

Borinquen Medical Centers' HIV Test, Linkage and Treat Practice



Our Mission

Borinquen Medical Centers of Miami-Dade provide a comprehensive range of health and social services to our culturally diverse community. Our quality services are accessible to all people throughout the County through a multi-discipline approach.

BMC is a federally qualified health center (FQHC) with 11 locations throughout The County.



The *Test, Linkage and Treat Model* elements are

- ❑ Early diagnosis of HIV
- ❑ Immediate linkage to care
- ❑ Reduction of viral load

Decreased infectiousness is the priority!

It is known that when patients are aware of their status they're less likely to transmit the virus.

The ***Test, Linkage to care and Treat Model*** could help increase the number of people receiving early diagnosis when their immune system are relatively healthy and, furthermore, could produce a decrease in the number of people unaware of their status who, without HIV treatment, are more likely to infect others. ***Test, Linkage to care, and Treat*** has the potential to save lives.

DID YOU KNOW?

HIV Prevention Trials Network (HPTN) 052 study shows that HIV-infected men and women who were on ART have a 96-percent reduced risk of transmitting the virus to their uninfected sexual partners.

Goals

- ❑ Improve the health outcomes in people who do not yet know their serostatus
- ❑ Reduce HIV transmission, because PLWHA who are receiving treatment are far less likely to transmit infection to others

BMC offers HIV testing in several ways

- ❑ **In-house:** Every new, annual and follow-up (with high-risk behavior/s) patient 13 years and over receives as part of their routine laboratory blood work an HIV and Hepatitis Screening (unless they opt-out)
- ❑ **Community:** HIV testing conducted during outreach activities, community events and within targeted venues (e.g. trailer parks, disenfranchised neighborhoods, under bridges, bath houses, and etc.)
- ❑ **In-house (non-patients or patients seeking testing outside of primary care setting):** These are for individuals solely seeking an HIV and/or STD testing and counseling via our drop-in testing centers located within our centers.

Linkage to Care

Immediate linkage to primary care services upon a positive HIV result. BMC is a designated Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) by the National Committee on Quality Assurance (NCQA) and as such is required to offer the capacity to see patients on the same day as called/needed.

These “same day” appointments are used for immediate linkage to care, BMC has the ability to bring a PLWHA into care at one of four (4) sites in which BMC provides HIV care.

- ❑ **Emilio Lopez Pavilion (Mid-Town)**
- ❑ **Specialty and Wellness Center (Design District)**
- ❑ **B-CARE (Mid-Town)**
- ❑ **Carrie Meek (Little Haiti)**

All newly diagnosed PLWHA have the opportunity to receive immediate behavioral health support via a Peer Counselor, Risk Reduction (CRCS) counselor, Outreach Specialist, Behavioral Health Therapist, or Psychiatrist. The clients' mental well-being is primordial to their success with treatment and adherence.

Treat

During this first primary care visit, the newly identified (or returning to care) patient is able to meet with an HIV Specialist and complete initial laboratory blood work regardless of ability to pay and/or health coverage.

UNINSURED

versus

INSURED

- ❑ Initial primary care visit is abbreviated.
- ❑ Initial laboratory requests are limited.
- ❑ Typically is prescribed ART during 3rd follow-up primary care visit.
- ❑ Cannot order Genotype (if required) until Ryan White (or other health coverage) eligibility is established/approved.

- ❑ The initial primary care visit is comprehensive, includes full and complete history and evaluation.
- ❑ Initial laboratory requests include all necessary tests.
- ❑ Typically prescribed ART during 2nd follow-up primary care visit.
- ❑ If Genotype is needed, it is ordered during initial Primary care visit.

It takes a village

The Test, Linkage to care, and Treat practice is only made possible as a result of the integrative nature of care at BMC. Every patient receives simultaneous services ensuring that all aspects of care and coordination are established and seamlessly working towards the well-being of the person. BMC utilizes a patient-care team approach, in other words, all persons involved in the care of the PLWHA is aligned with the treatment goals (of the PLWHA).

The Teams that make it happen!

Outreach Specialists
HIV Specialists (providers)
Medical Case Managers
Infectious Disease Provider
Adult Medicine and Specialty Medicine Clinical Managers
Executive and Senior Management
Peer Counselors
Behavioral Health (counseling and psychiatry)
Outpatient Substance Abuse Prevention/Treatment
Quality Assurance
Non-medical case managers
Nutritionist
Pharmacy

Thank You

The Borinquen Team would like to thank you for your time and attention. For further questions and/or assistance, please feel free to contact us:

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