

The **National HIV/AIDS Clinicians' Consultation Center** (NCCC) provides clinicians with rapid, free, state-of-the-art clinical consultation for managing HIV/AIDS and occupational exposures to blood-borne pathogens through the *Warmline*, *PEPline*, and *Perinatal Hotline*. This University of California San Francisco/San Francisco General Hospital-based center is staffed by an expert faculty of physicians and pharmacists who provide more than 800 consultations per month and have responded to more than 100,000 total calls from across the United States.

Warmline (800) 933-3413 **National HIV/AIDS Telephone Consultation Service**

A 29-year-old man just moved back to town to live with his family. He tells you he is HIV-positive and has been taking zidovudine, lamivudine and nelfinavir. He hopes that since you knew him as a child you will provide comprehensive care, but you are concerned about when to obtain CD4+ counts and viral loads, how to make the best antiretroviral drug decisions, whether you can obtain accurate lab tests, and how to recognize manifestations of HIV.

The Warmline provides free clinical advice on managing HIV/AIDS from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET Monday through Friday. Clinicians with a wide range of experience, from those managing complex antiretroviral resistance dilemmas to those with few HIV patients or limited access to expert consultation in underserved communities, can obtain expert clinical guidance. Nearly 60% of all Warmline calls concern antiretroviral therapy issues, including the interpretation of drug resistance tests and the selection of drug regimens. HIV rapid and standard testing and management of opportunistic infections are other common topics. Callers include physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, and other clinicians.

PEPline (888) 448-4911 **National Clinicians' Post-Exposure Prophylaxis Hotline**

It is 8 pm and your pager goes off. A nurse in the emergency department has sustained a needlestick after drawing blood from a 40-year-old man involved in a motor vehicle accident while driving through town. No one in the ED has asked about the patient's HIV and hepatitis status. The nurse calls you to ask what the best management strategy is. You detect her nervousness by the uncharacteristically disorganized presentation she gives you.

The PEPline provides free, around-the-clock expert guidance in managing healthcare worker exposures to HIV and hepatitis B and C. PEPline callers receive immediate post-exposure prophylaxis recommendations that are often critical after needlestick and other exposures. PEPline consultants provide expert assessment of risk of exposure, use of rapid and standard HIV tests, appropriateness of post-exposure prophylaxis use, and PEP regimen selection, as well as counseling and follow-up testing protocols. Clinicians treating potential exposures comprise 60% of exposure-related calls; healthcare professionals who have sustained an exposure make up 12.5% of these calls.

Perinatal Hotline (888) 448-8765 **National Perinatal HIV Consultation & Referral Service**

A 27-year-old woman with no perinatal care comes to the hospital in labor. Her rapid HIV test is positive. She has no pre-existing diagnosis of HIV and appears healthy. What should you tell her? Should you treat her immediately? Should she receive ARV drugs in labor? What tests need to be performed on the baby?

The Perinatal Hotline is a free, 24-hour consultation service aimed at preventing mother-to-child HIV transmission by providing advice on treating HIV-infected pregnant women and their infants. The Perinatal Hotline provides advice on indications and interpretations of standard and rapid HIV testing in pregnancy as well as consultation on antiretroviral use in pregnancy, labor and delivery, and the postpartum period. The Perinatal Consultation and Referral Service also links HIV-infected pregnant women with appropriate health care through a Perinatal HIV Clinicians' Network.