

HEALTH EDUCATION/RISK REDUCTION

HRSA Description (2-1-2016)

Health Education/Risk Reduction is the provision of education to clients living with HIV about HIV transmission and how to reduce the risk of HIV transmission. It includes sharing information about medical and psychosocial support services and counseling with clients to improve their health status.

Key Service Component

Topics covered may include:

- Education on risk reduction strategies to reduce transmission such as pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) for clients' partners and treatment as prevention
- Education on health care coverage options (e.g., qualified health plans through the Marketplace, Medicaid coverage, Medicare coverage)
- Health literacy
- Treatment adherence education

When possible, services should be delivered by individuals who are members of the identified vulnerable population, and/or individuals with lived experience with members of the identified vulnerable population.

Qualifications

Competencies, Knowledge, and Skills	Evaluation/Documentation
<p>Staff persons should demonstrate competency, knowledge and skills in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Knowledge of modes of HIV transmission;• HIV prevention interventions that target clients living with HIV and their partners (e.g. PrEP/nPEP, Treatment as Prevention, condoms, etc.);• Treatment adherence interventions (e.g. pillbox, calendar reminders, apps used to track regimen, etc.);• Ability to impart information to individuals and communities regarding HIV risk reduction strategies, transmission, and diagnoses;• Provide information that empowers individuals and communities to take charge of their health, health care, and health care coverage (e.g. understanding lab results, understanding insurance information such as deductibles, copays, explanation of benefits, etc.);• Knowledge of local resources, particularly for assistance enrolling in health insurance coverage; and• Competency in the delivery of behavioral change models (e.g. Harm Reduction, Motivational Interviewing, Stages of Change, etc.).	<p>Demonstrated competencies, knowledge and skills are available upon request (e.g. participation in trainings, formal supervisory review, direct observation, case review, etc.).</p>