Special Issue

Adolescent HIV Care and Transition Strategies: Challenges, Outcomes, and Interventions

Message from the Guest Editor

As of 2019, there were more than 5.1 million adolescents and young adults (AYAs) ages 15 to 24 years living with HIV globally. Despite advances in treatment, including simpler regimens with fewer side effects, AYAs continue to have poor outcomes regarding adherence to medication, engagement in care, and viral suppression. Although this is a diverse population including adolescents with perinatally acquired HIV and nonperinatally acquired HIV, both groups continue to have high rates of morbidity and mortality compared to other age groups. The period of transition to adult care is an especially vulnerable time for AYAs with HIV, resulting in high rates of disengagement in care. Structured interventions to support transition to adult HIV care are critical to ensure engagement in care beyond adolescence. Technological advances in mobile health, long-acting injectable medication, and artificial intelligence offer potential solutions to the barriers facing AYAs during this vulnerable period. Given this background, this Special Issue aims to showcase impactful research and interventions to enhance outcomes for AYAs with HIV.

Guest Editor

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