

Early Prevention Intervention Project (EPIP)

The DPIC and the Central Community Health Board (CCHB) collaborate in the EPIP. EPIP uses the risk reduction model and proven public health measures to provide HIV early intervention, prevention, education and outreach to persons in Hamilton County whose behavior puts them at risk for infection with HIV, sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) and tuberculosis (TB). The target groups for EPIP include clients in alcohol and other drug (AOD) treatment programs as well as those out of treatment who might not otherwise be served.

Anonymous HIV testing, TB testing and STD screening evaluation are offered on- or off-site. Persons positive for HIV are referred to the AIDS Treatment Center (ATC) at the University of Cincinnati for appropriate cell monitoring and institution of highly effective anti-retroviral therapy. Data from the EPIP project are reported to the Hamilton County Alcohol & Drug Addiction Services (ADAS) Board and to Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services (ODADAS).

E. Don Nelson, Pharm.D., O.C.P.S.I., DPIC Associate Director and EPIP Research Director, uses process, outcome, and impact measures to evaluate the performance of the project in relation to its goals and objectives. Dr. Nelson also functions as the primary trainer for the EPIP.

In the course of the provision of EPIP services, EPIP staff interacts with ODADAS-certified chemical dependency treatment programs in Hamilton County. In addition, EPIP has delivered services to numerous other agencies serving clients with high-risk behaviors for substance abuse and HIV infection in Hamilton County. All agency interactions have been well received by the host agencies as reflected in feedback and evaluation forms.

EPIP provided the following units of service from 7/1/00 to 12/31/00

Clients Receiving Educational Sessions	3541
Education Sessions Provided	204
Clients Receiving Risk Assessments	816
Clients Receiving HIV Pre-test Counseling	1251
Clients Receiving HIV Blood Draws	1224
Clients Receiving STD Blood Tests	29
Clients Receiving Post HIV Test Counseling	1044
Clients Receiving Nursing Assessments	130
Agency Staff Training sessions	26
Staff Trained in External Training	264
Clients Receiving Outreach Contacts	5340
Clients Receiving Interim Services	2301
Faith Based Clients	323
Mean Pre- vs. Post-Test Score.	6.2/10 vs 8.7/10
Mean Training Evaluation Score 0 (Poor) to 4 (Excellent)	3.8