

Glossary of Words/Acronyms

During this training series you may hear words and/or acronyms that are unfamiliar. You should take the time to review this list of commonly used words and acronyms as it relates to working with people living with HIV

Acuity: The level of severity of an illness. Parameters considered in patient classification systems that are designed to serve as a guide for allocation of /justification of staffing decisions and to aid in the long-range projection of staffing and budgeting

ADAP: AIDS Drug Assistance Program (also known as HDAP in Massachusetts)

Adherence: the act of doing what is required by a rule, belief, etc.; The extent to which a patient continues an agreed-on mode of treatment without close supervision

AIDS: Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, the final life-threatening, stage of HIV

ART: Antiretroviral Therapy/**ARV:** Antiretroviral (medications)

ASO- AIDS Service Organizations

Boston Eligible Metropolitan Area (EMA): a geographic area highly impacted by HIV which is eligible to receive Part A Ryan White funds. The area must have reported more than 2,000 AIDS cases in the most recent 5 years and have a population of at least 50,000. The Boston EMA includes 7 counties in Massachusetts and 3 counties in New Hampshire.

BPHC- Boston Public Health Commission

CORI: Criminal Offender Record Information

CDC: Center for Disease Control and Prevention

CD4 cell: A type of immune cell that HIV attacks and destroys.

CD4 count: the result of a blood test to determine how many CD4 cells are present in a person's blood. This count is used to determine the health of the immune system and to help diagnose AIDS. A typical count is between 1000 and 1500, if the count goes below 200, a person is classified with AIDS.

Disparities: a noticeable and often unfair difference between people or things

DTA: Department of Transitional Assistance (*federal agency use to be called the Welfare office*)

SNAP: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance program

TAFDC: Transitional AID to Families with Dependent Children

EAEDC: Emergency AID to the Elderly, Disabled and Children

FPL: Federal Poverty Level

FY: Fiscal Year

HA: Housing Authorities (*federal agency*)

HAART: Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy

HBV: Hepatitis B Virus

HCV: Hepatitis C Virus

HCC: HIV Care Continuum

HHS: U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (*federal agency*)

HIV: Human Immunodeficiency Virus

HIV Drug Resistance: HIV germs are not killed by some HIV medications

HRSA: The U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration (*federal agency*)

HUD: Housing and Urban Development (*federal agency*)

IDU: Injection drug users

Immune system what the body uses to fight infections. Made up of white blood cells. HIV attacks specific white blood cells called CD4 T-Cells.

Incidence: the rate at which a certain event occurs, as the number of new cases of a specific disease occurring during a certain period in a population at risk

ISP/ICP: Individual Service Plans/Individual Care Plan (most common term used is ISP)

LGBTQ: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning

MCC: Medical Care Coordination

MCM: Medical Case Management

MD: Medical Doctor

MDPH- Massachusetts Department of Public Health

MSM: Men who have sex with men and may or may not self- identify as gay

Needle Exchange program (NEP): Program designed to provide clean needles or works to people that are active drug users. Some may also provide free and confidential STI testing, counseling, support and treatment assistance

MTF: Male to Female

NP: Nurse Practitioner

OHA: Office of HIV/AIDS (*within MDPH*)

Out of Care (OOC): As defined by HRSA - someone who has not received either a CD4 count, viral load test, ART prescription, or primary care visit within the last 12 months

Opportunistic Infections: Diseases that typically only affect people with weakened immune systems

PC: Ryan White Planning Council

PCP: Primary Care Physician / **ID:** Infectious Disease physician

PLWH: People living with HIV

Prevalence: the percentage of a population that is affected with a particular disease at a given time; the speed or frequency with which an event or circumstance occurs per unit of time, population, or other standard of comparison

PS: Peer Support

RN: Registered Nurse

ROI/ROA: Release of Information/Authorization (most common term used ROI)

SAMHSA: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

SRO: Single Room Occupancy

SSA: Social Security Administration (*federal agency*)

SSDI: Social Security Disability Insurance

SSI: Supplemental Security Income

SSC: Social Services Coordination

Unmet Need: the need for HIV-related primary health care among individuals who are aware of their status, but are not receiving care

Viral Suppression (virally suppressed): Also referred to as **Undetectable**. PLWH who is on ART treatment has so little HIV circulating in the blood, that an HIV blood test does not identify any

circulating virus. This person is not cured of HIV. The virus is still dormant in their cells, and without treatment, the person's viral load will increase again to a detectable level

CORI: Criminal Offender Record Information

DHCD: Department of Housing and Community Development

DMH: Department of Mental Health

DTA: Department of Transitional Assistance (*federal agency use to be called the Welfare office*)

DV: Domestic Violence

EA: Emergency Assistance Program

HA: Housing Authorities (*federal, state & local agency*)

HOPWA: Housing Opportunities for People Living with HIV/AIDS

HUD: Housing and Urban Development (*federal agency*)

INS: Immigration and Naturalization Services

MRVP: Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program

RHP: Regional Housing Programs

Section 8: voucher program supported through HUD and administered by local HAS

SRO: Single Room Occupancy

SSA: Social Security Administration (*federal agency*)

VA: Department of Veteran Affairs (*federal agency*)

VASH: Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing program