

# AMSA AIDS

## Advocacy Network

Comorbidities, Health Equity,  
&  
Reproductive Healthcare  
Toolkit

Stay Connected



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AMSA AIDS Advocacy Network

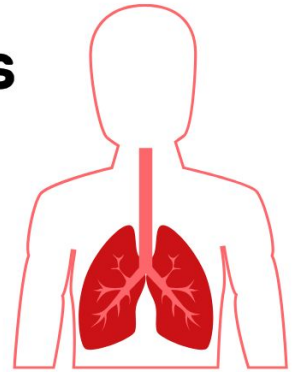


# HIV COMORBIDITIES

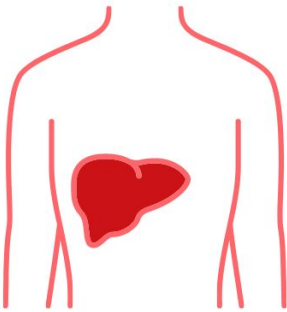
## TUBERCULOSIS

TB causes 1 in 3 HIV deaths.  
The risk of developing TB is between 16-27 times greater in people living with HIV than among those without HIV infection

Source: WHO



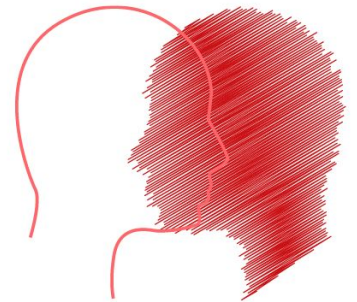
## HEPATITIS



In the U.S., Hepatitis C affects up to 25% of people with HIV.  
Upwards of 80% of PWID with HIV also have Hepatitis C.  
HIV/Hep C Coinfections more than triples the odds of liver disease, liver failure, and liver-related deaths.  
HBV infection affects an estimated 5–20% of people living with HIV.  
Source: CDC

## MENTAL HEALTH

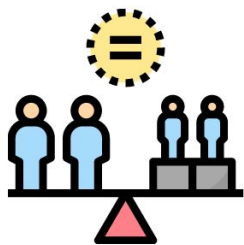
Women with HIV have 6x the national rate of PTSD.  
PLWH are 2x as likely to have depression compared to those without HIV.  
PLWH with an HIV stigma have 4x the risk of developing anxiety than non-stigmatized patients.  
Source: CDC



## INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

The rate of intimate partner violence among women living with HIV is 2x the national rate.  
Women in relationships with violence have 4x the risk of contracting HIV and STIs than women in relationships without violence.

Abbreviations:  
PWID: People Who Inject Drugs  
PWLH: People Who Live with HIV



# HEALTH EQUITY

## GENDER

Globally, women account for 46% of all HIV cases.  
 1 in 5 of all new HIV infections in the U.S. are cisgender women.  
 Of that, 14% were among girls and young women aged 13-24, 27% are among women aged 25-34.  
 Approximately 25% of transgender persons in the U.S. are HIV-positive.  
 Sources: CDC, NEJM, Klein et al.



## RACE & ETHNICITY



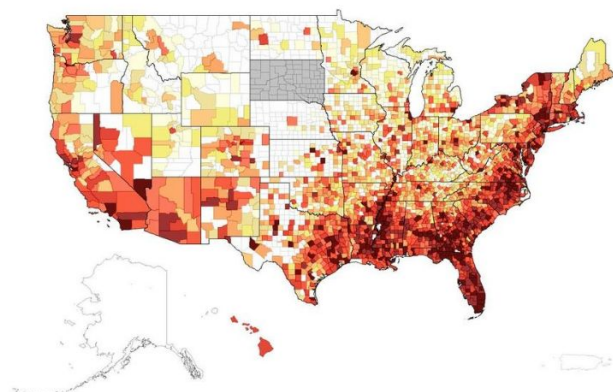
Black Americans represent: 13% of the US population, 42% of PLWH, and 44% of all new HIV diagnoses.  
 72% of women living with HIV are Black.  
 Black Americans test positive at a rate of 20x higher than the rest of the U.S. population.  
 Nearly 50% of Black transgender women are living with HIV.  
 Of Black trans persons who did not complete high school, 1 in 4 are living with HIV.  
 Sources: CDC, AIDSvu, Black AIDS Institute, USTS Health Survey.

## YOUTH OF AMERICA

Since 2012, children and minors have accounted for more than 1 in 5 new HIV diagnoses.  
 Of youth (aged 13-24), 56% receive a diagnosis, 31% are retained in care, and only 30% reach viral suppression status.  
 Sources: CDC, AIDSvu



## GEOGRAPHY & REGIONAL BARRIERS



51% of new HIV diagnoses occur in the South.  
 47% of deaths among adults and adolescents with diagnosed HIV were in the South.  
 Sources: CDC, AIDSvu



# REPRODUCTIVE HEALTHCARE



## MOTHER TO CHILD TRANSMISSION

Transmission of HIV from a mother living with HIV to her baby can occur during pregnancy, during labor or after delivery through breastfeeding.

Without intervention, about 15–30% of mothers living with HIV will transmit the infection during pregnancy and delivery. Breastfeeding increases the risk of transmission by 10–15%. This risk depends on clinical factors and may vary according to the pattern and duration of breastfeeding. Source: UNAIDS



Ways to reduce the risk of HIV transmission from mother to child include:

1. Taking HIV antiretroviral medication during pregnancy AND during labor & delivery
2. Delivering via cesarean section if the mother's HIV viral load is high
3. Giving the newborn HIV antiretroviral medication,
4. Avoiding breastfeeding.

By following these guidelines, 99% of mothers living with HIV will not transmit it to their babies (American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists).

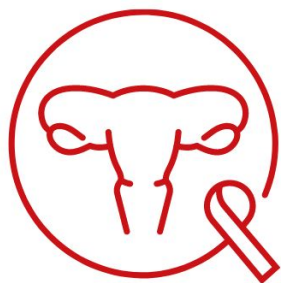
Advocating for pregnant people living with HIV to have access to the above services is essential to reducing maternal-fetal HIV transmission globally!



## CERVICAL CANCER

Women with HIV have a higher risk of cervical cancer. Additionally, cervical cancer screening is often excluded sexual and reproductive health services, during which the focus is often on family planning, prevention of vertical transmission of HIV, and STI transmission

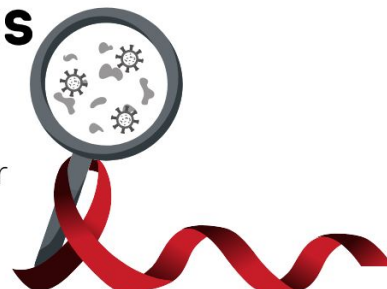
Source: HIV.gov, Womenshealth.gov



## SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS

Higher risk of STIs = Higher risk of acquiring HIV

Having an STI can make it easier to get HIV. For example, an STI can cause a sore or a break in the skin, which can make it easier for HIV to enter the body. Having HIV and another STI may increase the risk of HIV transmission. Source: AIDSinfo





# GET INVOLVED

## “WHAT SCARES YOU?” CAMPAIGN

This can be a social media and/or flyering campaign by members of your chapter. Each member selects one “scary” or glaring fact about HIV (ex. HIV prevalence among Black transgender individuals in the United States is 6.7%, which is more than 20x higher than the prevalence rate in the overall U.S. population. Source- 2015 U.S. Transgender Survey: Report on the Experiences of Black respondents). This is meant to get people on your campus and in your community to pay attention to glaring disparities in HIV prevalence, access to treatment and prevention, etc.



## PROMOTE READY, SET, PREP

Learn more here:

<https://www.hiv.gov/federal-response/ending-the-hiv-epidemic/prep-program>

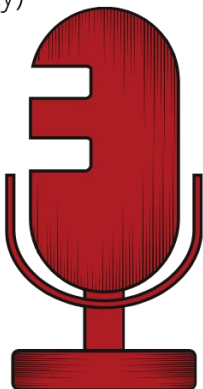
## WRITE AN OP-ED

Learn more here:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1sYh-LCu2B4AcrM3xyioGyD1NWBujZhVZRy6pTzCTwgE/edit>

## HOST AN ART COMPETITION WITH OPEN SUBMISSIONS

Organize an event that features art focused on HIV and AIDS education and prevention (can be specific to a certain population or community)



## VIRTUAL OPEN MIC, COMEDY NIGHT, POETRY SLAM

Invite artists to share work and discuss in a safe space how HIV and AIDS affects certain populations and communities



# GET INVOLVED

## INTERACTIVE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

Host an assembly at your school or find a local school to partner with to hold an interactive assembly or a program for a health class in honor of NWGHAAD.

- Screen a movie about HIV and AIDS and hold a discussion with students after the film.
- Ask students to create a poster, tabletop display, or other artwork that focuses on topics related to how HIV and AIDS affect women and girls.
- Display designs during the assembly for other students to view and learn from.
- Play a game. Look online for interactive games that teach teenage students about how HIV is spread and the importance of protection/prevention.
- Provide educational materials on HIV and AIDS and how it affects women and girls in particular or have a guest speaker discuss how HIV and AIDS have affected her life and ways to prevent the disease.

## USE SOCIAL MEDIA

- 1) AAN Premade Posts  
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1AQI0V4qBTkVxnU0PYHURL9xVW2FKQxhj?usp=sharing>
- 2) Host Follow Fridays
- 3) Post interactive quizzes to engage the audience
- 4) Tweet, message, and tag your representatives and senators
- 5) <https://whatworksinyouthhiv.org/strategies/social-media-and-marketing-strategies/strategies-social-marketing-campaigns>
- 6) <https://www.hiv.gov/federal-response/campaigns>
- 7) <https://www.healthline.com/health/hiv-awareness-awards-2016#11>
- 8) Promote [World AIDS Day](#) on December 1st and use it as a day of action!



### TAG:

**@AMSANATIONAL**  
**@AMSAAIDSADVOCACYNETWORK**  
**@HIVGOV**  
**@STARTTALKINGHIV**  
**@STOPHIVTOGETHER**

### HASHTAGS:

**#AMSAAAN**      **#SPEAKOUTHIV**  
**#UEQUALSU**      **#CANTPASSITON**  
**#SCIENCENOTSTIGMA**  
**#KNOWYOURSTATUS**