

Guidelines for the Management and Treatment of HIV/AIDS

MVP Health Care, as part of a continuing Quality Improvement Program, has adopted the New York State Department of Health's (NYSDOH) AIDS Institute's recommendations for the prevention and management of HIV infection in adults, children, adolescents and the prevention of HIV transmission during the perinatal period. The guidelines were developed by NYSDOH in conjunction with the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases.

Statistics – Morbidity & Mortality

- According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), more than one million people are estimated to be living with HIV in the United States. Approximately 56,000 people become infected with HIV in the U.S. each year¹.
- Approximately one quarter of the individuals infected with HIV do not know they have the disease and hence, may be more apt to spread it².
- Despite effective treatments available, more than 18,000 people in the U.S. die each year from HIV/AIDS¹.

Summary of the Guidelines

The guideline, *Primary Care Approach to the HIV-Infected Patient*, can be found at the following web address: <http://www.hivguidelines.org/clinical-guidelines/adults/primary-care-approach-to-the-hiv-infected-patient/>. Additional AIDS guidelines relating to adults, children, adolescents and the prevention of HIV transmission during the perinatal period can be found at the following web address: www.hivguidelines.org/Content.aspx. For individuals who prefer paper copies an order form from the AIDS Institute follows this cover page.

This guideline is not intended to replace the role of the physician's clinical judgment in the management of medical services, it is an educational guideline provided to assist in the delivery of good medical care. All treatment decisions are ultimately based on the physician's clinical assessment and judgment. Where medication recommendations are made, please refer to each health plan's formulary for coverage considerations.

MVP updates its clinical guidelines at least every two years. The review process is also initiated when new scientific evidence or national standards are published. Practitioners are alerted via the web site, and by written notices from the plan via fax or newsletter. A print copy of the clinical guideline can be requested by calling the MVP Quality Improvement Department at 1 (800) 777-4793 extension 2602.

¹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. National Center for HIV/ AIDS, Hepatitis, STD and Tb Prevention. *HIV in the United States*. July 2010. Downloaded September 2, 2011 at: <http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/resources/factsheets/us.htm>.

² Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Estimates of new HIV infections in the United States*. August 2008. Downloaded September 12, 2011 at: <http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/topics/surveillance/resources/factsheets/pdf/incidence.pdf>.