



HIV: A New Future – An Introduction to HIV

This video provides an overview of what it can mean to live with the diagnosis of HIV, from the anxieties and challenges of the beginning of the epidemic to the current needs of a diverse and aging population.

The changing landscape of HIV

- The realities of living with HIV have changed dramatically since the onset of the epidemic in the 1980s. Whereas HIV was often perceived as a terminal illness, a young Canadian with HIV can now expect to live to their early 70s when diagnosed early and provided with access to treatment and care (www.catie.ca, 2015).
- Public perceptions have not always caught up with what it means to live with and care for HIV today, and stigma and misinformation still persist. This video series is designed to build on the existing skills of frontline staff and help fill that gap.

Aging with HIV

- The number of older Canadians living with HIV is increasing due to advances in treatment as well as some people receiving an HIV diagnosis later in life. Among other changes, this means that more people living with HIV will be transitioning into LTC homes.
- Treating HIV can get more complicated as other age-related illnesses also become a factor. The **Cognitive Changes** and **Complex Medical Concerns** videos address the common challenges that someone aging with HIV may experience.

Client-centred care

- A client-centred approach to care focuses on the experience of the client from his/her perspective. This type of care aims to empower the client, improve client satisfaction and enhance quality of care.

The project partners

- **The Re kai Centres** were founded in 1948 and became the first multilingual non-profit nursing home in Canada. Our mission is to enrich the lives of our residents by transforming the model of long term care and ensuring they are part of the pulse of the downtown community.
- **Casey House** is a specialty HIV/AIDS hospital with community programs including home nursing care and outreach. Founded in 1988, we were the first freestanding HIV/AIDS facility in Canada. Our commitment is to provide compassionate, inspired health care for people living with medically complex experiences of HIV/AIDS, in collaboration with our communities.
- **The MAC AIDS Fund**'s mission is to serve people of all ages, all races and all sexes affected by HIV and AIDS. To partner with the bold, the visionary and the brave who confront the epidemic in countries and communities where people are most neglected, off the radar and at highest risk. Responsive, agile and alert, MAF funds innovative programs that deal directly with the most marginalized, stigmatized and under-heard victims. MAF celebrates humanity, life, creativity and individuality.

Sources and links

CATIE offers a timeline of HIV: www.catie.ca/en/world-aids-day

The Canadian AIDS Society provides print-friendly fact sheets on HIV and aging: www.cdn aids.ca/hiv-and-aging

The Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario offers guidelines for person and family-centred care: www.rnao.ca/bpg/guidelines/client-centred-care