CHAIN New York City and Tri-County: Trends over time from published reports

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INTRODUCTION

The Community Health Advisory & Information Network (CHAIN) is a prospective study of representative samples of persons living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) in New York City (NYC) and the Tri-County (TC) region of Westchester, Rockland and Putnam Counties. Major interview topic areas include socio-demographic characteristics, comorbid conditions, risk behaviors, and health and social services need and utilization.

The CHAIN study provides an opportunity for policy-makers and program planners to evaluate trends over time in the experience of PLWHA in these two distinct geographic regions. This report concentrates on inter-regional comparison with respect to need and service use for a broad range of health and social services. This document draws upon findings from previously released CHAIN reports that have covered both regions. It highlights key areas where over-time trends for the CHAIN cohorts from the two regions have differed or converged.

Approximately every two years, a CHAIN report presents, for key, measurable service areas, the proportion of participants experiencing need and the proportion (among those in need) who have a service gap as measured by absence or inadequate service utilization. Need is measured based on objective criteria (taking into account individual attributes such as health status and behavior), perceived/self-reported service need, and (for some service categories) actual use of services.

METHODS

We reviewed CHAIN reports published to the NYC HIV Planning Council website (http://nyhiv.org/data_chain.html) covering the years 2001–2013. Specifically, we selected reports that covered topic areas addressed for the similar time period for both the NYC and Tri-County cohorts, either in a single report or as separate reports for each cohort. For a complete list of reports reviewed, see Appendix 1. For each topic area, we summarize trends over time for both NYC and Tri-County. Themes are in blue font for NYC; red for Tri-County. For service needs and gaps, we plot over time the proportion in each cohort demonstrating service need and the proportion with service gap among those in need.

SERVICE NEEDS1 (2002-2013 for NYC; 2001-2013 for TC)

- At the time of baseline interviews, from 2001 to 2002, the, top 3 needs were identical for both regions: comprehensive (social work-based) case management (CM), antiretroviral (ARV) treatment adherence, and alcohol or drug (AOD) treatment
  - Except for CM in TC², the need for these services have declined in recent years
- Currently (2011-2013), the three highest needs for NYC are food services, nutrition counseling, and rental assistance³; for TC they are rental assistance, food services and mental health (MH) services

SERVICE GAPS: INADEQUATE SERVICE UTILIZATION AMONG THOSE IN NEED
(2002-2013 for NYC; 2001-2013 for TC)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>NYC⁴</th>
<th>TC⁴</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baseline (2001-2002) top 4 gaps</td>
<td>ARV treatment adherence, AOD treatment, comprehensive CM, MH</td>
<td>AOD treatment, transportation, MH, rental assistance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current (2011-2013) top 4 gaps</td>
<td>Medical CM, permanent housing, nutrition counseling, comprehensive CM</td>
<td>Nutrition counseling, AOD treatment, permanent housing, standard of HIV medical care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-2008 trends⁵</td>
<td>Service gaps mostly decreased</td>
<td>Service gaps mostly decreased steadily</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Increased only in permanent housing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Largest decreases: transportation, permanent housing</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Increased only in MH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008 and later trends⁵</td>
<td>Decreased for almost all categories</td>
<td>Initially decreased for almost all categories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Increased only in: standard of HIV medical care, AOD treatment, transportation</td>
<td>- Increase only in: standard of HIV medical care</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**CHAIN New York City and Tri-County: Trends over time from published reports**

February 27, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current high need, low utilization</th>
<th><strong>NYC</strong></th>
<th><strong>TC</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Standard of HIV medical care, nutrition counseling, food services</td>
<td>Standard of HIV medical care, medical CM, nutrition counseling</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current low need, low utilization</th>
<th><strong>NYC</strong></th>
<th><strong>TC</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Home care, medical CM, AOD treatment, transportation, permanent housing</td>
<td>Home care, AOD treatment, permanent housing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For all CHAIN service need and gap definitions from the latest report (2013), see Appendix II.

**TOBACCO USE (2002-2011 for NYC; 2001-2012 for TC)**

- Smoking prevalence for the 2010-2012 is high for both **NYC (50%)** and **TC (60%)**
  - Since baseline interviews, prevalence has declined more in **NYC** than in **TC**
- Currently, in both **NYC** and **TC**:
  - >75% of smokers reported that their primary care physician (PCP) advised them to quit smoking
  - ~50% of smokers received some assistance from their PCP to quit smoking
  - Both of these proportions have been rising steadily in recent years

**INSURANCE STATUS (2008-2009 to 2010-2011)**

- For both **NYC** and **TC**: almost 100% have insurance coverage
  - Medicaid: 90% **NYC**; 70% **TC**
  - Medicare: 25% **NYC**; 20% **TC**
  - ADAP/ADAP+: 5-6% **NYC**; 25% **TC**
- Trends in type of insurance coverage have been relatively stable in recent years
  - Medicaid/Medicare Managed Care has increased (**NYC** from 14% to 36%; **TC** from 6% to 15%)
- Few reported needing a medical procedure in past 6 months not covered by their insurance plan

**FOOD INSECURITY (2008-2010)**

- Food insecurity: 42% in both **NYC** and **TC**
- 80% **NYC** and 62% **TC** participated in SNAP
- 55% **NYC** and 58% **TC** received: (1) meals provided in a group setting, (2) prepared meals delivered to the home, (3) food voucher or grocery bag from a food pantry, or (4) some other help with food or meals
- **NYC** less likely to have received food pantry bags than participate in a meal program; it was the reverse in **TC**

**HAART ADHERENCE (2001-2009)**

- 98% of participants had insurance (inc. ADAP) to cover cost of medication
- Consistently, ~75% reported HAART use and 50% adherent HAART use
  - Only 26% adherent to HAART at every interview; 49% reported not taking HAART at one or more interviews
- Effects of age, gender and ethnicity on ART effectiveness were weaker in **NYC** than in **TC**
- The lowest proportions of adherent HAART use were found among participants with:
  - **NYC**: recent homelessness (38%), recent substance use (38%), no comprehensive primary care (PC) (46%)
  - **TC**: unstable housing (39%), recent substance use (40%), no comprehensive PC (42%)

**COMORBID CONDITIONS (2002 cohort for **NYC**; cross-sectional look at 2001 cohort for **TC**)**

- Patterns and rates of chronic diseases and other comorbidities were similar for **NYC** and **TC**

1. For definitions of service needs and gaps (inadequate utilization) access reports at: [http://nyhiv.org/data_chain.html](http://nyhiv.org/data_chain.html).
2. For **TC**, a new definition was applied for CM need in 2009, by which 100% of PLWHA meet the criteria.
3. Highest needs excluding those currently defined as a need for all PLWHA: nutrition counseling, medical CM and comprehensive CM for **TC**, and standard of HIV medical care for both **NYC** and **TC**.
4. **TC** data are depicted in red font; **NYC** data in blue font.
5. Definitions of service need and utilization changed slightly throughout, with more significant changes occurring in 2009.
6. Included persons completing at least 5 interviews during that time.
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February 27, 2014

Standard of HIV Medical Care

Need for service

Service gap, among those in need

Comprehensive Case Management

Need for service

Service gap, among those in need

Medical Case Management

Need for service

Service gap, among those in need

Rental Assistance

Need for service

Service gap, among those in need
Permanent Housing

Need for service

Service gap, among those in need

Mental Health Services

Need for service

Service gap, among those in need

Alcohol or Drug Treatment

Need for service

Service gap, among those in need

Transportation

Need for service

Service gap, among those in need
1. By definition, all participants meet need for standard of HIV medical care.
2. In 2009, TC changed definition for comprehensive case management such that all participants meet need.
3. TC defines all participants as meeting need for comprehensive medical case management.
4. Definition for permanent housing need changed between 2005 ("At least one episode of unstable housing or doubled-up in past 6 months, OR reported that s/he needed help related to homelessness, critical need to move, physical access issues, poor housing quality, or dangerous neighborhood) and 2011 ("Homelessness, temporary doubling up, or temporary/transitional housing for one or more days during the last 6 months").
5. Definition for rental assistance need expanded in 2009 to include receipt of related services, for both NYC and TC.
6. Definition for mental health services need expanded in 2009 to include receipt of related services, for both NYC and TC.
7. Definition for alcohol or drug treatment need expanded in 2009 to include receipt of related services, for both NYC and TC.
8. Definition for transportation need expanded in 2009 to include receipt of related services, for both NYC and TC.
10. According to TC definition, all participants meet need for nutritional counseling.

For all CHAIN service need and gap definitions from the latest report (2011), see Appendix II.
APPENDIX 1. CHAIN reports reviewed for this report.

Service Needs/Gaps


Unpublished 2013 Service Needs and Utilization Report data were also used.

Tobacco Use

Insurance Status

Food Insecurity

HAART Adherence

Comorbid Conditions
## APPENDIX II. CHAIN definitions for service need and gap, as of 2013 report (unpublished as of 2/27/14)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Area</th>
<th>Need</th>
<th>Gap defined as not meeting the following definition of adequate utilization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Standard of HIV Medical Care</td>
<td>Positive HIV serostatus</td>
<td>Six or more of the following services or procedures: (1) HIV medical provider visit (in last four months), (2) physical examination, (3) blood test, (4) CD4 test, (5) dental care, (6) screening for ART adherence, (7) screening for risky sexual behavior, and (8) screening for substance abuse (where 2-8 are in the last six months)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comprehensive Case Management</td>
<td>NYC: (1) Poor mental health function [Mental Component Summary (MCS) ≤ 37.0] OR (2) an inpatient, emergency room or mobile unit visit for psychiatric or mental health reason in the last six months OR (3) heavy or problem drinking during the past six months OR (4) cocaine, crack, or heroin use during past year OR (5) homelessness or unstable housing in the last six months TC: Positive HIV serostatus</td>
<td>One or more of the following services from a case manager in the last six months: (1) care plan development or revision for dealing with needs OR (2) referrals for social services OR (3) help filling out forms for benefits or entitlements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Case Management</td>
<td>NYC: (1) No HIV primary care in the last six months OR (2) cessation of care or no appointments for six or more months since the last interview OR (3) more than one missed appointment in the past six months OR (4) no CD4 or VL test in the past six months OR (5) above problems at prior rounds and case management with referrals to specific medical services in the past six months TC: Positive HIV serostatus</td>
<td>Help from a case manager with access or referrals to medical services during the last six months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rental Assistance</td>
<td>Current residence in stable housing AND (1) difficulty paying rent in the past 6 months OR (2) eviction risk and insufficient income to secure housing (FMR &gt; 50% of income) OR (3) current receipt of rental assistance (including living in public housing) OR (4) insufficient money for rent in much of the past 6 months OR (5) rent contribution over 50% of income</td>
<td>Rental assistance (including living in public housing) during the past 6 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanent Housing</td>
<td>Homelessness, temporary doubling up, or temporary/transitional housing for one or more days during the last 6 months</td>
<td>(1) Housing assistance or rental assistance during the past 6 months, (2) reported resolution of problems AND (3) current residence in stable housing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Health Services</td>
<td>(1) Low mental health function MCS ≤ 37.0) OR (2) an inpatient, emergency room or mobile unit visit for psychiatric or mental health reason in the last six months OR (3) counseling from a mental health care professional or clinical social worker in the last six months.</td>
<td>Counseling from a mental health care professional or clinical social worker in the last six months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol or Drug Treatment</td>
<td>(1) Cocaine, crack or heroin use during the past year OR (2) heavy or problem drinking during the past six months OR (3) report that receiving drug or alcohol</td>
<td>Any form of treatment for alcohol or drug use in last six months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Area</td>
<td>Need</td>
<td>Gap defined as not meeting the following definition of adequate utilization</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>(1) Report of need for transportation assistance OR (2) report that a lack of transportation resulted in delayed or missed medical or social services in the past six months</td>
<td>Transportation services in the last six months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antiretroviral (ARV) Treatment Support</td>
<td>(1) CD4 Count &lt; 350 &amp; not on ARV OR (2) incomplete adherence to ARV meds OR (3) adherence to ARV meds with support services</td>
<td>Support services for taking ARVs from professional providers in the last six months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food Services</td>
<td>(1) Not enough money in the household for food once in a while to very often in the last six months OR (2) a period without anything to eat in the last 30 days OR (3) receipt of food stamps OR (4) limited or no access to a kitchen OR (5) participation in a meal delivery program</td>
<td>One or more of the following services in the last six months: (1) Meals provided in a group setting, (2) prepared meals delivered to home, (3) food voucher or food from a food pantry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutritional Counseling</td>
<td><strong>NYC:</strong> (1) Low (≤18.5) or High (≥25.0) BMI OR (2) any history of diagnosis with nutrition-sensitive chronic illnesses (hypertension, heart problems, diabetes, high cholesterol, kidney disease, wasting syndrome, diarrhea for a month or more) OR (3) current pregnancy</td>
<td>One-on-one food and nutrition counseling in the last six months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TC: Positive HIV serostatus</td>
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