



## National HIV Prevention Conference

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### **[TITLE:] THE CHALLENGES AND RESPONSES OF IMPLEMENTING "PREVENTION WITH POSITIVES" DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS IN CLINICS IN THE SOUTHEASTERN UNITED STATES**

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**ISSUE:** The United States continues to see 40,000 new HIV cases per year. The southeast has seen one of the highest rates of HIV and AIDS cases in the U.S. To address the increased rates of HIV throughout the United States, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has issued national guidelines recommending that all HIV care practitioners routinely provide secondary prevention (prevention with positives -PwP) in clinical settings, however little data exist to guide the implementation of such programs. As regions throughout the US become more aware of the PwP guidelines, information about the challenges, responses, and successes of PwP program implementation will become critically needed.

**KEY POINTS:** In this roundtable, participants will report the challenges and responses to implementation app guidelines in clinics in Alabama, Georgia, and North Carolina. The discussion will focus on similarities and differences across the demonstration sites. We will review the following topics:

- 1) assessment of program characteristics, including, clinic demographics and clinic culture;
- 2) clinic and administrative staff buy-in;
- 3) patient buy-in;
- 4) the development of feasible mechanisms by which to integrate the programs with clinic procedures;

- 5) the achievement and maintenance of high quality, standardized, provider counseling;
- 6) the use of technology & tools.

**IMPLICATIONS:** Lessons learned from implementing PwP programs are especially critical in the southeastern United States where there is a lack of data on secondary prevention programs. Reporting challenges and responses strengthen existing programs and offer valuable insight to new and developing programs. In addition, the documentation of the variations in approaches to program implementation should be used as a platform to create a constructive and ongoing dialogue between the HIV-positive patients and their healthcare providers. In this way, we will be able to educate each other about ways to prevent secondary transmission of HIV without further stigmatization of those with the disease. We intend to share information from our sites and region and stimulate a dialogue at the national level regarding implementation of secondary prevention programs.



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