

# The PATHways Program at the Vanderbilt Comprehensive Care Clinic: Successfully Reaching and Engaging the “Last Ten Percent”

HIV Symposium

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# Acknowledgements

- Stephen P. Raffanti, MD, MPH
- David M. Aronoff, MD
- PATHways Team:
  - Karie Holldorf, MSN, RN
  - Emily Shearon, BS
  - Bev Woodward, MSN, RN\*
  - Kira Zemanick, RN
  - Judy Stilke, RN
  - Raven O'Rourke, LCSW\*
- The entire staff of the Vanderbilt Comprehensive Care Clinic (VCCC)
- Tennessee Center For AIDS Research (CFAR)
- Ryan White, Part B
- Southeast AIDS Education and Training Center (SEAETC)

# Disclosures

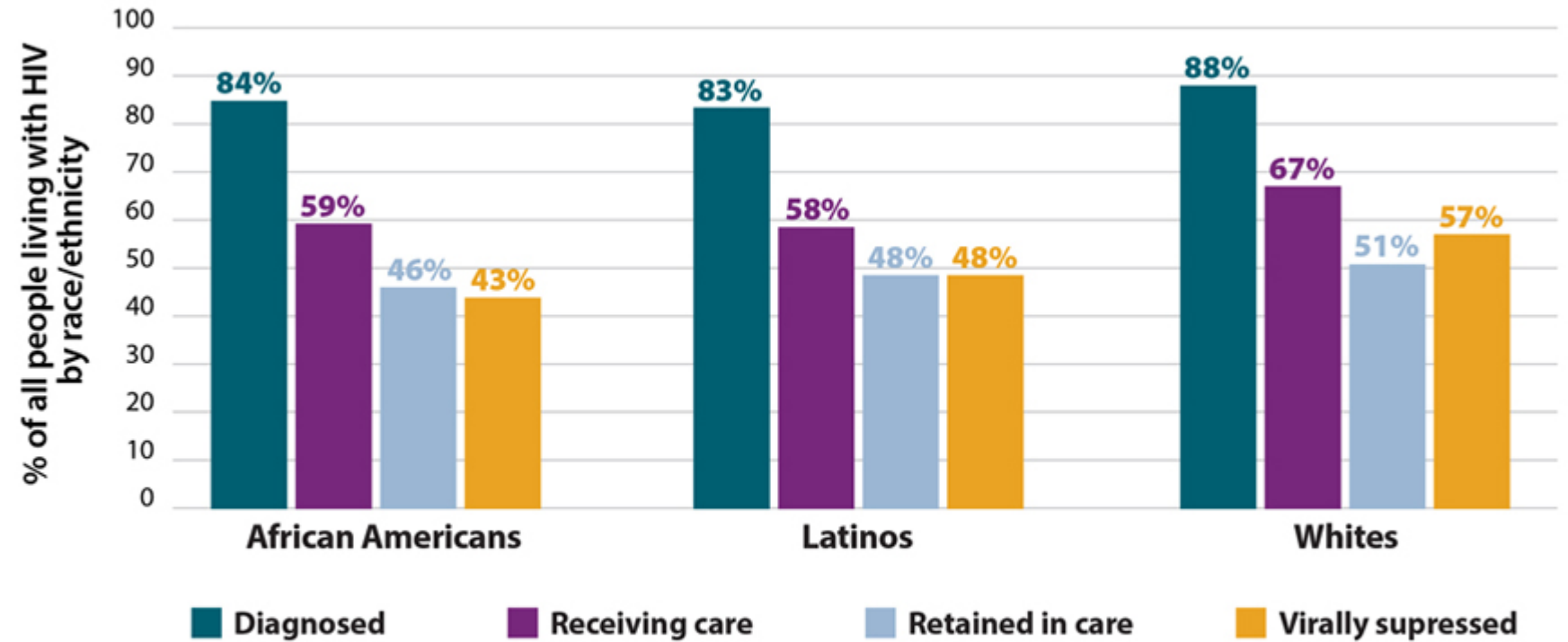
- No financial disclosures.
- This talk will, of necessity, include political statements. The transmission and course of HIV are both directly impacted by social forces, and those cannot be examined without discussing the tool that we have developed to manage social power, which is politics. I have no desire to offend any participants.

# Outline

- Scope of the Problem: Why are Some People Living With HIV (PLWH) Still Unengaged in HIV Care?
- PATHways Model of Care
- Multi-dimensional Patient Strengths Phenotype (MDPSP)
- Future Plans – PATHways 2.0

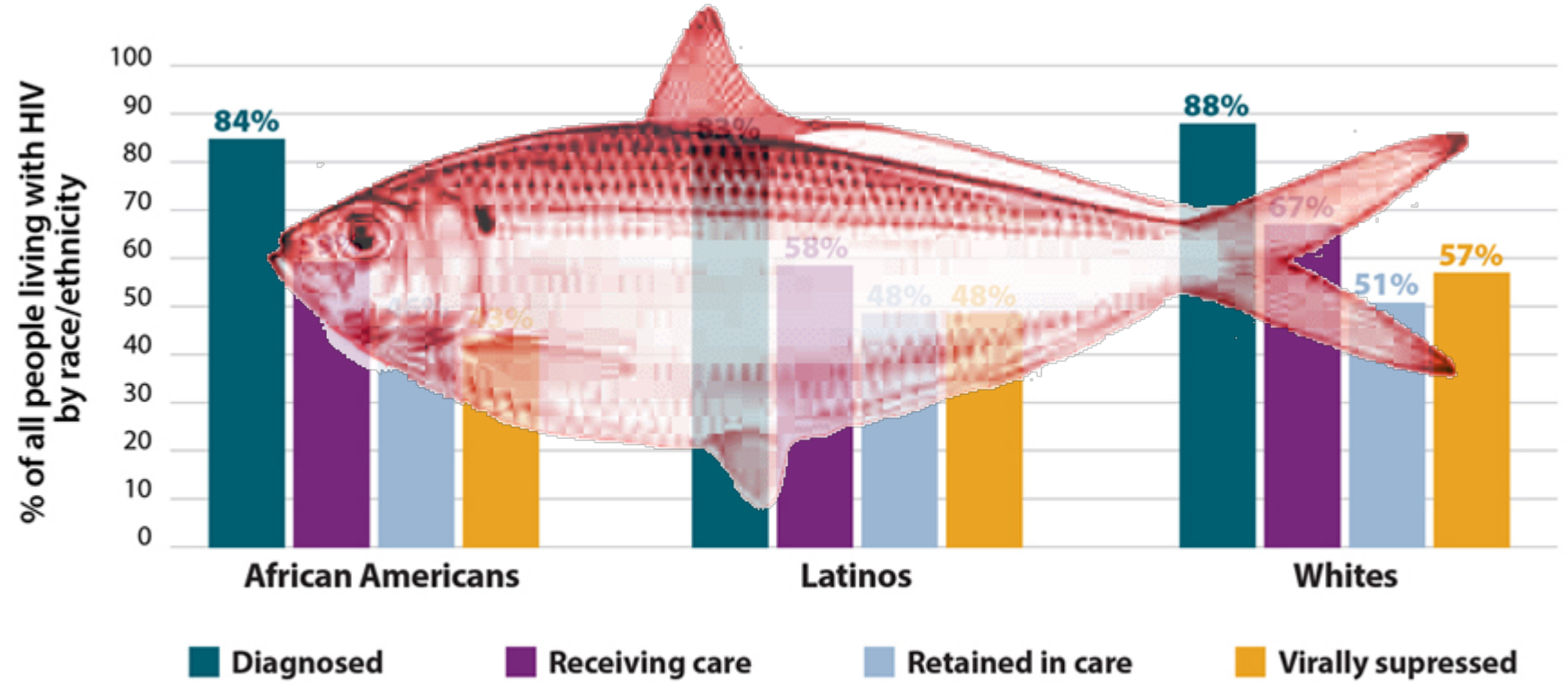
The Usual  
Suspects:  
The Slide  
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at Every HIV  
Talk in the  
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HIV Care Continuum, by Race/Ethnicity, U.S., 2014



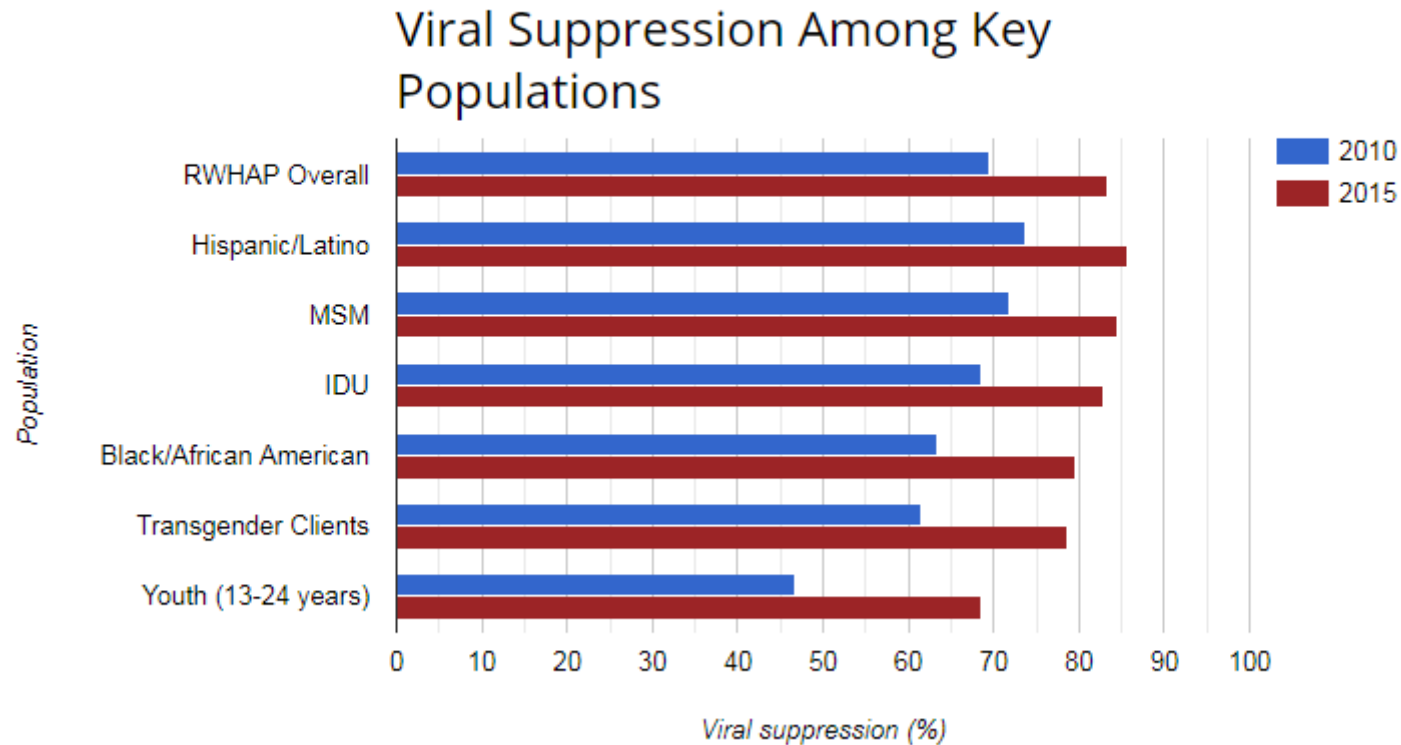
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# IF You Engage in HIV Care, You Will Do Well -

Viral Suppression among Key Populations Served by the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program, 2010-2015 - United States



<https://hab.hrsa.gov/stateprofiles2015/#/>

# Existing Solutions

- VCCC has HIV viral suppression rate of approximately 88%, driven by the wide range of resources available in our clinic
- There are published interventions to individually address the barriers to care faced by PLWH in the Southern US
- Challenges:
  - Very difficult to integrate any intervention into a busy HIV clinic workflow
  - No standardized data collection to facilitate more effective interventions
  - Nothing targeting patient and provider together



# Why Keep Using the Same Model?

- We know we can get good results once people engage with Ryan White services. Why can't we improve rates of engagement/retention/viral suppression in the remainder of PLWH?
- Does skin color, in and of itself, really explain the current rates of engagement in care?
  - Skin color is a proxy for a host of issues we are unable to discuss in our society
- What aren't we seeing???

# Painful Truths

- By and large, we are all working within the same models of care that we have used for at least the last decade
- This model works *in many cases*, as evidenced by the rates of HIV viral suppression for those retained in Ryan White Clinics
- HOWEVER, unengaged PLWH are not holding out until we develop ART with even fewer side effects and lower pill burdens
- Nor are they resigned to living with unsuppressed HIV because they know that they can't fight a virus that is more aggressive in people of a certain skin color or income

# One Key: Acknowledge the Environment



**Homeostasis** – How one is doing  
“from the skin in”

- Original conception of health
- If vital signs are normal, then the patient is doing well

**Allostatic Load** – newer model measures  
the impact of environment on health



# Marginalizing Social Attitudes in the Southern US



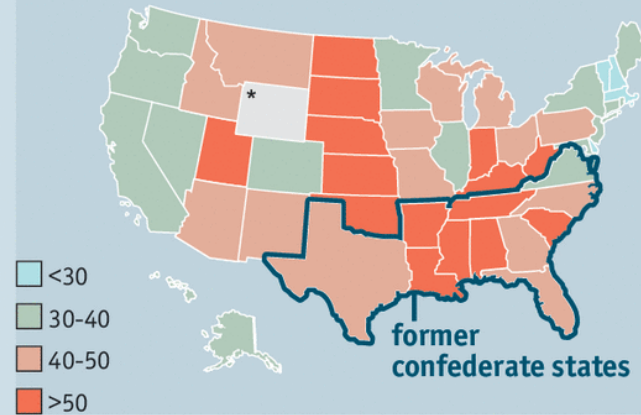
Survival is Threatened in a Toxic Environment

## It's not quite over

Public opinion and public policy, the old Confederacy v the United States, 2014

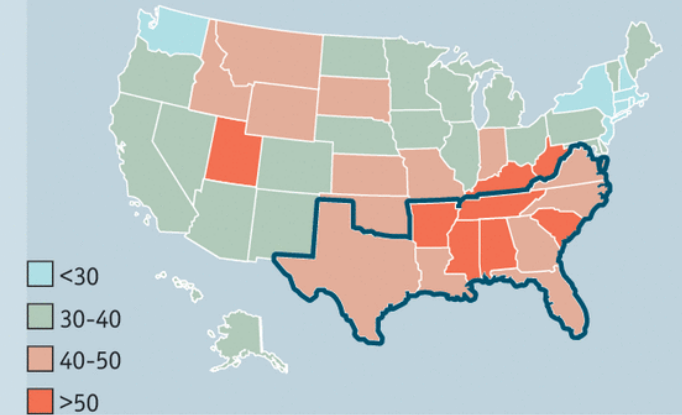
### Abortion

% who believe abortion should be illegal in all or most cases



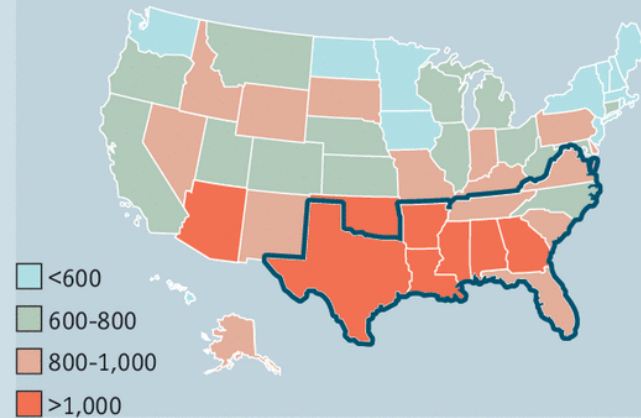
### Gay marriage

% who oppose or strongly oppose



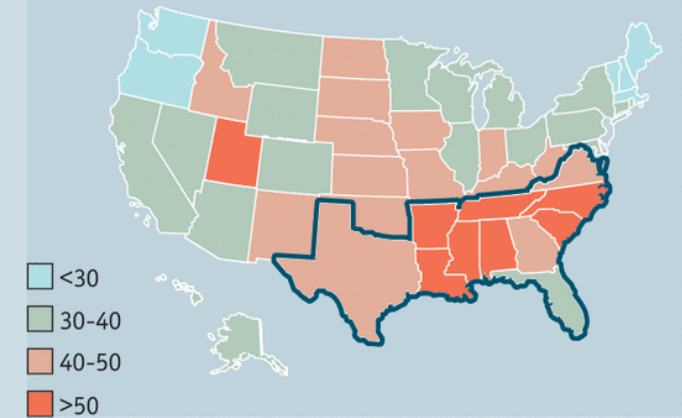
### Prison

Incarceration rate per 100,000 adults, 2013



### Religion

% who say they are very religious



Sources: Public Religion Research Institute, American Values Atlas; Bureau of Justice Statistics; Gallup Analytics

\*No data

Economist.com

<https://www.economist.com/united-states/2015/04/04/the-present-past>

# Adverse Childhood Events (ACE): The Impact of Environment on Human Health

## Findings from CDC-Kaiser Community Sample (N=17,337):

“Persons who had experienced four or more categories of childhood exposure, compared with those who had experienced none, had a 4- to 12-fold increased health risks for alcoholism, drug abuse, depression, and suicide attempt; a 2- to 4-fold increase in smoking, poor self-rated health, > 50 sexual intercourse partners, and sexually-transmitted disease; and a 1.4- to 1.6 fold increase in physical inactivity and severe obesity.”

Felitti, VJ, et. al. (1998) Relationship of Childhood Abuse and Household Dysfunction to Many of the Leading Causes of Death in Adults, *Am J Prev Med*, (14), 4, 245-58.

# CDC-Kaiser Findings vs. VCCC: PATHways (48) and Newly-engaged (83) Patients

Number of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE Score)	Kaiser-CDC N=17,337	VCCC Newly Engaged N=83	VCCC PATHways N=48
0	36.10%	22.9%*	6.3% #
1	26%	38.6%*	8.3% ##
2	15.90%	9.60%	6.30%
3	9.50%	15.70%	16.70%
4 or more	12.50%	13.30%	62.5% ##

Kaiser vs Newly-engaged: \* p < 0.05; \*\* p < 0.001

Newly-engaged vs PATHways: # p < 0.05; ## p < 0.001

# CDC-Kaiser Findings vs. VCCC: PATHways (48) and Newly-engaged (83) Patients

ACE Category	Kaiser-CDC N=17,337	VCCC Newly Eng N=83	VCCC PATHways N=48
<b>ABUSE</b>			
Emotional Abuse	10.60%	15.7%	50% ##
Physical Abuse	28.30%	10.8%**	35.4% ##
Sexual Abuse	20.70%	9.6%*	56.3% ##
<b>HOUSEHOLD CHALLENGES</b>			
Mother Treated Violently	12.70%	9.6%	20.5%
Household Substance Abuse	26.90%	22.9%	52.1% ##
Household Mental Illness	19.40%	19.3%	43.8% #
Parental Separation or Divorce	23.30%	59.0%**	83.3% #
Incarcerated Family Member	4.70%	10.8%*	47.9% ##
<b>NEGLECT (subset of 8,629 only)</b>			
Emotional Neglect	14.80%	22.9%*	56.3% ##
Physical Neglect	9.90%	3.6%*	33.3% ##

Kaiser vs Newly-engaged: \* p < 0.05; \*\* p < 0.001

Newly-engaged vs PATHways: # p < 0.05; ## p < 0.001

# Self-Isolation as a Coping Strategy

“I was there watching a film and this other guy that I knew, just not well, but he kind of wanted to get outta there and take off, you know? So I told him, he actually got up and walked away and never came back, never said a word, just got up and walked out the front door. So that was actually my first rejection if you want to call it that” (44 year old white male).

To go out and meet people is “. . . too much effort, too much risk. Yeah, I, I don’t know so much about the younger set of people, but in my particular group you are afraid to tell anybody and so yeah you are kind of isolated, kind of set you in a little group by yourself” (46 year old white male).

“I don’t have any friends. I got a girlfriend I talk to on the phone . . . We just talk on the phone. Um, I stay in the house, I stay isolated. I’m very active in my church . . . but other than that, I don’t go anywhere, I stay isolated and it’s not good” (42 year old African-American female).

“Yeah, it’s just like, it’s like a curse. I mean because of everything I’ve been through with the way people have treated me and when people don’t treat you right or people disown your friendship and you feel like you beat yourself up over it . . . The longer you’re infected, the harder it is on a person . . . You know, you just, after a while, you start beating yourself up especially when you get sick” (34 year old African-American female).



# A New Paradigm of Care

- A new approach to care specifically designed to reach marginalized PLWH
- Nursing-led, interdisciplinary, individualized, intensive care for patients failing to manage their HIV and health secondary to burdens beyond their ability to control, such as CSA, HIV stigma, substance abuse
- Strengths-based, data-driven via use of the new Multi-Dimensional Patient Strengths Phenotype Screening Instrument (MDPSP)
- Long-term care, as long as required, in a patient-focused, intentional community

# Features of the Program

- Pre- and post-clinic **interdisciplinary huddles** ensure that team is aligned re: patient progress, concerns, updates since last visit, goals for today's visit
- **Patients** are **actively engaged** in designing their own Plans of Care
- Strong **(daily) communication** with community **Ancillary Service Organizations (ASOs)**
- Ability to **meet patients in the community**
- Direct **phone/text access** to Program RN **personalizes clinic experience**
- **Hospital presence** facilitates smoother discharges and encourages connection to Clinic

# The PATHways Phenotype: why a new patient screening tool?

- We need tools that capture the multi-dimensional nature of structural marginalization in the lives of our patients
  - Most assessments are one- vs multi-dimensional
- We need tools that can engage our patients in their own care
- We need tools that fit into the workflow of always busy, always understaffed HIV clinics

# Novel Features of the PATHways Phenotype

- Easy to administer, estimate 20 mins. to complete Part A and 20 mins. to complete Part B on iPad
  - Most discrete data collection mode possible
  - Secure, data flows directly into REDCap
- Summary Interpretive Overlay (SIO)
  - Easy for patients and providers to quickly grasp the findings from a multidimensional set of screening tools
- Patients Actively Engaged in Developing and Implementing Plan Of Care
  - Phenotype provides a strengths-based roadmap to improved self-efficacy, leading to improved ART adherence

# Summary Interpretive Overlay (SIO)

- Every instrument has independent scoring methodology; no interdependence of scores
- SIO assigns score to one of three ranges:

Scoring Key	Recommendation
PURPLE	Risk: This area should be further assessed and addressed to minimize risk of failing HIV care
GREEN	Baseline: Patient has minimal level of functionality in this area; further assessment recommended
BLUE	Goal: Patient at goal in this area; may represent opportunities to build on patient strengths

# Examples of the SIO

Domain	Factor	Measure	Range	Risk	Baseline	Goal
<b>Mental Health</b>	Depression/ Anxiety	PHQ-4	<b>0-12</b>	<b>6-12</b>	<b>3-5</b>	<b>0-2</b>
	Trauma	ACE	<b>0-10</b>	<b>4-10</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0-2</b>
<b>Clinical Care</b>	Health Insurance	Y/N		<b>N</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Y</b>
<b>Social Environment</b>	Intimate Partner Violence	HITS	<b>4-20</b>	<b>10-20</b>	<b>7-9</b>	<b>4-6</b>
<b>Education</b>	Highest Grade			<b>&lt;12</b>	<b>&lt;12</b>	<b>12</b>

# PATHways Phenotype, Complete

**PATHways Phenotype Report** Page 1 of 2

Assessment Date:  MRN#:

DOB:  HIV Dx Date:

Race:  Gender:

Domain	Factor	Measure	Range	Pt Score and Interpretation
Mental Health	Locus of Control:	MHLC- C: Internal	6-36	23
	MHLC - Form C	Chance	6-36	29
		Medical Providers	3-18	10
		Other People	3-18	13
		HIV Self-efficacy	PCMSMS-HIV	8-48
	Coping Styles:Negative (Brief COPE)	Denial	0-8	2
		Substance Use	0-8	2
		Disengagement	0-8	2
		Self-blame	0-8	2
		Self-distraction	0-8	7
	Coping Styles:Positive (Brief COPE)	Venting	0-8	4
		Active Coping	0-8	7
		Emotional Support	0-8	7
		Instrumental Support	0-8	7
		Positive Re-framing	0-8	6
		Planning	0-8	8
		Humor	0-8	2
		Acceptance	0-8	8
	Religion	0-8	4	
	Depression/Anxiety	PHQ-4	0-12	7
	Shame	ISAT	10-50	19
	Stigma (Stigma Scale, Revised)	Personalized	3-15	12
		Disclosure	2-10	8
Neg Self Image		3-15	13	
Public Attitudes		2-10	7	
Trauma	PTSD (SSSS)	0-7	5	
	ACE	0-10	4	
Social Support	HIV SSS	12-60	32	
Substance Abuse	AUDIT-C/ETOH	0-12	1	
	Illicits	9-45	12	

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**PATHways Phenotype Report** Page 2 of 2

Site ID:  MRN#:

Domain	Factor	Measure	Range	Pt Score and Interpretation
Clinical Care	VL at last visit			23182
	CD4 # last visit			207
	Medication Adherence			N
	Tobacco Use			3
	Health Insurance	Y/N		Y
	Dental Insurance	Y/N		N
	Vision Care	Y/N		N
	Physical Environment	Housing Stability		
Food Security		Food Access	0-27	0
Transportation				unstable
Social Environment	Domestic Violence	HITS	4-20	4
	Employment			Unemployed
	Poverty	FLP		0%
	Incarceration			Y
Education	Highest Grade Completed			< 12
	Health Literacy - General			3
	Health Literacy - HIV			8

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**Scoring Key:**

**PURPLE** Risk: Results from screening indicate that deficits in this area should be further assessed and addressed, as they may impair successful management of HIV.

**GREEN** Baseline: Patient has minimal level of functionality in this area; further assessment recommended.

**BLUE** Goal: Patient at goal in this area; these may represent opportunities to build on patient strengths.

# PATHways Phenotype, Version A

## PATHways Phenotype, Initial/New Diagnosis

Assessment Date:  MRN#:   
 DOB:  HIV Dx Date:   
 Race:  Gender:

Domain	Factor	Measure	Range	Pt Score and Interpretation
<b>Mental Health</b>	General Self-efficacy	GSE	10-40	29
	Impulsiveness	BIS-8	8-32	16
	Depression/Anxiety	PHQ-4	0-12	6
	Trauma History	ACE	0-10	5
	Alcohol Use	AUDIT-C	0-12	2
	Illicit Use	POST	9-45	18
<b>Clinical Care</b>	VL at last visit	EMR	3/28/2018	25153
	CD4 # last visit	EMR	3/28/2018	339
	Tobacco Use	POST		Y
	Health Insurance	Y/N		Y
<b>Physical Environment</b>	Housing Stability			lives w/family
	Transportation			unstable
<b>Social Environment</b>	Employment		FT/PT/U/D	Unemployed
<b>Environment</b>	Poverty	% FLP (mon income)		0%
<b>Education</b>	Highest Grade Completed			12

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### Scoring Key:

**PURPLE** Risk: This area should be further assessed and addressed to minimize risk of patient failing HIV care.  
**GREEN** Baseline: Patient has minimal level of functionality in this area; further assessment recommended.  
**BLUE** Goal: Patient at goal in this area; these may represent opportunities to build on patient strengths

### Recommendations:

**Mental Health:** Refer for care, offer substance abuse resources  
**Clinical Care:** Monitor medication adherence, offer smoking cessation referral  
**Physical/Social Environment:** Encourage patient to connect with community service organizations re: housing, transportation, and employment  
**Education:** Adjust teaching to accommodate patient's education/health literacy level

Provider Review: \_\_\_\_\_



# Patient Barriers to Care Assessed by MDPSP

	All (N=179)		Newly Engaged (n=83)		PATHways (n=53)		New Engaged vs PATHways
<b>Single Barriers</b>	Count	Pct	Count	Pct	Count	Pct	<i>p</i>
Trauma	45	25%	12	14%	28	53%	< 0.001
Addiction	93	52%	46	55%	35	66%	0.310
Poverty	60	34%	23	28%	27	51%	0.027
Transportation	39	22%	7	8%	29	55%	< 0.001
Housing	37	21%	6	7%	26	49%	< 0.001
Education	19	11%	4	5%	12	23%	0.005
None	29	16%	7	8%	4	8%	1.00
<b>Multiple Barriers</b>							
Trauma + Addiction	35	20%	10	12%	23	43%	< 0.001
Trauma + Addiction + Poverty	23	13%	4	5%	17	32%	< 0.001

# MDPSP Barriers to Care by Race/Gender

	<u>All by Race</u>		<u>All by Gender</u>		<u>Males (n=121)</u>		<u>Females (n=29)</u>	
	Non-White	White	Male	Female	Non-White	White	Non-White	White
<b>Individual Barriers</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>12</b>
Trauma	33%*	16%	24%	34%	30%	16%	47%	17%
Addiction	57%**	26%	41%	55%	59%	16%	47%	67%
Poverty	43%*	26%	36%	38%	45%	22%	35%	42%
Transportation	26%	15%	17%	38%*	21%	12%	47%	25%
Housing	26%	16%	18%	38%*	20%	16%	53%*	17%
Education	17%	15%	12%	31%*	13%	12%	35%	25%
No Barriers to Care	22%	16%	21%	14%	23%	18%	18%	8%

## Multiple Barriers

Trauma + Addiction	25%	21%	23%	24%	24%	22%	29%	17%
Trauma + Addiction + Poverty	16%	13%	16%	10%	15%	16%	18%	0%

\* p < 0.05; \*\* p < 0.001

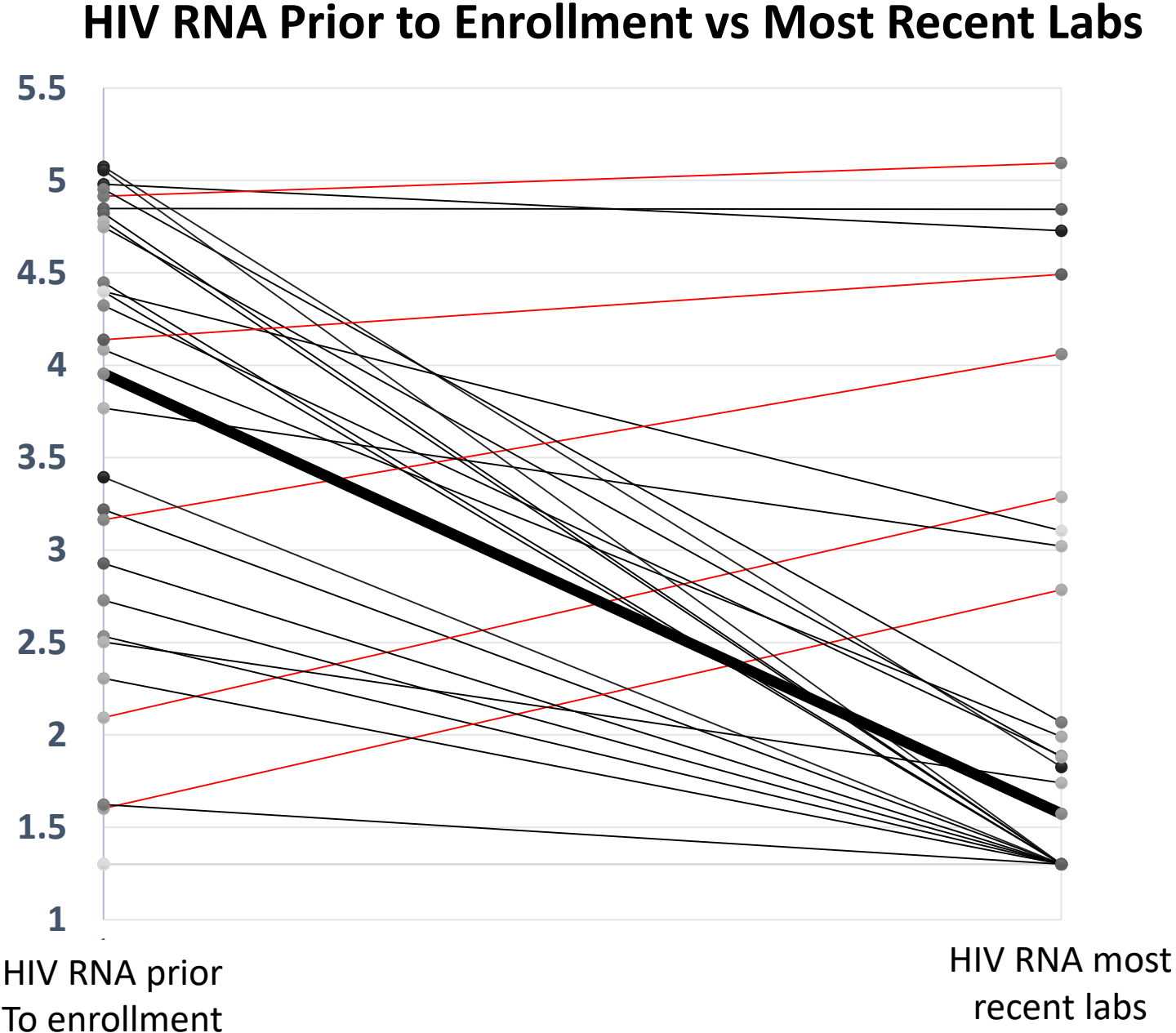
# Observations from our Program

- People who engage in the program don't want to return to regular clinical care
- We have inverted the no-show and cancellation rates in people that are in our program
  - People who used to be no-shows now call us and apologize if they need to re-schedule a meeting
- We have had very positive results providing pharmacotherapy plus behavioral health care to address anxiety and depression
  - Anxiety is a significant problem in this population
  - Easily addressed, immediate relief

# Outcome 1: HIV VL Suppression

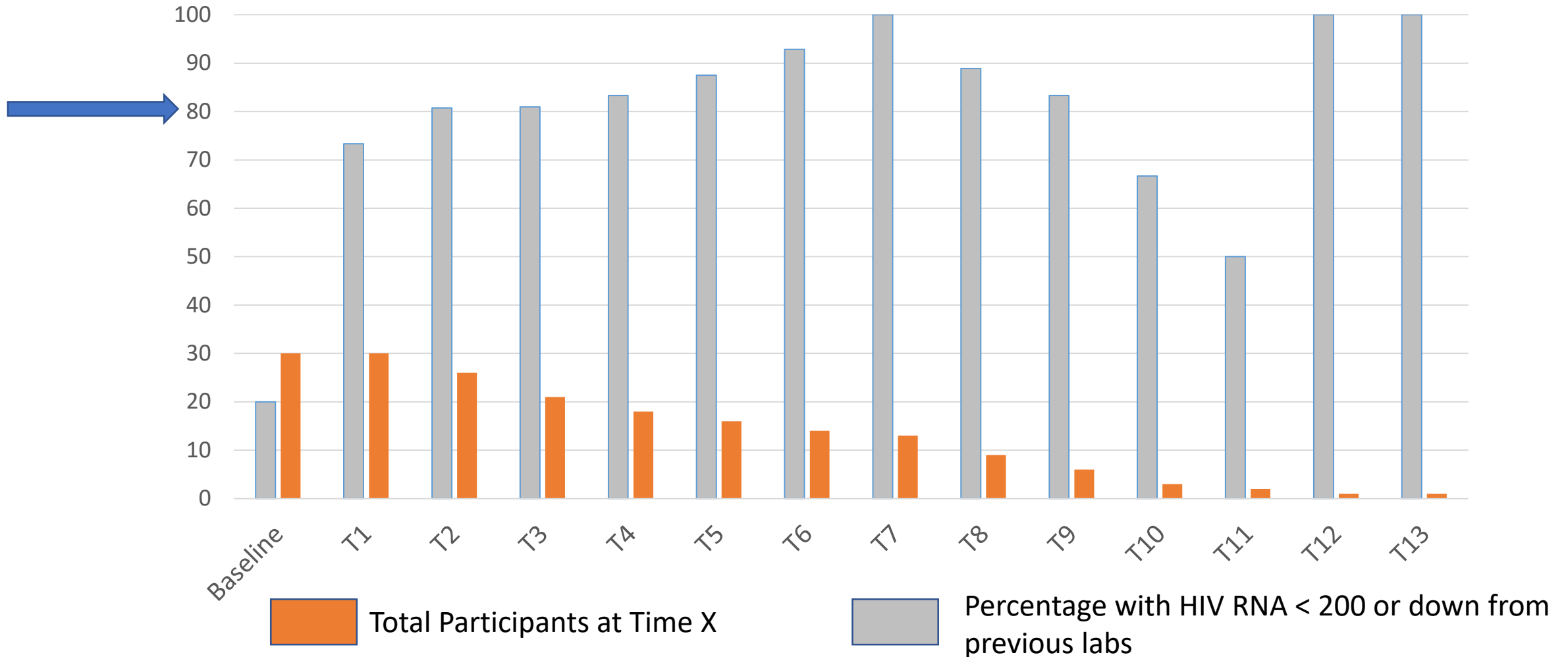
Active PATHways  
Patients (30)

Dark Line =  
Median Change



# Outcome 2: VL Suppression over time

Number and Percentage of Active PATHways Patients with undetectable or downtrending VL over time (Baseline N=30)



# PATHways 2.0 – Expanding Beyond the VCCC

- Our program has been intentionally developed with a **focus on smaller HIV clinics**. We feel that any clinic with at least **one interested provider** and **one Social Worker** should be able to **successfully implement** the program
- **MDPSP** will eventually be available as a tool that any HIV clinic can access for their own uses
- All **psychoeducation materials** will be **available via web** for downloading and use as needed
- We also envision working closely with the SEAETC to **support and grow a community of HIV clinics** using our approach care

# PATHways 2.0 – Expanding Beyond the VCCC

- Targeted Psychoeducation Learning Materials, developed from and supporting MDPSP Domains and Factors of Care
  - Available via SEAETC for sites without behavioral health support
  - Designed for interactive learning with patient and “coach”
    - Wide range of clinic staff can be “coach”
    - **NOT** designed to replace therapy or psychiatric care
    - **GOAL** is to introduce patients to concepts that can help them better understand themselves, hopefully leading to greater self-worth then greater self-efficacy
- Trauma content in pilot phase, 6 other modules in development

# PATHways 2.0 – Expanding Beyond the VCCC

- Expansion of instrumentation into Spanish
  - Validated Spanish versions available for all Behavioral Health instrumentation in Part A of the MDPSP
    - SEATEC has facilitated Spanish translation of consent form
    - Working with SEATEC re: Spanish translation of Housing and Transportation Surveys
  - Reviewing resources for behavioral health and psychoeducation teaching via translator



# Publications

## **Submitted:**

Towards a New Framework for Conceptualizing Patients Failing HIV Therapy:  
Addressing Trauma with Practice - Based Evidence and Parsimonious Theory

Nash, R, O'Rourke, R, Woodward, BO

In review, *Journal of the Association of Nurses in AIDS Care*

## **In Preparation:**

Multi-Dimensional Patient Strengths Phenotype: Methods Paper

Nash, R, O'Rourke, R, Campbell, K, Woodward, BO

MDPSP Findings: Manuscripts to follow

Questions?