





# Impact of an Integrated **Health System Specialty Pharmacy on HIV Clinical Outcomes**

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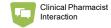
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### **BACKGROUND**

- Patients with HIV who adhere to antiretroviral therapy (ART) achieve and maintain viral load (VL) suppression. Previous research has shown that adherence rates of ≥ 95% are necessary for optimal ART efficacy and VL suppression.1
- However, for this population there are limited data on the impact of integrated health system specialty pharmacy (HSSP) and patient demographic factors on clinical outcomes, specifically viral load suppression.
- The purpose of this analysis was to describe the impact of a HSSP model and socio-demographic factors on clinical outcomes in patients with HIV.

Figure 1: HSSP HIV Patient Journey







## **METHODS**



Study Design: This was a single-center, retrospective, observational analysis of adult and pediatric patients with HIV on ARV therapy filling with the Proprium Specialty Pharmacy from January to December 2022.

• Inclusion Criteria: Patients on HIV ART enrolled in Proprium patient management program (PMP) for > 6 months with a reportable VL or if on service < 6 months with a VL of < 200 copies/mL with a clinical assessment in the past one year



Primary Outcome: HIV viral load suppression



**Data Identification:** The following demographic information was collected through the electronic medical record or specialty pharmacy management system:

 Age, gender, race/ethnicity, out of pocket (OOP) medication cost, days on service in the specialty pharmacy, primary insurance type, VL suppression, and adherence measured by proportion of days covered (PDC).



Analysis: A logit regression model using Rstudio 2023.03.0+386 evaluated the impact of demographic variables on VL suppression. PDC level of 95% was utilized for analysis.

- Paterson DL, et al. Adherence to protease inhibitor therapy and outcomes in patients with HIV infection. Ann Intern Med. 2000;133(1):21-30 Viral Suppression and Barriers to Care. CDC. cdc.gov/hiv/statistics/overview/in-us/viral-suppression.html.
- 3. Health Resources and Services Administration. Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Annual Client-Level Data Report 2021. hab.hrsa.gov/data/data-reports

# **RESULTS**

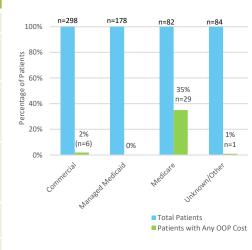
Table 1 summarizes patient characteristics and their association with VL suppression. In the Proprium population, VL suppression was 94%, higher than national averages (Figure 1). Only 6% of patients had any OOP cost (Figure 2), with the most patients in the Medicare group (OOP mean \$25.72; median \$0; max \$908.54), followed by the commercial group (OOP mean \$0.79; median \$0; max \$79.07). Average PDC in the Proprium group was 92%, and PDC ≥ 95% was associated with VL suppression.

Figure 1: Viral Load Suppression Rates



Table 1: Patient Characteristics and Impact on VL Suppression		
Characteristic	N=642	p-value
Age (years) <sup>1</sup>	47	0.25
Sex (n, %) M F	463 (72%) 179 (28%)	0.39
Race (n, %) Black White Unknown/Other	394 (61%) 171 (27%) 77 (12%)	0.86 0.79 0.39
Hispanic or Latino (n, %) No Yes Unknown	533 (83%) 94 (15%) 15 (2%)	0.43
Days on Service <sup>2</sup> (range)	1710 (2-2454)	0.50
Out-of-Pocket Cost <sup>2</sup> (range)	\$0 (\$0-\$908.54)	< 0.005
Insurance Type (n, %) Commercial Managed Medicaid Medicare Unknown/Other	298 (46%) 178 (28%) 82 (13%) 84 (13%)	0.96 0.55 0.52
PDC ≥ 95% (n, %)	346 (54%)	0.08
		<sup>1</sup> Mean

Figure 2: Out of Pocket Cost by Insurance Type





Associated with VL suppression (p=0.08)

### **CONCLUSIONS**

 The lack of significant impact of age, gender, time on service, race/ethnicity, and insurance on VL suppression demonstrates the consistency of the HSSP model and impact on HIV clinical outcomes.

<sup>2</sup> Median

- The significant association between presence of OOP cost and improved VL suppression is likely due to the large percentage of patients with no OOP cost in the sample (>94%)
- The impact of medication adherence on VL suppression is consistent with previous findings and underscores the importance of careful monitoring and follow-up within this population.