

PRACTICE BASED TEMPLATE

Submissions must not exceed 300 words (excluding title & authors). The document **must not** be password protected or saved as read only as this may result in your abstract failing to upload successfully. Use Arial 12 point type only. Please structure your submission using the subheadings below. If the abstract does not fit the headings, please put full abstract beneath introduction and we will remove the headings once submitted.

FROM TREATMENTS SUPPORT TO QUALITY OF LIFE: REIMAGINING THE ROLE OF NAPWHA'S TREATMENTS NETWORK.

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Background/Purpose:

NAPWHA's Treatment Officer Network (TON) has operated for over twenty years. During that time the treatments landscape has changed fundamentally, as treatments have become simpler and easier to take, resulting in less demand from clients for treatment advice and support. Organisations have refocused on broader health and wellbeing issues including wellness, quality of life, mental health, housing, employment, and education, among others. In this environment NAPWHA sought to explore alternative arrangements for provision of HIV treatments information to and by its member organisations.

Approach:

NAPWHA surveyed community organisations to collect data on: client needs and how these are met; numbers of staff and the type of staff engaged in HIV treatments education; views on how treatments information might be delivered in future; and workforce development and service standards to support this vision. A consultant analysed the findings and presented options for future treatments engagement.

Outcomes/Impact:

Six jurisdictions responded (excluding Tasmania and Western Australia). Treatments information is no longer focused solely on medication, interactions, and side effects, but now encompasses broader issues affecting the experience of HIV care, including ageing, immigration, stigma, and social issues (alcohol and other drugs, housing, etc). Injectable antiretroviral therapy and the treatments 'pipeline' were identified as relevant topics for workforce development. Of note, only one respondent indicated that treatments were the primary focus of their role. The network has been renamed the Treatment Outreach Network to better reflect the diversity of issues, workers, roles, and support modalities around HIV care in Australia.

Innovation and Significance:

This initiative is the first survey of treatments information provision in the past decade. It represents an opportunity for HIV community organisations and HIV care providers to consider and respond to the changing context and experiences of HIV care an peer support.

Disclosure of Interest Statement (example):

The Australasian Society for HIV, Viral Hepatitis and Sexual Health Medicine recognises the considerable contribution that industry partners make to professional and research activities. We also recognise the need for transparency of disclosure of potential conflicts of interest by acknowledging these relationships in publications and presentations.

For an example of a disclosure of interest statement please see below

The Melon Institute and Metabolism Corp are funded by the University of Oxbridge, UK. No pharmaceutical grants were received in the development of this study.

Note: If accepted into the program you will be requested to include a disclosure of interest slide into your presentation or include such statements in your poster.