**Cluster Detection and Response**

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) and local partners (community-based organizations and other health care providers) will be receiving outside training on HIV cluster detection and response in summer 2021. To prepare, Texas DSHS is collecting feedback from community members about their knowledge and concerns related to HIV cluster detection and response. Part of the training will focus on improving communication with community members, providers and partners, so your feedback will help customize the training to cover the topics that are the ones most important to your community. Thank you for your time and sharing your input!

**Background:**

“HIV cluster” is a group of people living with HIV whose HIV strain appear to be related; they can represent groups of rapid transmission. “HIV cluster response” is how health departments respond to these clusters. An unusually large cluster may also be called an “outbreak.” HIV clusters/outbreaks can be identified in two different ways:

A.      by providers in a clinical setting or health department staff in the field, OR   
B.      by the health department analyzing HIV genetic sequences. These sequences are part of HIV drug resistance testing routinely run by HIV medical providers. This method has also been called “molecular HIV surveillance.”

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Q1 Please choose your role (select all that apply):  

* Community-based Organization (CBO) staff
* Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) staff
* HIV Prevention Community Planning Group (CPG) member
* Ryan White Part A Planning Council (RWPC) member
* Texas HIV Syndicate Member
* State Health Department staff
* Local Health Department Staff
* Health Care Provider (nurse, physician, etc.)
* Other (Please specify)  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Q2 What images, thoughts, or themes come into your mind when you hear the term “HIV cluster response”? Is there a different way to refer to these activities that resonates more with you?

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Q3  Given what you know right now about HIV genetic sequence testing and HIV cluster/outbreak response, what is the greatest **benefit**?      *Note: If you feel you don’t know enough about what HIV genetic sequence testing or cluster response is to answer at this time, please write – "unable to answer" or "I don’t know enough about what HIV genetic sequence testing or cluster response is to answer”*

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Q4 Given what you know right now about HIV genetic sequence testing and HIV cluster/outbreak response, what is the biggest **drawback**?     *Note: If you feel you don’t know enough about what HIV genetic sequence testing or cluster response is to answer at this time, please write – "unable to answer” or “I don’t know enough about what HIV genetic sequence testing or cluster response is to answer”*

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Q5 Given what you know right now about HIV genetic sequence testing and HIV cluster/outbreak response, please share any **questions or concerns** you have about this HIV prevention activity. Please be as specific as possible:

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Q6 Please rank how confident you feel accurately describing the following:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Completely confident (1) | Somewhat confident (2) | Slightly confident (3) | Not confident at all (4) |
| The purpose of HIV cluster response to others (for example: clients, community members, peers, etc.) (1) |  |  |  |  |
| The process of HIV cluster response to others (for example: clients, community members, peers, etc.) (2) |  |  |  |  |

Q7  Please share any other thoughts or feedback you feel is important for the health department staff or trainers to know (optional):

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