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Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS
at Yale University

CIRA Talk: “Multilevel Intervention Approaches to Improve Access to Comprehensive HIV Prevention and Treatment Services for People Who Inject Drugs”

Join this virtual CIRA Talk for a research presentation followed by a discussion and a Q&A session with audience.



Angela R. Bazzi, PhD, MPH
University of California, San Diego
Speaker

Moderator: E. Jennifer Edelman, MD, MHS
Yale School of Medicine, Yale School of Public Health, CIRA

Discussant: River Rose
Connecticut Harm Reduction Alliance (CTHRA)

Thursday, June 1, 2023
12:30 pm – 1:30 Pacific, 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm Eastern

Register via Zoom:
<https://bit.ly/43agbyW>

Contact dini.harsono@yale.edu for questions about this event.

Organized by the Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS (CIRA).
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CIRA Talk: “Multilevel Intervention Approaches to Improve Access to Comprehensive HIV Prevention and Treatment Services for People Who Inject Drugs”

OVERVIEW

Amidst increasing opioid and polysubstance use across the United States, HIV transmission among people who inject drugs (PWID) is increasing for the first time in decades, impacting diverse rural, suburban, and urban jurisdictions including those with long-standing access to harm reduction services. PWID face persistent stigma and multilevel barriers to accessing healthcare services including comprehensive HIV prevention and treatment services. Novel intervention approaches are needed to improve access to HIV testing and subsequent linkage to antiretroviral treatment and prevention medications including pre-exposure prophylaxis. This talk will describe individual, interpersonal, and organizational-level intervention approaches being tested in partnership with syringe service programs and explore additional potential ways to improve comprehensive HIV prevention and treatment services for PWID in community settings.

SPEAKER

Angela R. Bazzi, PhD, MPH

Associate Professor

University of California, San Diego

Angela R. Bazzi, PhD, MPH, is an Associate Professor in UC San Diego's Herbert Wertheim School of Public Health where she directs the Research Program on Mental Health and Substance Use. She is a prevention scientist focused on reducing infectious disease transmission in diverse populations of people who use and inject drugs. Her research leverages in-depth community engagement and mixed methods approaches to develop and test interventions and implementation strategies to improve access to evidence-based HIV prevention and treatment services, vaccines, and substance use disorder treatment in community settings including syringe service programs. She also teaches graduate coursework on substance use and population health and serves as an Associate Editor at Addiction Science & Clinical Practice and Editorial Board Member at Drug and Alcohol Dependence.

DISCUSSANT

River Rose

Capacity Building/SWAN Program Manager

Connecticut Harm Reduction Alliance

River Rose uses they/them pronouns and is a Johns Hopkins Bloomberg Fellow studying for their Masters in Public Health focusing in Addiction and Overdose. They are the Capacity Building/SWAN Program Manager with Connecticut Harm Reduction Alliance and have been working with people who use drugs in the harm reduction and HIV prevention field for 4 years. River has both lived experience and has loved ones who have struggled with chaotic substance use; this has led them toward both facilitating the Statewide Harm Reduction Action Group, and advocating for equitable drug policy change across Connecticut.

MODERATOR

E. Jennifer Edelman, MD, MHS

Associate Professor of Medicine (General Medicine) and of Social and Behavioral Sciences

Yale School of Medicine, Yale School of Public Health, CIRA

E. Jennifer Edelman, MD, MHS is an Associate Professor of Medicine and Public Health. Certified as an internist, HIV specialist and in Addiction Medicine, she serves as an HIV provider and the physician consultant in the Addiction Medicine Treatment Program at the Yale-New Haven Hospital Nathan Smith HIV Clinic. Her research focuses on optimizing HIV prevention and treatment in the context of substance use, including opioid, alcohol and tobacco use. To this end and applying a range of methodologies, she leads and collaborates on NIH-funded projects to evaluate novel and implement evidence-based addiction treatment in medical settings, especially HIV treatment settings. In addition, her work has focused on understanding harms associated with opioid use among people with HIV. She collaborates with community-based and public health partners to promote HIV prevention, including use of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP). She mentors trainees, including post-doctoral fellows and public health students, and is Associate Director of the Research on Addiction Medicine Scholars (RAMS) Program and co-Director of Education at the Yale Center for Clinical Investigation. She regularly serves on NIH grant review committees and is Associate Editor of Addiction Science and Clinical Practice.