

We Have the Tools to End the HIV Epidemic in Our Lifetime

RAPID ART IS ONE OF THOSE TOOLS



Rapid ART, the provision of antiretroviral therapy to persons living with HIV within seven days of diagnosis or re-engagement in care, has been shown to increase rates of medication uptake and markedly reduce the time to viral suppression compared to later ART initiation.

Facilitators of RAPID ART Provision in Ryan White Clinic Settings

Cicatelli Associates Inc. (CAI) is the administrator of the Health Resources and Services Administration's HIV/AIDS Bureau, Special Projects of National Significance, Rapid Antiretroviral Dissemination Assistance Provider (DAP) project. As part of this initiative, we have identified facilitators to providing rapid ART services in Ryan White (RWHAP) funded healthcare provider settings across the U.S. through completion of a comprehensive environmental scan and multi-level field visit interviews conducted with 160 RWHAP staff and 11 patients.



✓ What Did We Learn?



WHO IS PROVIDING RAPID ART SERVICES?

We identified 128 RWHAP-funded healthcare organizations that have provided, or currently provide, rapid ART in 32 states throughout the nation.

After conducting outreach calls with 45 RWHAP-funded agencies providing rapid ART, we found that interventions were implemented in diverse regional and clinical settings:



Rapid ART programs were implemented in health departments, federally qualified health centers (FQHCs), hospital-based clinics, and community-based organizations



89% of rapid ART programs were based in urban settings



80% of rapid ART programs were located in Medicaid expansion states



Two-thirds of agencies were implemented by individual clinic providers, while the remaining agencies were implemented at the jurisdictional level



WHAT CONTRIBUTES TO SUSTAINABILITY OF RAPID ART SERVICES?

Several dominate themes emerged that facilitate implementation and sustainability of rapid ART services that include:



89% of agencies provided same-day medication through starter packs or samples



72% incorporated same-day appointment slots for patients during clinic sessions



The majority of agencies have established communication practices to reduce disruption in clinic flow, including "warm-hand offs" among the healthcare team



56% of agencies have expedited health insurance enrollment processes to pay for rapid ART services



Staff champions in 14 out of 18 agencies led efforts to adopt rapid ART because they were exposed to research noting rapid ART effectiveness in Grand Rounds, conferences, and in meetings with peers

The DAP team will be releasing the **Compendium of Rapid ART Models and Best Practices in September 2022.**

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