

Health service constraints on HIV care – the research agenda: a UK perspective

CHAIN Workshop, Barcelona
14 March, 2014

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Introduction

- HIV in the UK
- Changes to HIV care in the NHS
- Community involvement research

UK overview

- ~ 100,000 +ve, 25% undiagnosed
- High% on treatment and <50 c/mL
- Good surveillance data on STIs
National & regional data (hpa.org.uk)
- Public funding for HIV research
- Close links to European and international studies

HIV research

- **Good surveillance data on incidence**
(SOPHID – by age, region, year, ethnicity, risk group, CD4 etc)
- **Cohort data on natural history, treatment and safety** (UK-CHIC, seroconverters, MHRA, children, pregnancy etc, RITA/STARHS avidity)
- **Drug resistance collaboration** (HIV DRD)
- **European cohort research** - COHERE, CASCADE, EUROSIDA, PENTA, DAD etc
- **Global** – Large, randomised strategy studies: SPARTAC, DART, ARROW, ERNEST, PopART etc

Current examples

- **Research less-affected** - ASTRA, PROUD (PrEP), CURE (Cherub), HIVDRB; UK in PARTNER, START etc
- **Cohort data and reduced monitoring**
 - changed use of CD4 and viral load based on data
- **Resistance collaboration**
 - community-supported (1998), central database, greater numbers: community link = earlier advocacy for access and guidelines
 - understand epidemic dynamics – sub-clades, clusters, virulence
 - reducing risk of first-failure – critical when fewer drug options
 - current TDR from undiagnosed patients with historical mutations
 - stock-outs – 10% from NNRTI-based (Abs 593 CROI 2014)

NHS changes

- Financial pressure on NHS
- Continual restructure & overhaul
- Move to primary care – for cost
 - benefits: ageing cohort, normalising HIV?
 - disadvantages: drug interactions, confidentiality (rural), experience, convenience, cost-based
- Privatising NHS services - loss of HIV expertise: clinical, diagnostic, pharmacy
- HIV prevention & treatment separated
 - makes PrEP difficult to prescribe or study

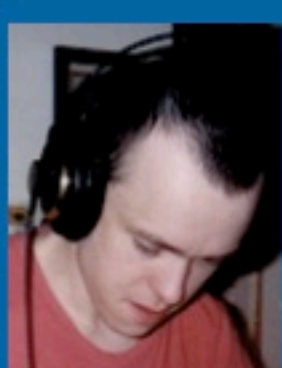
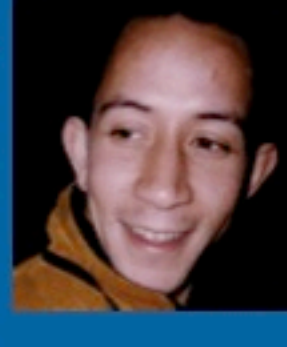
Flat HIV budgets

- **£20 billion savings**
 - Nicholson "challenge" - no inflation uplift, increasing patients
- **Commercial ARV tenders by volume**
 - London saved £10m – challenge to pharma pricing
- **Splitting FDCs & generics**
 - Supported by HIV positive people, 60-85% non-HIV NHS meds are generics, also "home delivery" to save tax on medicines
- **Evidence-based for clinical result**
 - BUT no shift to older ARVs, EFV 400 mg or boosted-PI mono, New-fill still funded

Model for other settings

- **Treatment response and drug safety**
Essential to collect data on efficacy & safety of ARVs in practice
– use of technology advances for collecting quality data
- **Reduce viral failure**
Early uptake of viral load and resistance tests – but limited availability in other settings – stock-outs and resistance
- **Community engagement**
Benefits from community involvement and a good profile
- **Improve quality of life**
Switching options, pipeline and formulation research,
cost & access (no premium pricing for new drugs)

Thanks:



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