AETC-NMC
AIDS Education and Training Center
National Multicultural Center
HOWARD UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

Case Study Adapted from Addressing HIV Care and Transgender Communities

Mary, a 33 year old Native America male to female transgender person, wants to look into services that you provide. She has not legally changed her name so her documents display her given male name Mark. She is new in transition, dresses in high heels and tight skirts. She produces facial hair (which is exposed). She looks to be very nervous, shy and does not look anyone in the eyes. Mary has been diagnosed HIV positive for three years and has just begun a relationship with Robert who is HIV negative.

Discussion Questions

1. How can the provider establish a sense of trust with the patient?

2. What can the provider do to gain a sense of Mary's knowledge about HIV, how it is contracted, and how it is treated?

3. What social support, if any, should Mary be offered?

4. How can the provider fulfill his/her ethical responsibility to Mary and her partner(s)?

5. Discuss other Cultural Competence issues that may impact retention into care and treatment