



Rapid ART DAP Advisory Group

Role and Expectations for Participation



Initiative Background

Almost four decades after the start of the HIV epidemic, the new stream of funding under the Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America (EHE) initiatives represents a historic opportunity for the U.S. to reduce new HIV infections by 90% by 2030. Although this goal is ambitious, it is eminently achievable as powerfully effective tools and strategies exist to sharply and rapidly improve HIV outcomes. Hopes for ending the HIV epidemic depend in large measure on maximizing the prevention benefits of ART, which has been shown to reduce HIV transmission by as much as 96%. Gaps in linking people with HIV to ART and other medical care have important public health consequences. HHS Panel on Antiretroviral Guidelines for Adults and Adolescents recommends initiating ART immediately (or as soon as possible) after HIV diagnosis in order to increase the uptake of ART and linkage to care, decrease the time to viral suppression for individual patients, and improve the rate of virologic suppression among persons with HIV.*

THE GOAL OF THIS PROJECT

In September 2020, Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) funded CAI (Cicatelli Associates Inc.) in the capacity of Rapid ART Dissemination Assistance Provider (DAP). **The goal of DAP is to promote adoption of Rapid ART** by identifying and promoting dissemination and replication of the nation’s most effective and innovative models for providing Rapid ART services.

WHAT WILL THE ADVISORY GROUP DO?

The Rapid ART DAP Team – ensuring that each step of the project is informed by experts working directly to deliver, or provide oversight for Rapid ART services, or people with HIV who might receive Rapid ART services. Advisory Group members will inform efforts to build broad awareness and inspire action toward implementation and scale-up of effective models of Rapid ART models across the country.

ADVISORY GROUP RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Participate in up to 4 virtual meetings annually, including member orientation in May of 2021
- Inform activities to identify promising Rapid ART models currently being implemented across the nation
- Draw on experience in supporting implementation, or receipt of, Rapid ART services to share insights to inform the development of materials to promote broad implementation of promising Rapid ART service delivery models
- Inform the development of a communication plan to raise awareness about and inspire the implementation of Rapid ART services in clinical settings providing care to people who have HIV
- Support identification of Rapid ART champions, both consumers and professionals implementing Rapid ART in their settings, to support communication activities

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* <https://clinicalinfo.hiv.gov/en/guidelines/adult-and-adolescent-arv/initiation-antiretroviral-therapy>

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