

Ryan White Program
Service Area Standards: Health Education/ Risk Reduction Standards

HRSA Definition: Health Education/Risk Reduction is the provision of education to clients living with HIV about HIV transmission and how to reduce the risk of HIV transmission. It includes sharing information about medical and psychosocial support services and counseling with clients to improve their health status. Topics covered may include:

1. Education on risk reduction strategies to reduce transmission such as preexposure prophylaxis (PrEP) for clients' partners and treatment as prevention
2. Education on health care coverage options (e.g., qualified health plans through the Marketplace, Medicaid coverage, Medicare coverage)
3. Health literacy

Treatment adherence education Program Guidance: Health Education/Risk Reduction services cannot be delivered anonymously.

All subrecipients must meet universal standards requirements in addition to service area standards for which they are funded.

Standard	Measure	Data Source
<p>1. Health Education/Risk Reduction Curriculum: Agency will have a written curriculum to inform clients about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preventing STIs - Receive counseling on how to improve their health status and reduce the risk of transmission to others - The benefits of treatment and information on how to access and retain care - Available resources to help with HIV treatment and prevention, including how to access all Ryan White core medical and support services - PrEP - Understanding lab values and medication regimen - Personal HIV disclosure <p>“Making Sure” curriculum may be adopted for HE/RR in place of the Agency developing their own curriculum</p>	<p>1. Curriculum approved by Ryan White Program.</p>	<p>1. Documentation on file.</p>
<p>2. Evaluation: Group and individual level evaluation of clients’ needs or topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HE/RR activities will be driven by an evaluation of participants’ interests and needs • Evaluation may be conducted during group discussion or individually with clients 	<p>2. Evaluation questions and results.</p>	<p>2. Documentation on file.</p>
<p>3. Staff Qualification and Training:</p> <p>3.1. Direct Service Providers will have knowledge of the curriculum topics, the skills and abilities to provide health education services and one or more of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bachelor’s degree in a Human Service field • Registered Nurse • Master’s /Bachelor’s degree in a non-Human Service field and two years HIV experience • A two year associates degree in a Human Service field and 3 years of experience 	<p>3.1. - 3.2. Position description, job postings, resumes and documentation of staff training</p>	<p>3.1. File Review/Site Visits</p> <p>3.2. File Review/Site Visits</p>

Standard	Measure	Data Source
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four years of HIV prevention or service delivery or relevant experience <p>3.2. Staff demonstrate competency through education, experience, or training in the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - HIV basics (i.e., getting tested, transmission, disease stages) - Understanding laboratory results (i.e. reading lab results, understanding lab values) - Medication and side effects and drug interaction (i.e. understanding drug resistance, side effects and the goals of medications) - Adherence (i.e., adherence strategies) - Substance use and mental health recognition and referral - Risk reduction counseling - Communication Skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active Listening • Asking Tough Questions • Non-Verbal Communication • Responding to Conflict • Facilitating discussions free from judgments and personal belief systems • Navigating personal disclosure • Maintaining professional boundaries 		