Data-to-Care
HIV Re-linkage to care

Data-to-care (D2C) is an HIV prevention strategy which uses information gathered by the health department to help people who have fallen out of HIV medical care get back into care. D2C uses the Houston Health Department’s Service Linkage Program to re-link people living with HIV (PLWH) back into HIV medical care, as well as provide linkage to other support services that address barriers to receiving HIV care.1

What is Data-to-Care/Re-linkage?

- Antiretroviral therapy (ART) - medications used to treat HIV.
- Viral Load - the amount of HIV in the body.
- HIV treatment - taking medications that reduce the amount of HIV in the body, which prevents illness.
- Viral suppression - reduction of a person’s viral load to less than 200 copies per milliliter of blood.
- Undetectable viral load - a reduction in viral load so low that a test can’t detect it.

Key Terms3

- (Re)linkage to HIV medical care
- *Domestic violence services
- *Treatment adherence services
- *Dental services
- *Foster care services
- *Home-care services
- *General education
- *Health insurance services
- *Hearing services
- *HIV education services
- *Hospice care services
- *Housing services
- *Mental health services
- *Legal services
- *Food pantry services
- *Pain management services
- *Medication prescription assistance services
- *Rental assistance services
- *Family planning services
- *Support system services
- *Substance abuse counseling services
- *Transportation services
- *Vaccination services
- *Vision services
- *Other services

Data-to-Care Process

Why do we need Data-to-Care/Re-linkage?

- Increase re-engagement in HIV Care
- Increase viral suppression
- Decrease new cases of HIV

Top Needs of People Living with HIV in Houston, 2017

Dental | Medical | Vision | Food/Nutrition | Housing | Transportation

- 34%
- 52%
- 48%
- 40%
- 22%
- 22%

HIV Care Continuum (2017)

- Houston EMA*
- Transgender Women
- Transgender Men

For more information visit: houstontx.gov/health/HIV-STD/datatocare

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References:


Notes:

* The Houston Eligible Metropolitan Area (EMA) is the geographic service area defined by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) for the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Part A and Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI). It includes Chambers, Fort Bend, Harris, Liberty, Montgomery, and Waller Counties. Harris County Public Health Ryan White Grant Administration (RWGA) administers HRSA Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Part A and MAI HIV care services funding and activities in the EMA. Epidemiologic data for the EMA are provided by TDSHS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Data source</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HIV diagnosed</td>
<td>No. of persons living with HIV (PLWH) residing in Houston EMA through end of year (alive)</td>
<td>Texas eHARS data</td>
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<tr>
<td>Met need</td>
<td>No. (%) of PLWH in Houston EMA with met need (at least one medical visit, ART prescription, or CD4/VL test) in year</td>
<td>Texas Department of State Health Services HIV Unmet Need Project (incl. eHARS, ELR, ARIES, ADAP, Medicaid, private payer data)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Linked to care</td>
<td>No. (%) of newly diagnosed PLWH in Houston EMA who were linked to medical care (&quot;Met need&quot;) within 6 months of their HIV diagnosis</td>
<td>Texas Department of State Health Services HIV Unmet Need Project (incl. eHARS, ELR, ARIES, ADAP, Medicaid, private payer data)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Retained in care</td>
<td>No. (%) of PLWH in Houston EMA with at least 2 medical visits, ART prescriptions, or CD4/VL tests in year, at least 3 months apart</td>
<td>Texas ELRs, ARIES labs, ADAP labs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Virologically suppressed</td>
<td>No. (%) of PLWH in Houston EMA whose last viral load test of the year was &lt;200 copies/mL</td>
<td>Texas ELRs, ARIES labs, ADAP labs</td>
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