

VUmc Academie

HIV and substance use: treatment

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HIV and substance use: treatment

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Discussion 1

The treatment of substance use in HIV-positive patients is different compared to HIV-negative patients



Some background

- Integrative care of treatment of substance use and HCV improves engagement of HCV treatment¹
- The role of peers and other facilitators for task sharing substance use treatment in South African HIV care³
- Substance Use Among Older People Living With HIV: Challenges for Health Care Providers⁴



Some background

- Cost effectiveness of text messages to reduce methamphetamine use and HIV sexual risk behaviors among men who have sex with men^{5 6}
- Integrated stepped alcohol treatment for patients with HIV and alcohol use disorder: no difference with alcohol treatment care as usual²
- Feasibility and safety of extended-release naltrexone treatment of opioid and alcohol use disorder in HIV clinics: a pilot/feasibility randomized trial ⁷



Discussion 2

If HIV-positive patients endanger their HIV treatment due to serious substance use, they must be forcibly admitted to a (psychiatric) hospital to have their substance use treated



- <https://www.hiv-druginteractions.org/>

Also very useful for drugs and alcohol

- <https://sexntina.nl/en/>

Mainline; drugs and health. Information and programs for drug users



- Barriers in an optimal substance abuse treatment:
 - Discrimination of HIV-positive patients by other patients (group treatment) and/or staff members
 - Too little knowledge about HIV among the staff members (interactions, medications, risky (sexual) behavior)
 - Contact between HIV- and substance use professional is essential



- Barriers in an optimal substance abuse treatment:

- Little knowledge in general on 'modern' important use of drugs like crystal meth

- Often there is other co-morbid psychiatric pathology. Integrated care is important

- Sometimes patients do not have enough motivation to seek treatment for their substance use, especially with 'chem sex'. Take enough time to motivate the patient



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Example: Jellinek clinic for substance use in Amsterdam

- At the intake the doctor asks about HIV status
- Treatment of crystal meth is part of the regular addiction program. No scientific research about the results
- The clinic has 2 'chem sex attention officers'
- HIV positive and HIV negative patients are together in one group. Usually this goes well, not everyone tells about his/her HIV status



Case David, 35 years

- David, homosexual man, 6 years HIV-positive. HIV is stable, he takes his medication (Genvoya) well
- He lives on his own, works as an accountant. He has had a relationship for 4 years, the last 3 years he has various sexual contacts. Once a month, he uses cocaine and/or GHB during sex
- Professional (GP, internist, nurse):

What do you do?



Case David, 35 years

- David, homosexual man, 6 years HIV-positive. HIV is stable, he takes his medication (Genvoya) well
- He lives on his own, works as an accountant. He has had a relationship for 4 years, the last 3 years he has various sexual contacts. **He has often STD's**
- **Four times a month, he uses cocaine and/or GHB and crystal meth during sex**
- Professional (GP, internist, nurse):

What do you do?



Case David, 35 years

- David, homosexual man, 6 years HIV-positive. **HIV unstable, he does not take his medication (Genvoya) well. VL is 100.00c/ml, CD4: 45**
- **He has to leave his house the following week and has lost his job. He has various sexual contacts and works as a prostitute. He has often STD's and recently HCV**
- **Every day, he uses cocaine and/or GHB and crystal meth, also during sex. He drinks 10-15 glasses of alcohol per day**
- Professional (GP, internist, nurse):

What do you do?



Conclusion and summary

- For the well-being of the patient and his/her optimal HIV treatment, it is very important that substance use is recognized and treated
- Take enough time to motivate the patient
- Knowledge about HIV among the staff members of the addiction (interactions, medications, risky (sexual) behavior) is important.
- Integrated care is usually the best option. However, good collaboration is a good alternative