Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementias: New Funding and New Opportunities

A Virtual Listening Session

Tribal Consultation and Urban Confer on Implementation Priorities

May 2021
NOTE

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• All webinars are recorded for on-demand viewing. Recordings will be posted to Tribal Consultation and Urban Confer | Division of Clinical and Community Services (ihs.gov)
Overview

• An Overview of the Problem: *Alzheimer’s Disease & Related Dementias in Indian Country*

• Partnerships

• Current Needs

• Q&A Session
An Overview of the Problem
Alzheimer’s Disease & Related Dementias in Indian Country
Dementia is....

Memory loss and difficulty with some of the following:

- Naming (things, people)
- Doing (simple mechanical tasks, like buttoning a button)
- Recognizing (people, places)
- Behaving (a change in the way the elder to normally behaves)
- Thinking (problem solving)
- Calculating (numbers)
- Planning and Organizing (first this, then that...)

and it interferes with function (the elder’s ability to do the usual things of life).
Alzheimer’s Disease is....

The most common kind of dementia

*Other common dementia syndromes include:*

- Vascular Dementia
- Lewy Body Disease (LDB)
- Frontotemporal Dementia (FTD)
- Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)
- Alcohol-related Dementia
We need to make a diagnosis because...

Other illnesses cause confusion and difficulties with memory

• We want to recognize and treat those illnesses!

Understanding what kind of dementia helps us provide better care

• Different kinds of dementia have a different time course and set of symptoms
• Different expectations for families
• Some differences in treatment
The way we make a diagnosis is...

**Always**
- History (the story) – from the elder and from family members or others
- Physical examination – including a good neurologic examination
- Cognitive testing – testing memory, calculation, problem solving, language, and the ability to do multi-step tasks
- Lab tests (blood tests) – to be sure it is not something else

**Often** but not always
- Brain scan (CT or MRI)

**Sometimes** but not always
- Specialized neurocognitive testing (more detailed, lengthy testing of thinking, memory, calculation, problem solving, and language)
The diagnosis of dementia is usually made by...

- Primary Care Physicians
- Geriatricians
- Nurse Practitioners
- Physician Assistants (PA)

- Sometimes with the help of
  - Neurologists
  - Psychiatrists
  - Psychologists
And we know that….

• The best care is team care

• Care of the individual living with dementia includes care for their caregiver(s)

• **Now** we can often *prevent* or *delay the onset* of Alzheimer’s disease and related dementia’s through avoidance of risk factors

  Brain Health = Heart Health

• **Soon** (in the predictable future) there will be specific therapies that can change the course of the Alzheimer’s disease
What are the Key Steps in Medical Care?

1. Recognition
2. Diagnosis
3. Assessment
4. Management & Referral for Resources
5. Support for Caregivers
What Does it Take to Care for the Individual Living with Dementia in the Community?
IHS Partnership with Tribal & Urban Programs to Improve the Care of Elders

• Director’s Initiative Long Term Services & Supports Tribal Grants 2002-2012


• Trainings at annual National Title VI (Senior Center) Directors Meetings

• NICOA Biennial Conference Education & Listening Sessions

• Palliative Care training & support

• Fall & Injury Prevention Guidelines & support for Tribal Fall Injury Prevention programs through Tribal Injury Prevention Cooperative Agreement Program (with the CDC)

• IHS Chief Clinical Consultant in Geriatrics & Palliative Care (Dr. Winchester): Consultation, Presentations, Education & Training
Priorities

• Increase Recognition of Dementia in the Community
  – Earlier diagnosis
  – Education & supportive services
  – Earlier access to treatment that can change the course of the disease, when it is available

• Improve Diagnosis, Assessment & Management by IHS, Tribal, & Urban Indian Health Programs
  – Including care for the caregiver

• Tribal Models of Comprehensive Care for Persons with Dementia
  – Tribes will build innovative & responsive models of care that address: Recognition, Diagnosis, Assessment, Management & Referral, & Support for the Caregiver

• Data: Understand the Impact of Dementia & the Effectiveness of Care
Federal Resources & Partnerships to Support Tribal & Urban Health to Address Alzheimer’s Disease

Rural Interdisciplinary Team Training (RITT)
ABCD Caregiver Coach Training

Senior Centers
Caregiver Support
Alzheimer’s Disease Programs Initiative (ADPI) Tribal Grants

Healthy Brain Initiative Roadmap for Indian Country
Bold Grant to IAIA

Alzheimer’s Disease Research Centers

New Funding

Geriatric Workforce Enhancement Programs (GWEP)
Dementia Curriculum
Ending the HIV & HCV Epidemic:
New Funding &
New Opportunities

A Virtual Learning Session
Tribal Consultation &
Urban Confer
Implementation Priorities
Overview

• Program Overview
  – *HIV in Indian Country*
  – *What is Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America?*

• Tribal Listening Sessions & Engagement

• Implementation Priorities

• Q&A Session
Program Overview

HIV and HCV in Indian Country
HIV in Indian Country

New HIV Diagnoses Among AI/AN in the US and Dependent Areas by Transmission Category and Sex, 2018

Most new HIV diagnoses were among AI/AN gay and bisexual men.

U.S. RATES OF DEATH (AI/AN)
For Persons with Diagnosed HIV Infection, by Race/Ethnicity, 2014-2018

Line graph showing the death rates per 100,000 population for American Indian/Alaska Native, White, Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander, and Asian races/ethnicities from 2014 to 2018.
HIV in Indian Country

HIV Diagnoses Among AI/AN in the 50 States and the District of Columbia, 2010-2017*

*Changes in populations with fewer HIV diagnoses can lead to a large percentage increase or decrease. Source: CDC. NCHHSTP AtlasPlus. Accessed April 27, 2020.
Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE)

“We have a once-in-a-generation opportunity to end the HIV epidemic in the United States. Now is the time.”
Ending the HIV Epidemic

GOAL:

75% reduction in new HIV infections in 5 years and at least 90% reduction in 10 years.
Priority Geographical Areas & Tribal Epi Centers

Tribal Epidemiology Centers receiving supplemental funding for activities in support of the Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America initiative for 2019.
Challenges & Opportunities

Inequality

Impact of undiagnosed and untreated HIV

Stigma

Progress has plateaued

Powerful HIV prevention and treatment tools are now available

We can end HIV
National EHE & Indian Country EHE

National EHE

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

End HIV Epidemic

Indian Country EHE

IHS

End HIV Epidemic

End HCV Epidemic
EHE Structure

- Funding
- Key Strategies
- Priority Areas
- HHS Leadership
- Right Data & Right Tools
Key Strategies of the Plan

- **Diagnose** all people with HIV as early as possible.

- **Treat** people with HIV rapidly and effectively to reach sustained viral suppression.

- **Prevent** new HIV transmissions by using proven interventions, including pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and syringe services programs (SSPs).

- **Respond** quickly to potential HIV outbreaks to get needed prevention and treatment services to people who need them.
Tribal Listening Sessions & Engagement

Engaging Tribes HIV in Indian Country
EHE & Tribal Consultation: Winter/Spring 2020

- MSM & Two Spirit
- Trans & Gender Non-Conforming
- HIV Service Providers
- Youth
- General Audience
General Themes & Recommendations

Stigma
Remains a driver of the epidemic in Indian Country

Need for Competent Services
Must create a safe space for all

Increased & Focused Training
Increase the knowledge & competence of personnel

Standardize Efforts & Policies
Testing Sexual History, SOGI, PrEP, Risk
Question & Answer

Questions may be entered into the chat or via phone. Please state your name, IHS Area, and Tribe for the record.
Questions for Consideration

A few questions for consideration to begin our open discussion include:

• How the IHS might use available **funding** to support **sustainable, comprehensive models of care** for persons living with dementia and their families through IHS, Tribal, and Urban Indian health programs?

• How the IHS might **invest** in an effort to improve **awareness, early recognition, and diagnosis** of Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias, in partnership with Tribal communities?

• How the IHS might **invest** in **competency-based training for all clinical staff** to improve diagnosis, assessment, and management of Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias in IHS, Tribal, and Urban Indian health programs?

• How the IHS might **invest** in **evaluation and data** to assess the impact of Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias, the needs of those living with dementia and their families, and the effectiveness of efforts to address and improve management of Alzheimer’s disease?
Questions for Consideration

A few questions for consideration to begin our open discussion include:

• How the IHS might use available funding to support IHS, Tribal, and Urban Indian health programs to achieve the Ending the HIV Epidemic goal of a 75% reduction in new HIV infections by 2025 and at least a 90% reduction by 2030?

• How should IHS focus on the key strategies for implementing the Ending the HIV and HCV Epidemic? Specifically,
  1. **Diagnosing** all people with HIV and HCV as early as possible?
  2. **Treating** people with HIV or HCV rapidly and effectively to reach sustained viral suppression?
  3. **Preventing** new HIV and HCV transmissions by using proven interventions, including pre-exposure prophylaxis and syringe service programs?
  4. **Responding** quickly to HIV and HCV outbreaks to get prevention and treatment services to people who need them?
Tribal Consultation & Urban Confer

IHS is accepting comment via email until June 1, 2021. To submit comment:

– Email consultation@ihs.gov or urbanconfer@ihs.gov
  Subject Line: Alzheimer’s Disease Initiative Funding

OR

– Email consultation@ihs.gov or urbanconfer@ihs.gov
  Subject Line: Ending HIV Epidemic Initiative Funding
General Program Questions

National Elder Care Program
E-mail: IHSDCCS@ihs.gov
Web: www.ihs.gov/elderCare/

National HIV/HCV Program
E-mail: richard.haverkate@ihs.gov
Web: www.ihs.gov/hivaids/ and www.ihs.gov/dccs/hcv/