How FoundCare Changed Its Clinical Culture

FOUNDCARE FACTS
• FoundCare is a Federally Qualified Health Center that offers pediatric and adult primary care, chronic disease management, behavioral health counseling, laboratory services, X-rays and dentistry.
• FoundCare (formerly Comprehensive AIDS Program of Palm Beach County) is the oldest and largest community organization providing HIV/AIDS services in Palm Beach County.
• FoundCare is the Palm Beach County Health Department's first choice for hepatitis C linkage to care referrals.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS
• Palm Beach County has one of the most severe opioid epidemics in the United States, resulting in one of the highest rates of deaths attributed to opioid overdoses.
• Increased intravenous drug use has led to Palm Beach County having the highest rates of hepatitis C virus cases in the State of Florida.
• In addition to the rise of local hepatitis C cases, Palm Beach County remains fifth in the State of Florida for HIV infections.
• Uninsured and underserved populations lack access to affordable quality hepatitis C care.

SUCCESSFUL SOLUTIONS
• Implemented an agency-wide HIV and hepatitis C virus testing initiative to identify undiagnosed individuals and linked those individuals to care.
• Created one of Palm Beach County's most comprehensive hepatitis C linkage to care programs.
• Integrated Behavioral Health into the linkage to care process with the agency's medical providers to assist in alleviating any potential barriers to care.

RESULTS
03/01/2017 – 02/28/2018
CONDUCTED
7,018 HIV Tests
5,958 HCV Tests
IDENTIFIED
69 New HIV Positives
73 New HCV Positives
LINKED TO CARE
95% HIV-Positive Patients
92% HCV-Positive Patients

CONCLUSION AND FUTURE GOALS
• FoundCare proved the importance of routine screenings in a clinical setting by identifying newly diagnosed individuals who normally would not have been tested.
• Thanks to additional training for, and involvement by, the medical team, FoundCare was able to provide more risk reduction counseling, which increased testing buy-in.
• FoundCare plans to expand its Health Center's hepatitis C clinic and explore resource options for individuals with hepatitis C in order to link patients to care more efficiently.

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