



Assessing Canadian HIV clinicians' awareness of the Canadian HIV Pregnancy Planning Guidelines: Identifying the need for broader dissemination to ensure guideline implementation

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Introduction & Research Objectives

- In modern HIV care, reproductive planning is informed by:
 - Science
 - Informed Patient Preferences
- In 2018, a transdisciplinary team re-developed the [Canadian HIV Pregnancy Planning Guidelines \(CHPPG\)](#), an evidence-based clinical guideline on HIV pregnancy planning (Loutfy et al., 2018; Loutfy et al., 2020)
- [Our research objectives were:](#)
 1. To explore Canadian HIV clinicians' awareness of the CHPPG;
 2. To explore Canadian HIV clinicians' implementation of the CHPPG;
 3. To explore Canadian HIV clinicians' willingness to counsel on reproductive planning; and
 4. To explore Canadian HIV clinicians' interest in professional development opportunities related to reproductive planning





Methods

- Ethics approval from Women's College Hospital (REB # 2019-0052-E)
- Adapted version of the Clinician Guideline Determinants Questionnaire (Gagliardi et al., 2019) was used to address the 4 research objectives
- REDCap surveys distributed via:
 - Association of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Disease Canada (AMMI)
 - Canadian HIV and Viral Hepatitis Pharmacists Network (CHAP)
 - Canadian Association of Nurses' in AIDS Care (CANAC)
 - Novel listserv of 'other' HIV clinicians (primarily family physicians)





Results

Survey initiated by 75 clinicians

- 27 pharmacists (36%)
- 25 GPs (33.3%)
- 9 ID Specialists (12%)
- 8 RNs/NPs (11%)
- 6 'Other' (8%)

Objective 1: Awareness

- 45 participants (60%) aware of the CHPPG
 - 21/45(46.7%) hadn't read the CHPPG
- Varied by professional:
 - RN/NP most likely to be aware (6/7, 85.7%)
 - Pharmacists (17/27, 63.0%)
 - Physicians (20/34, 58.8%)

Objective 2: Implementation

- Of those who were aware & had read (n=24) the CHPPG, 20/24 (83.3%) had implemented them in their practice

Objective 3: Willingness to Counsel

- 35/67 who completed the survey (52.5%) had provided pregnancy planning counselling in the prior 12 months
 - 18/35 (51.4%) were aware of the CHPPG
- 29/32 (90.6%) who had **not** provided pregnancy planning counselling in the prior 12 months were willing to

Objective 4: Educational Interest

- 56/67 (83.6%) were somewhat/very interested in learning more about reproductive planning and HIV





Discussion & Implications

- Canadian HIV clinicians have limited awareness and implementation of the CHPPG
- However, willingness to offer HIV pregnancy planning counselling and interest in learning more on this topic were high
- More attention needs to be given to disseminating, implementing, and evaluating the uptake of relevant clinical guidelines within HIV care in order to improve the **ease of access to information for clinicians and quality of comprehensive HIV care**

References

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