



Combatting the HIV & HCV Epidemics in Rural Massachusetts: What's Working and Where We're Going

December 2nd, 2020

5:30-8:00 pm

Meeting the diverse needs of people who inject drugs (PWID) can present many challenges—even more so in rural settings. There are barriers to ensuring equitable access to preventative measures such as PrEP/nPEP and HIV/HCV treatment regimens, and these barriers can be very different from those in major metropolitan areas. Combined with the stigmas of drug use and communicable disease, in addition to the COVID-19 pandemic, these issues can become even harder to address. Please join us as we discuss these unique rural challenges, the ways that providers are already rising up to confront these challenges, and the ways in which current models can be scaled to meet the challenges across the state.

Jennifer Kimball
*Principal Planner, Public Health
Berkshire Regional Planning Commission*

Rachel Picone, DNP, CNP, RN, FNP-C
*Nurse Practitioner, Infectious Disease Division
Medical Director, State STD Clinic at Healthy Steps
Berkshire Medical Center*

Sarah DeJesus
*Harm Reduction Supervisor
Healthy Steps*

Seamus Vahey
*HIV PrEP Care Coordinator
Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program*

Kevin Herwig
*Manager, HIV Biomedical Intervention Programs
Community Research Initiative*

Tammi Kozuch, BS, RN, ACRN
*Director for the Center for Recovery and Support
Holyoke Health Center*

Ashley Ginda, PharmD, RPh
*Clinical Pharmacist
Center for Recovery and Support, Holyoke Health Center*

<https://www.neaetc.org/events/view/16639>



CME Accreditation Statement: The University of Massachusetts Medical School is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.
Designation Statement: The University of Massachusetts Medical School designates this live activity for a maximum of 2.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim only credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.
Nursing: This offering meets the requirements for a maximum of 3 contact hours, as specified by the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing (244-CMR 5.04). Each nurse should claim only those hours of credit that he/she actually spent in the educational activity.
Policy on Faculty and Provider Disclosure: It is the policy of the University of Massachusetts Medical School to ensure fair balance, independence, objectivity and scientific rigor in all activities. All faculty participating in CME activities sponsored by the University of Massachusetts Medical School are required to present evidence-based data, identify and reference off-label product use and disclose all relevant financial relationships with those supporting the activity or others whose products or services are discussed. Faculty disclosure will be provided in the activity materials.
Funding: This program is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under grant number U1OHA29294 (AIDS Education and Training Centers) awarded to the University of Massachusetts Medical School (UMMS). This information of content and conclusions are those of the authors and should not be construed as the official position or policy of, nor should any endorsements be inferred by HRSA, HHS or the U.S. Government.