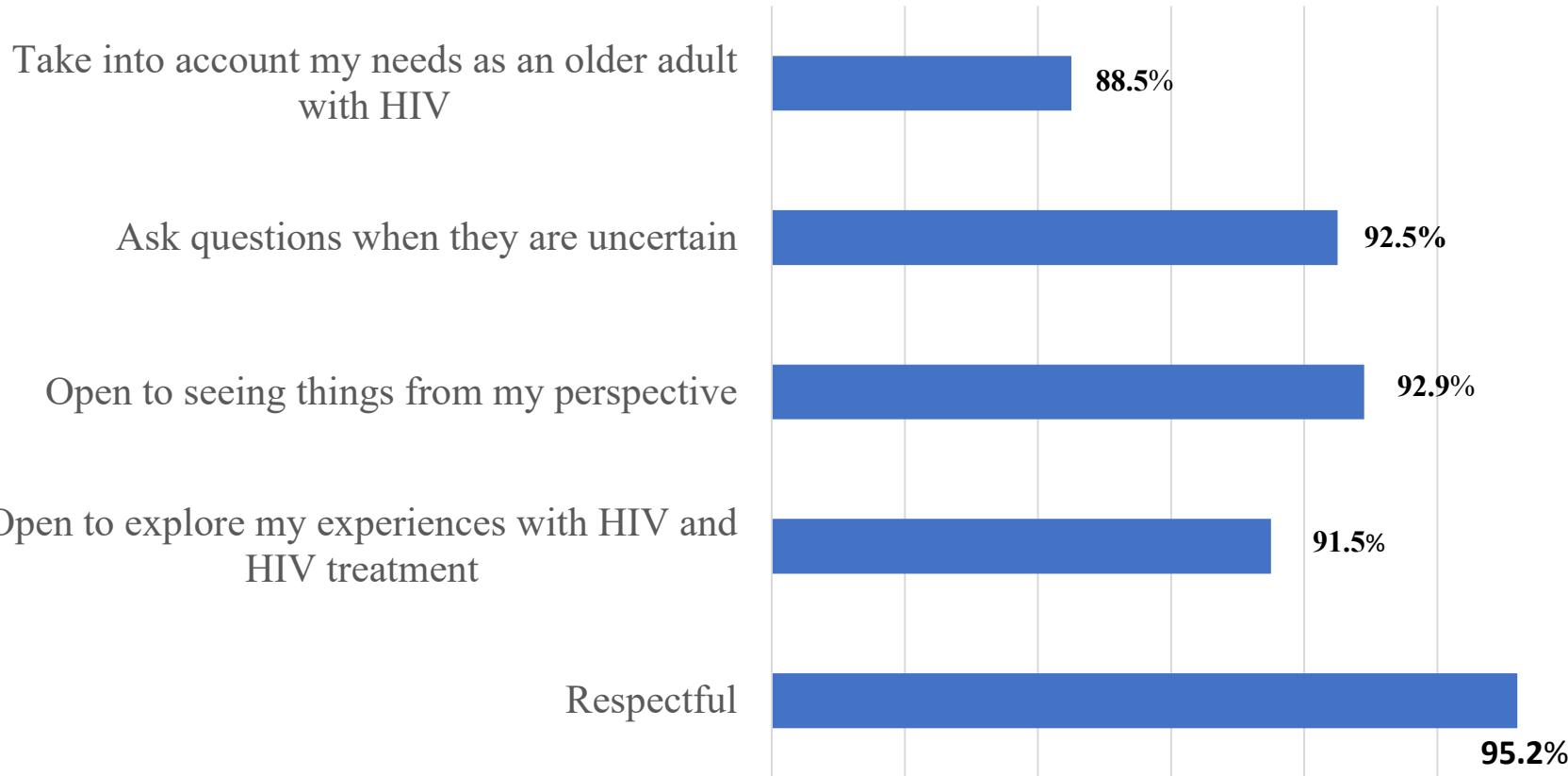
***Ms. C was seen in follow up and she felt well and was very grateful that her HIV provider offered her the 4F wellness visit and assessed her for polypharmacy, falls, and fragility fractures.***

# Our Participants had High Fall Risk and Polypharmacy Rates

Variable	N=125
<b>Age</b>	<b>63±6</b>
<b>Race</b>	
White	48%
Black	48%
Other	4%
<b>Sex</b>	
Male	50%
Female	49%
<b>Current smoker</b>	<b>30%</b>
<b>Trouble sleeping</b>	<b>30%</b>
<b>Medication count</b>	<b>10±5 (1-26)</b>
<9 medications	45%
9-14 medications	30%
≥15 medications	<b>25%</b>
Any areas on foot with decreased sensation	25%
<b>Fall Risk</b>	
Slipped or tripped in the past 12 months	<b>42%</b>
Fall resulting in injury	22%
Fall risk* (mean ± SD)	<b>4.05±4.13</b>
<b>FRAX Score</b>	
10 year risk for major osteoporotic fracture	8.71±6.95
10 year risk for hip fracture	2.11±3.58

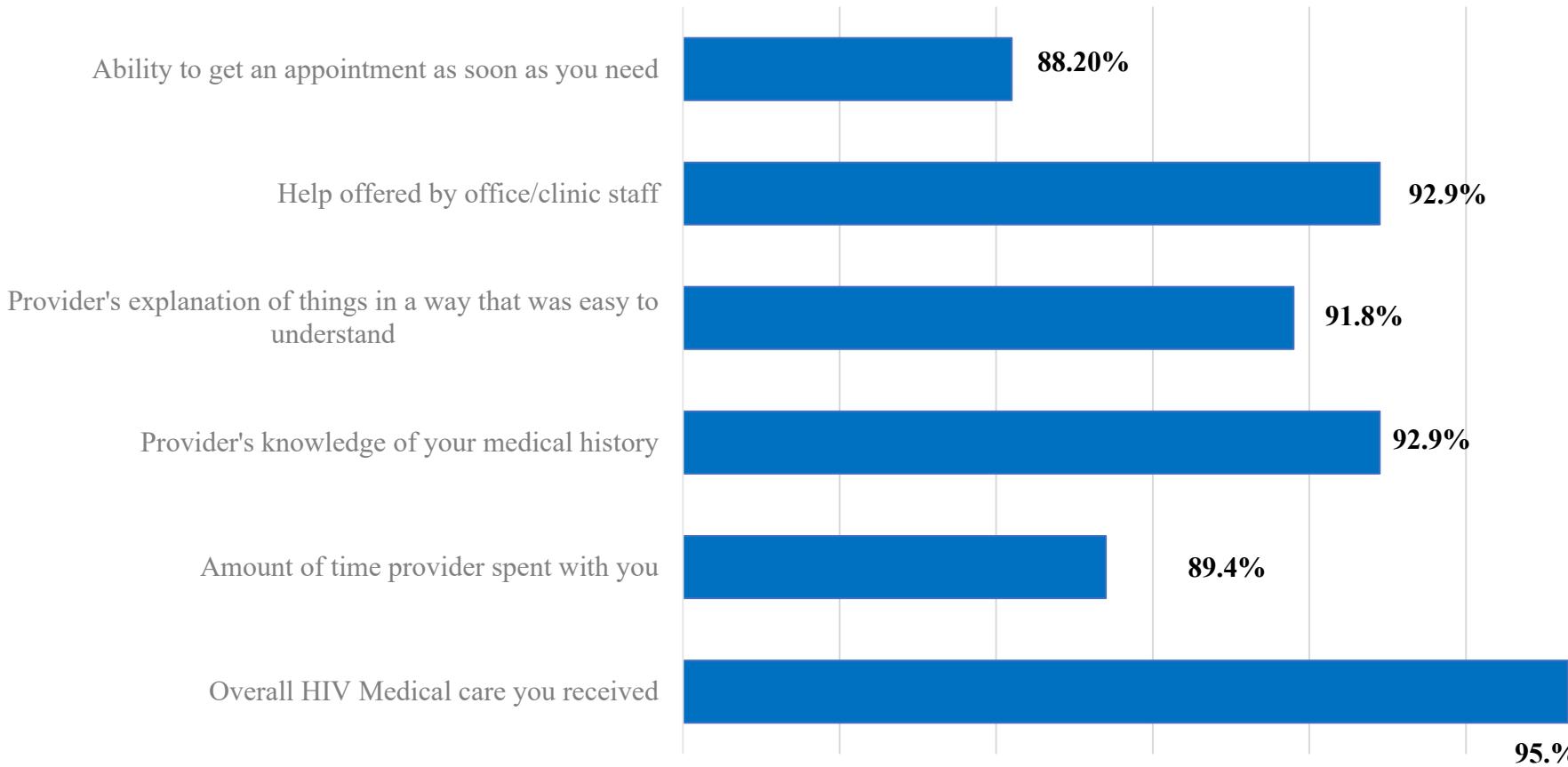
# Client Satisfaction Results

## Client Cultural Humility Satisfaction Data- Agree or Strongly Agree



# Client Satisfaction Results

## Client Care Satisfaction Data- Very or Extremely Satisfied



Engage everyone

Train all staff

Eliminate inefficiencies

- Use time and motion studies
- Look for redundancies

Invest in recruitment

Work with local agencies

# Lessons Learned



A photograph of three women of different ethnicities and ages laughing together outdoors. The woman on the left has dark curly hair and is wearing a white hoodie. The woman in the center has short white hair and is wearing a pink and grey jacket. The woman on the right has blonde hair and is wearing a light blue mesh top. They are all smiling and appear to be having a good time.

**Thank You!**

***We would like to thank the YCID team, our HIV champion providers, our patients, and peer liaison for their support and participation.***

This project is supported by HRSA Grant on HIV and Aging # 6H97HA46082

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Department of Health and Human Services provided financial support for this Project I-CARE-4-PAH. The award provided 100% of total costs and 26% indirect cost. The contents are those of the author.

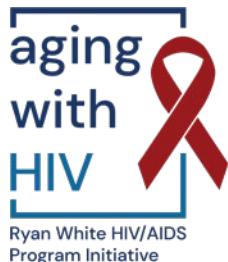
They may not reflect the policies of the Department of Health and Human Services or the U.S. government

Stock photos. Posed by Models.



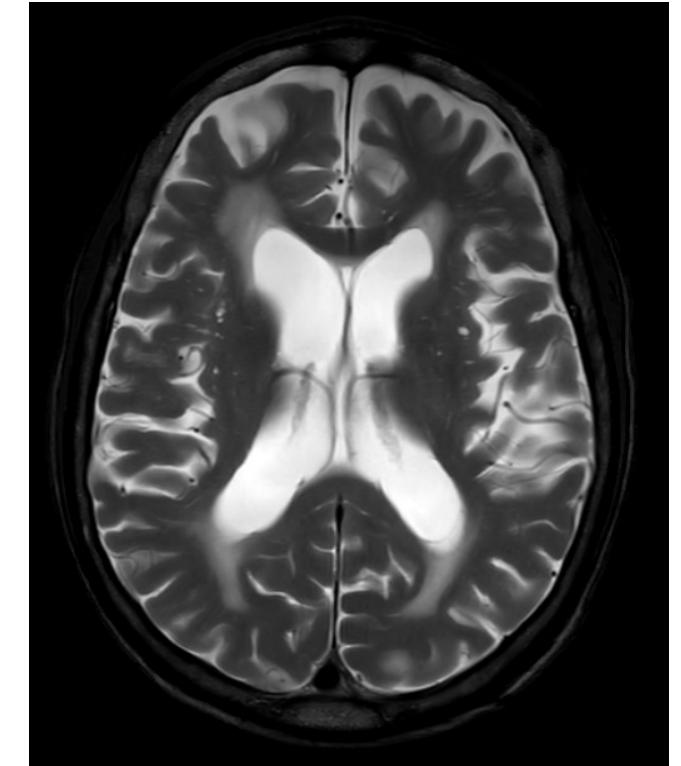
# HIV Dementia Champions: Preparing the workforce for an aging population

University of Chicago  
Jacob Walker, MD



# Dementia in HIV Care

- Age is the greatest risk factor for dementia.
- People with HIV may be at *higher* risk of dementia due to high prevalence of risk factors (aIRR ~1.6).
- People with HIV are at risk for unique HIV-Associated Neurocognitive Disorders (HAND).



# UChicago Program Background

Concentration of older adults on Chicago's South Side.

High prevalence of cognitive impairment. Low advance care planning completion rate.

75% of community members perceive dementia as a “moderate” or “major” problem for their community.

High perceived education need from social work team.



**Ryan White HIV/AIDS clinic**  
**600+ clients**

**44% of all patients over 50**

**Seven of the eight poorest neighborhoods in Chicago fall within the service area**

# HIV Dementia Champion Program Goals



- Train the members of the HIV workforce as “champions” of dementia care.
- Enhance dementia-related clinical skills and knowledge of dementia care resources.
- Prepare champions to make HIV clinics more “dementia-friendly,” improving care for *all* patients.

# HIV Dementia Champion Training

## 10 training Sessions

Paired with local experts

Active participation and discussion

Tailored to staff needs/experience

Resource sheets for each topic

## Two self-assessments

Community reflection

Clinical evaluation and action planning

## Training topics:

- Introduction to dementia
- Person-centered care
- Dementia screening and testing
- Working with caregivers
- Community dementia resources
- Legal frameworks
- Communication, stress, and distress
- Advance care planning
- Transitions of care

# Recruitment Strategy



**Dementia Lead**

Geriatrics

**HIV Lead**

HIV Clinic

**Coordinator**

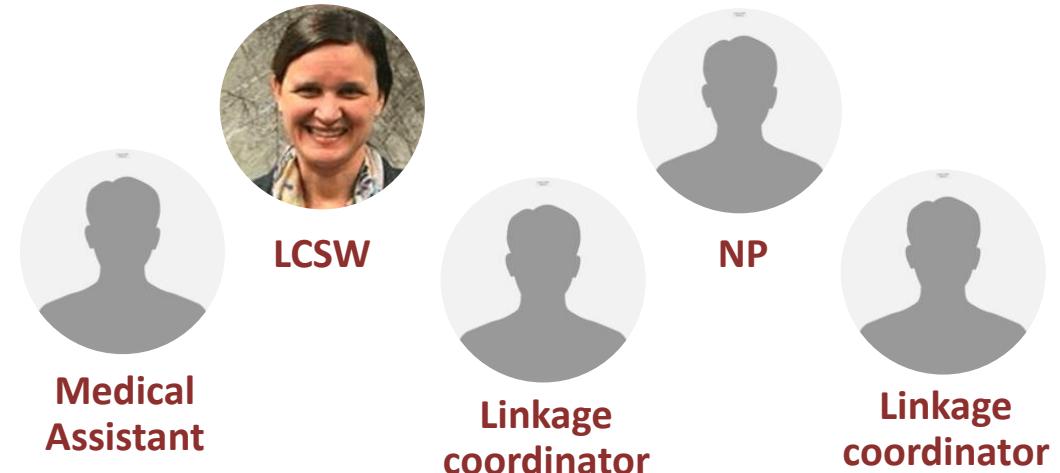
HIV Clinic

## Leadership Team

### Educator Team



### Champions



# Training Structure

# Individualized schedules for learners

# Mix of in-person shadowing and remote sessions

# Flexible to meet the needs of the organization and learners

# Example Training Sessions

- Group didactics with a local elder law attorney
- Affiliated nursing home site visit with a geriatrician
- Presentation from the Alzheimer's Association of Illinois
- **Online MoCA training course**
- **1:1 Shadowing of a neurology nurse practitioner in the memory disorders clinic**
- **Clinic tour and individual meeting with a geriatric social worker**

# UChicago Program Outcomes

- High Champion satisfaction
- Highly rated acceptability and appropriateness
- Strong buy-in from our community advisory board
- Strengthened ties to community partners

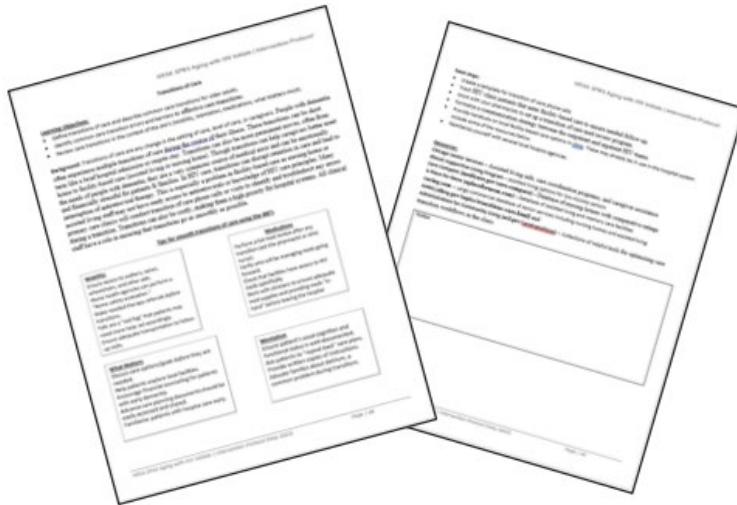
UChicago Champions have used their training to...

- Create a dementia screening clinical pathway
- Start a dementia caregiver support group within HIV clinic

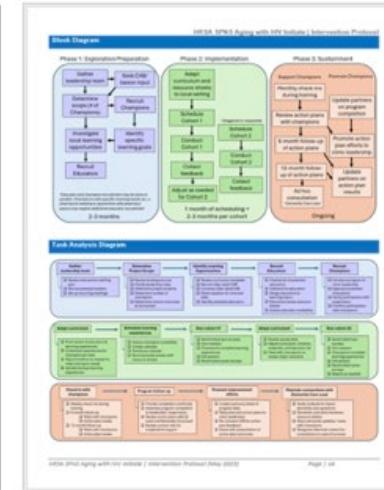
# Program Tools

## Implementation Blueprint

### Resource Guides



## Implementation Blueprint



### Assessment Tools

Attachment 6 – Dementia Training Post-Survey

As an HIV dementia champion, you are positioned to spearhead positive change in your clinic space for patients with dementia, and help on an individualized approach to the HIV dementia champion training program. Your responses are critical to our understanding of the needs of future participants. Thank you for your time!

When you consider your clinical role, how well prepared do you feel to apply your training in the following dementia-related topics? (Please rate topics on a scale of 1 to 5 with 1 indicating "unprepared" and 5 indicating "very prepared")

Topic	1 = Unprepared	2	3	4	5 = Very Prepared
Dementia Leadership Team	1	2	3	4	5
Identify and assess dementia	1	2	3	4	5
Provide clinical care	1	2	3	4	5
Working with caregivers	1	2	3	4	5
Legal resources	1	2	3	4	5
Community resources	1	2	3	4	5
End of life care	1	2	3	4	5
Transitions of care	1	2	3	4	5
Communication, ethics, and dilemmas	1	2	3	4	5

The following questions are about dementia care in your clinic. Please indicate the extent to which you agree with the following items:

Statement	Not at all	To a slight extent	To a moderate extent	To a great extent	Extremely
I will use this dementia training as much as possible when providing care.	0	1	2	3	4
I will continue to use the dementia champion commitments.	0	1	2	3	4
These dementia champion commitments will be a source of strength for me.	0	1	2	3	4

Including your training experiences, travel time, and time spent communicating with organizers, how many hours do you estimate you spent participating in the HIV dementia training program?

- 100 hours
- 40 hours
- 20 hours
- 10 hours

Attachment 7

HIV Dementia Champion ACTION PLAN

As an HIV dementia champion, you are positioned to spearhead positive change in your clinic space for patients with dementia, and help on an individualized approach to the HIV dementia champion training program. Your responses are critical to our understanding of the needs of future participants. Thank you for your time!

The goal of the Action Plan is to improve quality of life for our patients. To figure out what changes to make in our clinic space, we are asking you to review the following table. Where do you see the greatest need for improvement or an opportunity for a quick win?

**Identify the following indicators:**

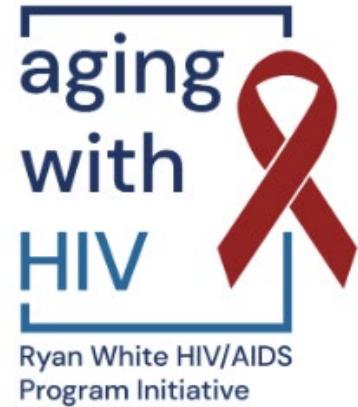
1. New dementia cases are a source to increase the amount of dementia patients.
2. Dementia patients are experiencing an increase in rights and choices, rather than being controlled.
3. Patients are involved in decision making.
4. Dementia patients are able to stay involved in their daily lives.
5. Dementia patients are able to stay involved in their daily lives.
6. Dementia patients are able to stay involved in their daily lives.
7. Dementia patients are able to stay involved in their daily lives.
8. Dementia patients are able to stay involved in their daily lives.
9. Dementia patients are able to stay involved in their daily lives.
10. Dementia patients are able to stay involved in their daily lives.

**Identify the following high-priority needs:**

1. Tell to patients what needs do they identify?
2. Tell to caregivers, where do they use room for improvement?
3. Make through the clinic, more right patient interest with dementia.
4. Dementia patients are more involved in decision making.
5. Dementia patients are more involved in decision making.
6. Dementia patients are more involved in decision making.
7. Dementia patients are more involved in decision making.
8. See what others have tried. Check out resources from the Alzheimer's Association or Dementia Friends, America (dementia.org/resource).

# HIV Dementia Champion Program

- Replication is underway at two additional sites!
- Toolkits will be made available online ([TargetHIV.org](http://TargetHIV.org))
- Supplemental online CME in active development
- The UChicago Team is available for 1:1 coaching



# In Summary...

There is a unique need for dementia workforce training in HIV care

The HIV Dementia Champion program is a flexible intervention built around the needs of HIV clinic staff

We can use existing dementia care networks to promote ease of replication and relevance to trainees



# Q&A Session (20 minutes)



QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

# Contact Information

## **Yale University**

Lydia Aoun-Barakat, MD

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(p) 203.688.2685

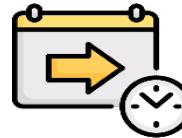
## **University of Chicago**

Jacob Walker, MD

(e) [jacawalk@gmail.com](mailto:jacawalk@gmail.com)

(p) 317.370.0374

# Upcoming Webinars



## **Webinar 2: Psychosocial Care & Supportive Services for People Aging with HIV**

**Date: May 15, 2025, 1:00pm – 2:00pm ET**

Presented by: Colorado Health Network, Inc. and Family Health Centers of San Diego

## **Webinar 3: Promoting Wellness for Aging Adults with HIV: Exercise, Nutrition, & Beyond**

**Date: TBD**

Presented by: Empower U, Inc. and Wake Forest University Health Sciences

## **Webinar 4: Personalized Care in HIV & Aging**

**Date: TBD**

Presented by: Centro Ararat, Inc. and Mount Sinai Beth Israel

## **Webinar 5: Optimizing Medication Management of People Aging with HIV**

**Date: TBD**

Presented by: Boston Medical Center and UPMC Presbyterian Shadyside

**Keep an eye on your inbox for registration links!**

# Thank you!

Visit <https://targetHIV.org/spns/aging> for more information on the SPNS Aging with HIV Initiative.