The role of patients acting on the social determinants of health, promoting patient rights and improving patient experience.

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The role of patients acting on the social determinants of health, promoting patient rights and improving patient experience.

People taking an active role in their health in the NHS: an HIV positive perspective

> Simon Collins i-Base.info

Imperial College, November, 2013

Context

- Collaborative approach is essential – from any perspective
- Reduce gap between clinical expertise and individual need.
- People should be able to receive care as partners in our own health.
- We are likely to have the strongest interest in staying alive.















Andrew, Andy B, Andy C, Chris M, Chris P, Richard, Chris W, Space, Nick, Dolly, Wesley, Colvin, Jimi, Kevin, Mike, Paul, Mark, Steve.

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Wide interest in care

Limited: Doctor to decide Active: Every decision

This can change over time as knowledge and information changes

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patient:doctor dynamic

- Strange situation
- Reliance on doctor as gatekeeper to care (treatment, health and life).
- Often specialised language and potential cultural and class differences.
- All at a time of personal stress.

Why take an active role?

- Active patients can get better care: from appointments to treatment
- Interactions with health workers
- Access to treatment (choice and new medicines).
- Information and understanding.
- Shared decision making helps if future outcomes are worse.

Disadvantages

- People are not always aware of these options.
- Many do not chose an active role.
- May be wrong in hindsight.
- Often needs confidence and persistence and to overcome fear of being a "difficult patient"

Personal history.1

- Bereaved 1994. CD4 = 60 cells/mm³
- 1996: CD4 = 2.
- Cachexia, weight 45 kg
- Crypto/microspodia (MST 90 mg/d)
- Multiple Ol's: CMV in both eyes
- > d4T/3TC/indinavir
- No expectation of response.

Personal history.2

- Weight increased >1kg / week
- Energy returned
- CD4 = 100: stop CMV treatment
- CD4 = 200 by year 2.
- Switched for side effects (kidney stones, lipoatrophy, toenails) and better formulations (TID> BD> QD)

AIDS Treatment Project (ATP)

- 1996: 30-40 people with similar experiences
- Volunteer phoneline: "does treatment really work?"
- Dr Fax, conferences, internet
- "every person is able to make their own treatment decisions"

Early examples 1997/8

- 3 vs 2 drugs (including research)
- indivavir vs saquinavir: 63 vs 43%
- Viral suppression > drug resistance.
- Use of viral load and resistance tests
- Long-term vs short term benefit
- HAART for PMTCT
- d4T and lipoatrophy

i-Base (April 2000)

- Medical meetings
- HIV Treatment Bulletin (HTB)
- HTB editions in S. Africa, Turkey, Balkans
- Treatment guides (>35 languages)
- Phoneline and online Q&A
- UK-CAB



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VIH/SIDA Introdução à terapê de combinação Setembro de 2011	Rastreio da infeção pelo VIH e riscos de transmissão sexual	Guide to HIV,	
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i-Base.info

UK-CAB (2002)



- Network of UK activists.
- Community Advisory Board ~ 600 members/120 organisations
- BHIVA guidelines and conferences
- Four meetings/year + online forum
- Language: HIV positive (not infected)
- www.ukcab.net

Global

- "none of these drugs are for Africa" ECAB meetings (1997/8)
- >10 million people on ART (2013)
- Generics and patents (Yusef Hamied, Cipla: \$10K/year to < \$1 a day
- Secondf-line drugs, new drugs, etc.
- d4T (neuropathy, lipoatrophy)

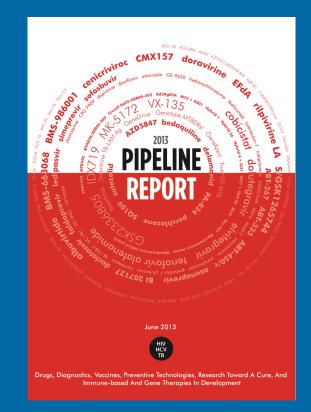
Treatment Action Campaign



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i-Base/TAG pipeline reports

- Better drugs: more effective, easier to tolerate, less resistance
- Cost & access, paediatrics
- HCV and TB coinfections
- Cure research
- PipelineReport.org



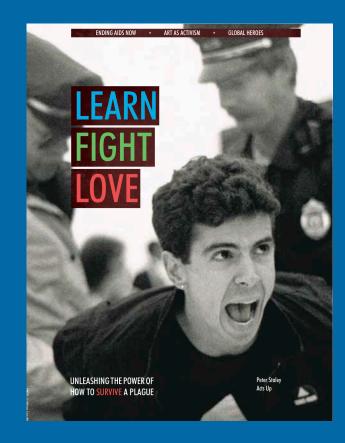
Conclusion and summary

 Powerful examples of where medical advances change peoples lives

 Powerful examples of where activism (community, health workers, politicians) show that change is possible.

Further watching

- And the Band Played On
- Angels in America
- Blue (Derek Jarman)
- Fire in the Blood (Global access)
- How to survive a plague (ACT-UP/TAG)
- Philadelphia
- Precious
- United in Anger (ACT-UP)



Thank you

Time for questions

Thanks to Polly Clayden, Memory Sachikonye and Marc Ennals at i-Base.

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