

BILINGUAL/BICULTURAL CARE TEAM INTERVENTION



The Bilingual/Bicultural Care Team intervention provides an opportunity to engage and retain Hispanic/Latinx adults with HIV by offering culturally and linguistically appropriate care services, leading to improved retention in HIV care and viral suppression.¹

Download intervention how-to guides and explore resources to help you innovate while replicating interventions that link, reengage, and retain people within HIV care at www.CIEhealth.org.



Priority Population

Adults with HIV who identify as Hispanic/Latinx and speak Spanish as their primary language



The Challenge

Hispanic and Latinx people in the U.S. experience a rate of HIV three times that of non-Hispanic whites. They enter care later in the course of HIV disease and have a lower survival rate compared with non-Hispanic whites due to problems accessing quality care, navigating the healthcare system, and adhering to HIV treatment.^{2,3,4}



The Model

The intervention's coordinated approach leverages existing community resources, expertise, and resilience to support organizations in addressing the unique barriers faced by Hispanic/Latinx people with HIV. It is an adaptable model that enables clinics and other service-delivery settings to better serve the Hispanic/Latinx community.



Pilot and Trial Sites

Truman Medical Center (TMC) in Kansas City, MO



Impact

The clinic that implemented the intervention experienced a significant increase in clients scheduling and keeping appointments, from a mean of 2.81 to 5.30 visits per year. The viral suppression rate among clients who met the criteria for ARV therapy increased by 31.5 percent.¹

¹Enriquez, M., Farnan, R., Cheng, A. L., Almeida, A., Del Valle, D., Pulido-Parra, M., & Flores, G. (2008). Impact of a bilingual/bicultural care team on HIV-related health outcomes. *The Journal of the Association of Nurses in AIDS Care: JANAC*, 19(4), 295–301. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jana.2008.04.004>.

²Fitzpatrick, L. K., Sutton, M., & Greenberg, A. E. (2006). Toward eliminating health disparities in HIV/AIDS: the importance of the minority investigator in addressing scientific gaps in Black and Latino communities. *Journal of the National Medical Association*, 98(12), 1906–1911.

³Shapiro, M.F., Morton, S.C., McCaffrey, D.F., Senterfitt, J.W., Fleishman, J.A., Perlman, J.F., Athey, L.A., Keesey, J.W., Goldman, D.P., Berry, S.H., et al. Variations in the care of HIV-infected adults in the United States: results from the HIV Cost and Services Utilization Study. *JAMA*. 1999 Jun 23;281(24):2305–2315.

⁴Cooper, L.A., Beach, M.C., Johnson, R.L., Inui, T.S. Delving below the surface. Understanding how race and ethnicity influence relationships in health care. *J Gen Intern Med*. 2006 Jan;21 (Suppl 1): S21–S27.