

Glossary of Terms

A

AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP)

Administered by States and authorized under Part B of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Extension Act. Provides FDA-approved medications to low-income individuals with HIV disease who have limited or no coverage from private insurance or Medicaid. ADAP funds may also be used to purchase insurance for uninsured Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program clients as long as the insurance costs do not exceed the cost of drugs through ADAP and the drugs available through the insurance program at least match those offered through ADAP.

AIDS Educational and Training Center

Regional centers providing education and training for primary care professionals and other AIDS-related personnel. AETCs are authorized under Part F of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program.

AIDS Service Organization (ASO)

An organization that provides primary medical care and/or support services to populations infected with and affected by HIV.

B

Biomedical Intervention:

The use of medical, clinical, and public health approaches designed to moderate biological and physiological factors to prevent HIV infection, reduce susceptibility to HIV, and/or decrease HIV infectiousness. Biomedical risk-reduction interventions include antiretroviral medications that persons with HIV can take to prevent transmitting HIV as well as antiretroviral medications that their uninfected partners can take to prevent acquiring HIV.

C

CARE Act (Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency Act)

Now referred to as the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program, this was the name of the original federal legislation created to address the unmet health care and service needs of people living with HIV Disease (PLWH) disease and their families. The legislation was enacted in 1990 and reauthorized in 1996 and 2000. The legislation was subsequently reauthorized as the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Modernization Act of 2006 and later as the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Extension Act of 2009.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):

CDC is the lead federal agency for protecting the health and safety of people, providing credible information to enhance health decisions, and promoting health through strong partnerships. Based in Atlanta, Georgia, this agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services serves to protect 29Tpublic health29T and safety through the control and prevention of disease, injury, and disability.

Client Level Data (CLD)

Information collected on each client eligible for and receiving RWHAP core medical services or support services. The data elements reported per client are determined by the specific RWHAP services that the agency is funded to provide.

Collaboration

Working with another person, organization, or group, for mutual benefit, by exchanging information, sharing resources, or enhancing the other's capacity, often to achieve a common goal or purpose.

Community

A group of people interacting and living in a common location or sharing common values and interests. Communities can also be characterized according to geography, culture, or organization.

Community Forum or Public Meeting

A small-group method of collecting information from community members in which a community meeting is used to provide a directed but highly interactive discussion. Similar to but less formal than a focus group, it usually includes a larger group; participants are often self-selected (i.e., not randomly selected to attend).

Community-based Organization (CBO)

An organization that provides services to locally defined populations, which may or may not include populations infected with or affected by HIV disease.

Comprehensive Planning

The process of determining the organization and delivery of HIV services. This strategy is used by planning bodies to improve decision-making about services and maintain a continuum of care for PLWH.

Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI)

An ongoing process that involves organization members in monitoring and evaluating programs to continuously improve service delivery. CQI seeks to prevent problems and to maximize the quality of care by identifying opportunities for improvement.

Continuum of Care

The extent to which a person living with HIV disease is engaged in HIV/AIDS care and is realizing the full advantages of care and treatment—from initial diagnosis and engagement in care to full viral suppression. Generally referred to as the HIV/AIDS Care Continuum.

Condom Distribution:

The means by which condoms are transferred, disseminated, or delivered from a community resource (e.g., health department, agency, or person) to the end-user.

Cultural Competence

The knowledge, understanding, and skills to work effectively with individuals from differing cultural backgrounds.

D

Data Collection

A process of preparing and collecting data through the use of instruments such as surveys or interviews. The use of formal data-collection protocols is necessary to guide standardized and reliable data collection. It ensures that data gathered are both defined and accurate, and that subsequent decisions based on the findings are valid.

Disease Intervention Specialists (DIS)

DIS are ISDH-funded professionals that conduct voluntary interviews with individuals recently diagnosed with an STD or HIV. The interview purpose is to solicit information about the sexual partners of the person infected with HIV or an STD. DIS use the interview information to find and notify the sexual partners of their exposure to HIV or an STD. This process exists to stop or slow the transmission of disease.

E

Early Intervention Services (EIS)

Activities designed to identify individuals who are HIV-positive and get them into care as quickly as possible. As funded through Parts A and B of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program, includes outreach, counseling and testing, information and referral services. Under Part C Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program, also includes comprehensive primary medical care for individuals living with HIV/AIDS.

Epidemiology

The branch of medical science that studies the incidence, distribution, and control of disease in a population.

Expedited Partner Therapy (EPT):

The practice of treating the sex partners of persons with sexually transmitted diseases (STD) without an intervening medical evaluation or professional prevention counseling.

F

Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

Federal agency within HHS responsible for ensuring the safety and effectiveness of drugs, biologics, vaccines, and medical devices used (among others) in the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of HIV infection, AIDS, and AIDS-related opportunistic infections. The FDA also works with the blood banking industry to safeguard the nation's blood supply.

Field Outreach

A disease prevention intervention generally conducted by peer or professional educators, in community venues, face-to-face with individuals at high risk or the professionals that serve them, with the intention of educating individuals about how they can protect themselves or others from contracting or spreading disease. Outreach may include distribution of risk-reduction materials or information.

G

Grant Recipient

The entity that receives Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program funds and is responsible for administering the award.

H

Health Disparities:

Differences in the quality of health and healthcare across different populations and the differences in health outcomes and their determinants between segments of the population, as defined by social, demographic, environmental, and geographic attributes.

Health Education/Risk Reduction (HE/RR):

A set of prevention activities to reach people at increased risk of becoming HIV infected or, if already infected, of transmitting the virus to others. HE/RR is designed to promote individual behavior change, promote and reinforce safer behaviors, and provide interpersonal-skills training in negotiating and sustaining appropriate behavior change.

Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

The agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that administers various primary care programs for the medically underserved, including the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program.

High-Impact HIV Prevention (HIP):

A strategy designed to achieve greater success with federal HIV prevention dollars by using combinations of scientifically proven, cost-effective, and scalable interventions targeted by population and geographic area, to yield the maximum impact from HIV prevention efforts. This will help maximize health departments' collective effort on HIV, by aligning resources with jurisdictions, based on the HIV burden, and supporting interventions with substantial, lasting impact. HIP is also aligned to address the goals of the National HIV/AIDS Strategy (NHAS).

HRSA HIV/AIDS Bureau (HAB)

The bureau within HRSA of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) that is responsible for administering the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program.

I

Incidence

The number of new cases of a disease that occur during a specified time period.

Incidence Rate

The number of new cases of a disease or condition that occur in a defined population during a specified time period, often expressed per 100,000 persons. AIDS incidence rates are often expressed this way.

M**Men Who Have Sex with Men (MSM):**

Men who report sexual contact with other men (i.e., homosexual contact) and men who report sexual contact with both men and women (i.e., bisexual contact whether or not they identify as “gay.”) (See: Bisexual)

N**Needs Assessment**

A process of collecting information about the needs of PLWH (both those receiving care and those not in care), identifying current resources (Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program and other) available to meet those needs, and determining what gaps in care exist.

Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

An open and competitive process for selecting providers of services.

P**Part A**

The part of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program that provides emergency assistance to localities disproportionately affected by the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

Part B

The part of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program that provides funds to States and territories for primary health care (including HIV treatments through the AIDS Drug Assistance Program, ADAP) and support services that enhance access to care to PLWHA and their families.

Part C

The part of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program that supports outpatient primary medical care and early intervention services (EIS) to PLWH through grants to public and private non-profit organizations. Part C also funds planning grants to prepare programs to provide EIS services.

Part D

The part of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program that supports family-centered, comprehensive care to women, infants, children, and youth living with HIV.

People Living with HIV (PLWH)

Sometimes also seen as "PLWHA" for people living with HIV/AIDS.

PrEP

Pre-exposure prophylaxis is a prevention method for people at higher risk for HIV exposure and involves taking an antiretroviral pill every day to greatly reduce, if not eliminate, the risk of becoming infected with HIV if exposed to the virus.

Prevalence

The total number of persons in a defined population living with a specific disease or condition at a given time (compared to incidence, which is the number of new cases).

Prevalence Rate

The proportion of a population living at a given time with a condition or disease (compared to the incidence rate, which refers to new cases).

Priority Setting

The process used to establish priorities among service categories, to ensure consistency with locally identified needs, and to address how best to meet each priority.

Provider (or service provider)

The agency that provides direct services to clients (and their families) or the grant recipient. A provider may receive funds as a grant recipient (such as under Parts C and D) or through a contractual relationship with a grant recipient funded directly by HRSA's RWHAP. Also see subrecipient.

Q**Quality**

The degree to which a health or social service meets or exceeds established professional standards and user expectations.

Quality Assurance (QA)

The process of identifying problems in service delivery, designing activities to overcome these problems, and following up to ensure that no new problems have developed and that corrective actions have been effective. The emphasis is on meeting minimum standards of care.

Quality Improvement (QI)

Also called Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI). An ongoing process of monitoring and evaluating activities and outcomes in order to continuously improve service delivery. CQI seeks to prevent problems and to maximize the quality of care.

R**Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Services Report (RSR)**

Data collection and reporting system for reporting information on programs and clients served (Client Level Data).

S

Subrecipient

The legal entity that receives RWHAP funds from a grant recipient and is accountable to the recipient for the use of the funds provided. Subrecipients may provide direct client services or administrative services directly to a recipient. Subrecipient replaces the term "Provider (or service provider)."

Support Services

Services needed to achieve medical outcomes that affect the HIV-related clinical status of a person living with HIV/AIDS. Grant recipient/sub-recipient expenditures are limited to core medical services, support services, and administrative expenses.

SURRG (Strengthening US Response to Resistant Gonorrhea)

A CDC funded program aimed at monitoring and reducing the strains of antibiotic resistant gonorrhea in the US.

Surveillance

An ongoing, systematic process of collecting, analyzing and using data on specific health conditions and diseases (e.g., Centers for Disease Control and Prevention surveillance system for AIDS cases).

Surveillance Report

A report providing information on the number of reported cases of a disease such as AIDS, nationally and for specific sub-populations.

T

Target Population

A population to be reached through some action or intervention; may refer to groups with specific demographic or geographic characteristics.

Targeted (HIV and STD) Testing:

A testing strategy that involves testing persons based on characteristics that increase the likelihood of being infected with HIV. These characteristics can include the presence of sexually transmitted diseases, behavioral risks, or attendance at venues by persons at high risk.

Targeting:

Use of data or information to direct HIV testing, linkage to care, and HIV risk-reduction services to groups at high risk for HIV. Persons at high risk can be accessed, with the purpose of ensuring that services are available and accessible to those who need them.

Technical Assistance (TA)

The delivery of practical program and technical support to the Ryan White community. TA is to assist grant recipients/sub-recipients, planning bodies, and affected communities in designing, implementing, and evaluating Ryan White-supported planning and primary care service delivery systems.

U**Unmet Need**

The unmet need for primary health services among individuals who know their HIV status but are not receiving primary health care.

V**Viral Load**

In relation to HIV, the quantity of HIV RNA in the blood. Viral load is used as a predictor of disease progression. Viral load test results are expressed as the number of copies per milliliter of blood plasma.