

# HIV/AIDS Update 2008

## For Home Health Aides and Home Attendants

### Satellite Conference and Live Webcast

Wednesday, May 7, 2008  
2:00-4:00 p.m. (Central Time)  
3:00-5:00 p.m. (Eastern) • 1:00-3:00 p.m. (Mountain) • 12:00-2:00 p.m. (Pacific)



**S**exually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) are hidden epidemics of tremendous health and economic consequence in the United States. They are hidden from public view because many Americans are reluctant to address sexual health issues in an open way and because of the biological and social factors associated with these diseases. Approximately 12 million new cases of STDs occur annually. STDs represent a growing threat to the nation's health and national action is urgently needed.

Among these STDs, the number of HIV/AIDS cases in Alabama rose dramatically in the 1980s, and has since peaked in the mid-1990s, with approximately 1,100 cases reported annually between 1995 and 1997. While HIV/AIDS cases have been reported all over Alabama, infection rates in southern Alabama are about twice those in the northern part of the state.

As the home care industry has grown and expanded, the need for a planned, organized approach to caring for the home care patient who is living with HIV or AIDS has become increasingly important. Home Health Aides and Home Attendants provide a wide range of care to patients and as caregivers be aware of their special needs.

#### **Faculty:**

**Bridget Byrd**  
HIV Program Coordinator  
Public Health Area IV  
Alabama Department of Public Health

**Richard Meriwether**  
Project Coordinator  
AIDS Education and Training Center  
Division of Infectious Diseases  
Department of Medicine  
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#### **Program Objectives:**

1. Define/identify the following terms: HIV, AIDS, STI, CD4, viral load, window period, seroconversion, incubation period, occupational exposure, and universal precautions.
2. Define the various levels of exposure, modes of transmission, and body fluids of concern regarding HIV.
3. Identify barrier requirements recommended by the CDC, ADPH, and OSHA for home health aides and home attendants assisting persons living with HIV.
4. Discuss the process to follow when an occupational exposure has occurred.
5. Discuss caring for patients with HIV/AIDS at home, ie, emotional needs, nutritional needs, personal care needs, and house cleaning.

#### **Conference Details:**

**Target Audience:** Home health aides, home attendants and other lay professionals and family workers who administer and care for patients in the home setting who are living with HIV and AIDS.

**Registration:** [www.adph.org/alphntn](http://www.adph.org/alphntn)

**Cost:** There is no cost to view.

**Continuing Education:** none.

**Satellite Technical Information:** This program will be a live satellite broadcast on both Ku & C bands.

**Webcast Information:** This program will be a live webcast. Register at [www.adph.org/alphntn](http://www.adph.org/alphntn) To view webcast, you need RealPlayer. Test your computer before the day of the program from the "test connection" link at [www.adph.org/alphntn](http://www.adph.org/alphntn). On the day of the program, go to [www.adph.org/alphntn](http://www.adph.org/alphntn) Click on the "view webcast" link.

**Conference Materials:** Posted on our website approximately one week before the program for registered participants.

**Questions For Faculty:** Fax or email questions and a response will be given during the program.  
Email: [alphntnquestions@adph.state.al.us](mailto:alphntnquestions@adph.state.al.us)  
Fax: 334-206-5640.

**Conference Details Questions:** Call 334-206-5618  
Email: [alphntn@adph.state.al.us](mailto:alphntn@adph.state.al.us)