Recommended standards for NHS HIV services: endorsed by Department of Health, British HIV Association, National Association of NHS Providers of AIDS Care and Treatment for Medical Foundation & Sexual Health, a charity supported by the British Medical Association.

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Recommended standards for NHS HIV services

Endorsed by
Department of Health
British HIV Association
National Association of NHS Providers of AIDS Care and Treatment



Developed by MedFASH

A cornerstone of The National Strategy for Sexual Health and HIV

A valuable tool for service providers, commissioners and users

House of Commons Health Select Committee recommends use by Strategic Health Authorities for performance management of Trusts

Informed by the views and experience of people with HIV

Drawing on the knowledge and expertise of a wide range of professionals

Standards for 12 aspects of service provision, plus one for managed service networks ~ Prevention • Diagnosis • Empowerment of people with HIV • Clinical care • Primary healthcare • Social care integrated with healthcare • Sexual health care • HIV and pregnancy • Care of families with HIV • Emergency care • Admission to hospital • Respite,

Emergency care • Admission to hospital • Respite, rehabilitation and palliative care

NHS HIV services in England are facing unprecedented challenges. The number of new HIV diagnoses is rising faster each year. More than half of people with HIV still live in London but other parts of the country are experiencing significant increases. Population groups most affected face stigma and social exclusion and have complex medical, social and support needs.

About a third of people living with the virus do not even know they are infected and risk severe illness if left undiagnosed.

How can services around the country meet these challenges? How can people living with HIV gain access to the same quality of care wherever they live? Medical Foundation for AIDS & Sexual Health (MedFASH), has developed new Recommended standards for NHS HIV services.

Each standard offers an evidence-based rationale, key interventions, implications for service planning, guidance on practice, and suggested audit indicators. Reading lists for supporting evidence, policy documents and professional guidelines are appended. With a standard specifically for managed service networks, the whole document should encourage multidisciplinary working and facilitate the development of HIV service networks.

This publication is relevant to those working in HIV treatment centres, other hospital departments (obstetrics, A&E, cancer, mental health and many more), primary healthcare, public health, social care, the statutory and voluntary sectors and to services users themselves. The recommended standards will serve as a tool for planning and auditing service development, a framework for commissioning, and a resource for partnership between service users and providers.

Copies available from MedFASH by phone, email or post and to DOWNLOAD from website www.medfash.org.uk





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