

Access to Healthcare for Precariously Insured People Living with HIV

A presentation for:

CANAC
CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF
NURSES IN HIV/AIDS CARE



Simran Kaur, RSW & Sarah Ionson, RN

May 26, 2023

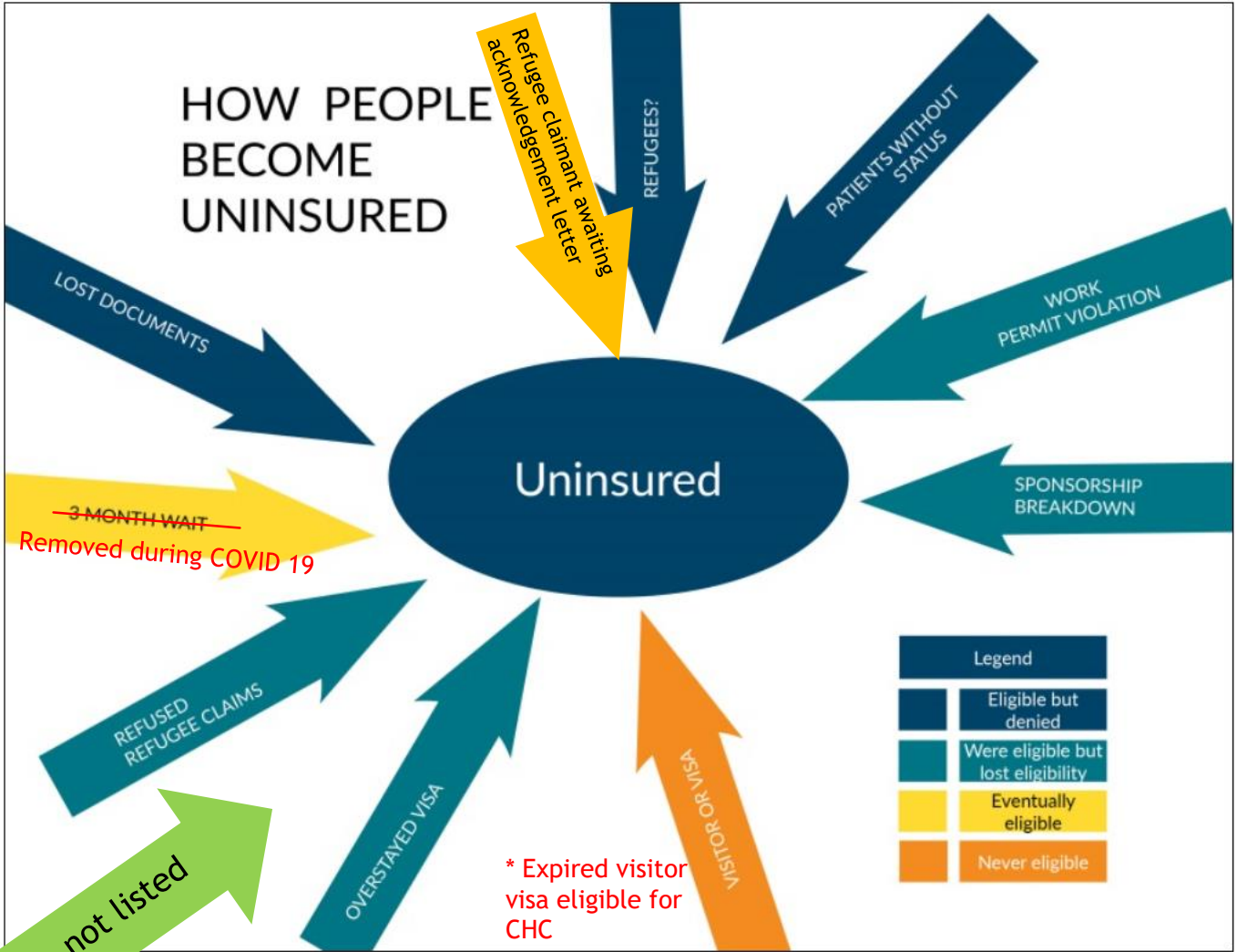


blue
door
clinic

Learning Objectives

1. To examine and analyze the level of access that individuals with precarious insurance have to healthcare, medication, social services, and related support systems
2. To identify ways by which a person transitions to identify as precariously insured
3. To understand the specific challenges and barriers faced by individuals living with HIV who have precarious insurance in accessing healthcare
4. Provide available tools/resources/ supports to increase local capacity to provide HIV primary care to precariously insured populations





How People Become Uninsured (Michaela Hynie)

Types of Immigration Applications common for our patient population

- ▶ **Study Permit** (6 months or less vs. more than 6 months)
- ▶ **Work Permits** (Employer Specific vs. Open vs. Post Graduate) & (Full time vs. Part time)
- ▶ **Permanent Resident/ Temporary Resident** applications (e.g. Express Entry for skilled workers, Family/ Spousal Sponsorship, many more)
- ▶ **Refugee Claim** (claim made at border vs. claim made after entry vs. claim made at IRCC or CBS office)
- ▶ **Humanitarian and Compassionate Claim** (H&C)
- ▶ **Visitor Visa** (valid- can be extended vs. expired)
- ▶ **Non-status** (e.g. any expired/ overstayed visa or rejected application where the person did not leave Canada)

*IRCC= Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada

*CBS= Canadian Border Security



Source: <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/immigration-citizenship.html>

Who are the precariously insured or Non-insured?

Status	Different groups	
With status but non-insured or precariously insured	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New immigrants or PR in 3 month OHIP waiting period • Migrant workers • international students 	
Status pending	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • applicants with pending inland sponsorship • humanitarian and compassionate applicants (H&C) • waiting to start application for status but not yet started 	
Between statuses or without status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitor visa • Temporary foreign workers between contracts • Students graduated but waiting for work visas • Rejected refugee claimants who are not deported • Those who lost sponsorship due to relationship breakdown • Those who lack ID to verify their status due to social situations (e.g. homelessness) 	

3 month waiting period for OHIP waived during COVID-19- for those who are OHIP eligible

What are the health care & treatment support gaps?

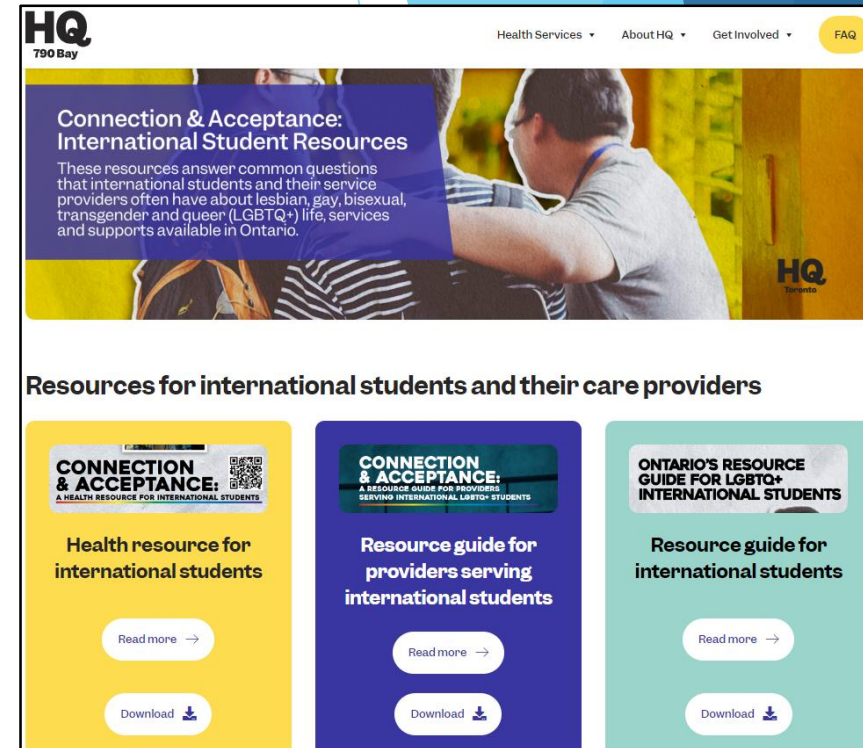
Status	Health care	Lab tests	Medication coverage	Social assistance
• New PR waiting for OHIP	None	None	None	None
• Migrant workers	Limited	Limited	None *	None
• international students	Limited	Limited	Minimal	None
• Sponsorship pending	None	None	None	None
• H&C applicants	Maybe	Maybe	Limited	Limited
• Application pending	None	None	None	None
• Visitor visa	Limited	Minimal	None	None
• Workers between contracts	None	None	None	None
• Graduates waiting for work visas	None	None	None	None
• Rejected refugee claimants	Maybe	Maybe	Maybe	Limited
• Sponsorship breakdown	Maybe	Maybe	Maybe	Limited
• Other Non-status	None	None	None	None

e.g. OW/ ODSP

3 month waiting period for OHIP waived during COVID-19- for those who are OHIP eligible

International Students

- ▶ Mandatory for most international students with a study permit
- ▶ Often does not cover chronic conditions such as HIV
- ▶ May not cover a pre-existing condition if previously HIV +
- ▶ Sometimes has a \$ amount limit, which is often used up quickly if applied towards cost of ARVs for treatment of HIV
- ▶ Some plans client pays first and is reimbursed later- financial barrier
- ▶ Fear that parents or school will find out HIV + status if they submit a claim
- ▶ May cover acute/ episodic care or hospital visit- sometimes need pre-approval for tests such as CT scan/ X-ray/ MRI
- ▶ Most students do not know what their student insurance covers- encourage them to request full policy information
- ▶ Some schools have on-campus student healthcare services



The screenshot shows the HQ Toronto website. The header includes the HQ logo (790 Bay) and navigation links for Health Services, About HQ, Get Involved, and FAQ. A main banner features a photo of two people talking, with a purple overlay containing the text: "Connection & Acceptance: International Student Resources. These resources answer common questions that international students and their service providers often have about lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ+) life, services and supports available in Ontario." Below the banner, a section titled "Resources for international students and their care providers" displays three resource cards. The first card is yellow and titled "CONNECTION & ACCEPTANCE: A HEALTH RESOURCE FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS", with a subtitle "Health resource for international students" and buttons for "Read more" and "Download". The second card is purple and titled "CONNECTION & ACCEPTANCE: A RESOURCE GUIDE FOR PROVIDERS SERVING INTERNATIONAL LGBTQ+ STUDENTS", with a subtitle "Resource guide for providers serving international students" and buttons for "Read more" and "Download". The third card is light green and titled "ONTARIO'S RESOURCE GUIDE FOR LGBTQ+ INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS", with a subtitle "Resource guide for international students" and buttons for "Read more" and "Download".



HQ Resource Guides for International Students: <https://hqtoronto.ca/international-student-resources/>

Work Permits

- ▶ Full-time work permit of at least 6 months PLUS proof of full-time employment = **OHIP eligible**
- ▶ No longer a 3 month OHIP waiting period
- ▶ Working full-time hours but contract is part-time = **NOT** eligible for OHIP
- ▶ Cash jobs not applicable (many precariously insured clients work cash based jobs)
- ▶ Types of work permits- Employer Specific, Open, Post-Graduate, Study/ Work permit

Permanent Residents

- ▶ Also eligible for OHIP once PR received
- ▶ Pending PR applicants (such as sponsorships) may be eligible for health care at Community Health Centre
- ▶ Refugee claimants once approved have up to 3 months to apply for OHIP before IFH expires



[Home](#) > [Health and wellness](#) > [Health cards, eligibility and coverage](#)

Apply for OHIP and get a health card

The Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) pays for many health services you may need. Here's how to apply for OHIP and get a health card.



[Download Registration for Ontario Health Insurance Coverage form](#)

There is no longer a waiting period for OHIP coverage. If you are eligible, you will have immediate health insurance coverage. Find out if you qualify.

On this page


1. [Health care in Ontario](#)
2. [What's covered](#)
3. [Who qualifies](#)
4. [Emergency authorizations granted for humanitarian reasons](#)
5. [How to apply](#)
6. [Reapplying for OHIP](#)
7. [OHIP for babies](#)
8. [OHIP for adopted children](#)
9. [OHIP for military family members](#)
10. [Visitors to Ontario](#)
11. [Requesting a review](#)

IFHP/ IFH (Interim Federal Health Program)

- ▶ If refugee claim made at port of entry IFH coverage= usually immediate
- ▶ If refugee claim made after arriving -waiting period for IFH = 1-3 months
- ▶ Some other immigration statuses are eligible to apply for IFH separately and are approved on a case-by-case basis (e.g. H&C)
- ▶ Do not need to wait for “brown paper” with photo, can use UCI # located on the top of “Letter of Acknowledgement of Claim”
- ▶ Some healthcare providers do not accept IFH as it requires a separate billing process
- ▶ For clients in need of expedited UCI# can email IRCC at IRCC.IFHP-PFSI.IRCC@cic.gc.ca and request “Acknowledgement of Refugee Claim and confirmation of IFH”



Source: <https://irb.gc.ca/en/applying-refugee-protection/Pages/index.aspx>
PWA Intake Process: <https://www.pwatoronto.org/become-a-client/>



Government of Canada / Gouvernement du Canada

UCI:
Application Number:

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CLAIM AND NOTICE TO RETURN FOR INTERVIEW

Family Name:
Given Name:
Date of Birth: YYYY/MM/DD

This notice acknowledges that the Government of Canada received your **refugee claim** on YYYY/MM/DD.

You are now eligible for health care coverage under the Interim Federal Health Program (IFHP). You are required to undergo an Immigration Medical Examination as part of your refugee claim. The IFHP will cover the cost of this examination. Please present this notice and your IMM 1017 form to the panel physician at your appointment.

You are required to return for an interview with respect to your refugee claim. The details are as follows:

Date:
Time:
Address:

You must bring the following with you:

- This original appointment letter
- 4 original passport-sized photographs

If you are under 18 years of age, you must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian if he or she resides in Canada.

IMPORTANT:
If you do not appear for your interview, your IFHP coverage may be terminated. In addition, your refugee claim may subsequently be determined to have been abandoned in which case you will be subject to removal from Canada.

Note – If you pay for any medical services or products, you will not be reimbursed.

Health care providers in Canada **MUST** verify the eligibility of the individual with the IFHP claims administrator, Medavie Blue Cross, before providing services. Medavie Blue Cross may be contacted by telephone at 1-888-614-1880, by facsimile at 506-867-4651 or through their website at <https://www.medaviebc.ca/en/health-professionals>.

Canada

IMM 5985 (10-2019) E GCM5

IFHP/ IFH

(Interim Federal Health Program)

Basic coverage

(similar to health-care coverage from provincial or territorial health insurance plans)

- in-patient and out-patient hospital services
- services from medical doctors, registered nurses and other health-care professionals licensed in Canada, including pre- and post-natal care laboratory, diagnostic and ambulance services

Supplemental coverage

(similar to the coverage given to social assistance recipients by provincial and territorial governments)

- limited vision and urgent dental care
- home care and long-term care
- services from allied health-care practitioners: **psychotherapists, counselling therapists**, occupational therapists, speech language therapists, physiotherapists
- assistive devices, medical supplies and equipment:
 - orthopedic and prosthetic equipment
 - mobility aids
 - hearing aids
 - diabetic supplies
 - incontinence supplies
 - oxygen equipment

List of IFHP providers across Ontario: <https://ifhp-pfsi.medavie.bluecross.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/7/2022/01/PE-2021-12-17.pdf>
IFHP Benefits Summary: <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/refugees/help-within-canada/health-care/interim-federal-health-program/coverage-summary.html>

Prescription drug coverage

(similar to the coverage provinces and territories give to social assistance recipients)

- prescription medications and other products listed on provincial/territorial public drug plan formularies

Coverage for the Immigration Medical Exam (IME)

All beneficiaries are covered for **one IME** and any necessary IME-related diagnostic tests.

**The benefits covered by the IFHP have certain limits including maximum dollar amounts.*

HIV and impacts on income/ housing opportunities

- ▶ HIV + clients on IFH are eligible for Ontario Works (OW) AND Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) - most newcomers meet financial eligibility criteria for both social assistance programs
- ▶ HIV + automatically eligible for ODSP and straightforward ODSP application (only medical documentation required is positive HIV lab result) as HIV is currently an eligible disability in Ontario
- ▶ expedited ODSP application approval (6-8 weeks) through AIDS Service Organization- Toronto People With AIDS Foundation (PWA) rather than 6-8 month wait-time for other disabilities- *must live in M postal code*
- ▶ Additional housing pathways, coordinated housing applications, specialized housing organizations serving people living with HIV (Fife House, LOFT/ McEwan)
- ▶ Additional benefits may apply – Special Diet Allowance through ODSP, Terminally Ill Priority Housing Application etc.



The Newcomer Experience

– Living with HIV in Toronto

- ▶ Precarious housing- shared living /roommates, couch surfing, hotels, Air BnBs, shelter system
- ▶ Language and cultural barriers
- ▶ Stigma around HIV and disclosure
- ▶ Limited health insurance and drug coverage
- ▶ Limited knowledge of available services & how to navigate systems
- ▶ Isolation and separation from family and/or friends
- ▶ Fear and distrust of government and health care system
- ▶ Financial strain- limited entitlement to work/ cash jobs, precarious employment, dangerous working conditions, minimal workers rights and limited recourse for abusive employers
- ▶ Mental health challenges- serious traumatic experiences in country of origin, fleeing war, conflict and persecution- homophobia, transphobia
- ▶ 2SLGBTQIA+ - may be coming out/living authentically for the first time, can be a time of vulnerability due to limited experience & agency navigating queer relationships, target for coercion/ abuse, vulnerable to harmful relationship dynamics from partners with more social power/ privilege
- ▶ Limited understanding of context of sexual culture and recreational drug use, at risk to experiment with drugs without full knowledge or consent of substances





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Bulletin 230305 — Physician and Hospital Services for Uninsured Persons Ending

On this page

1. March 31, 2023 is the end date for the temporary Physician and Hospital Services for Uninsured Persons (PHSUP) pandemic response funding.	4. Patients without an OHIP card
2. Physician and Hospital Services for Uninsured Persons (PHSUP) funding ends March 31, 2023	5. Important billing timelines
3. COVID-19 vaccination for uninsured persons	6. Questions about Physician and Hospital Services for Uninsured Persons (PHSUP)
	7. Keywords/Tags
	8. Contact information

March 31, 2023 is the end date for the temporary Physician and Hospital Services for Uninsured Persons (PHSUP) pandemic response funding.

To: All Physicians
Category: Physician Services
Written by: Health Insurance Branch, Health Programs Delivery Division
Date issued: March 29, 2023



Source: <https://www.ontario.ca/document/ohip-infobulletins-2023/bulletin-230305-physician-and-hospital-services-uninsured-persons#>

UNINSURED PATIENTS

Inpatient fees (for staying in the hospital per day)

- **Standard ward:** \$2800.00
- **Newborn:** \$1650.00
- **Intensive care:** \$4500.00

Outpatient fees (per visit)

- **Ambulance:** \$240.00
- **Emergency visit:** \$720.00*
- **Outpatient clinic:** \$640.00
- **Dialysis:** \$992.00
- **Lab:** \$125.00**
- **Diagnostic imaging test clinic:** \$400.00 + 2

*OHIP rate

Please note that uninsured patients may be required to place a deposit with the hospital prior to service delivery. All uninsured patients will also receive a separate bill for physician's care.

Source: <https://www.shn.ca/patients-visitors/hospital-fees/>

Source: <https://www.qch.on.ca/UninsuredandNon-residentFees>



Hospital Fees for Patients without Canadian Provincial or Federal Health Insurance

For Uninsured Residents of Canada and Non-Residents of Canada

Effective April 1, 2021

Hospital Outpatient Fees:

Outpatient visit (Hospital appointments, each)

Uninsured resident of Canada \$302

Non-resident of Canada \$930

Emergency visit (each visit)

Uninsured resident of Canada \$302

Non-resident of Canada \$930

Other fees In Addition to Outpatient Visit fees:

Day Surgery (plus Hospital visit fee)

Uninsured resident of Canada:

- Low: \$850
- Medium: \$3,126
- High: \$13,160

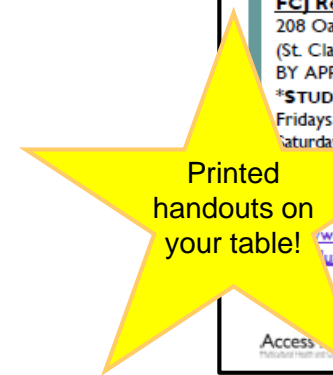
Non-resident of Canada:

- Low: \$3,495
- Medium: \$3,495
- High: \$13,160

Healthcare services for precariously insured

1. Free medical clinics for episodic, non-emergency care

- ▶ Only certain locations will accept visitors or students
- ▶ Please verify eligibility/ availability directly with each clinic due to changes post COVID-19
- ▶ Many clinics are by appointment only



LAST UPDATED: SEPTEMBER 17, 2018

Free Medical Clinics in the Greater Toronto Area for Uninsured Clients

Toronto	Mississauga and Scarborough
<p>The West End Non-Insured Walk-In Clinic (NIWIC) Access Point on Jane 761 Jane St. 2nd Floor (Jane & Woolner) DROP-IN ONLY, no appointments *NO VISITORS OR STUDENTS SEEN* Monday & Thursday 4:00 pm - 7:30 pm Nurse-led clinic. Midwife available on Thursdays. Phone: 416-760-2810 Fax: 416-760-2811 http://accessalliance.ca/programs-services/primary-health-care/walk-in-clinic/</p> <p>Queen West-Central Toronto Community Health Centre 168 Bathurst St. Toronto (Queen & Bathurst) (1) Same Day Clinic for People In Need (PINC) DROP-IN ONLY, no appointments Priority on Homeless, Youth and Uninsured *NO VISITORS OR STUDENTS SEEN* Monday & Wednesday : 1:00-3:00pm. Doctors, nurses, counsellors available. Phone: 416-703-8482 Ext. 2100 http://www.ctchc.com/ (2) IMAGINE Health Clinic (Run by University of Toronto Health Care Professional Students) DROP-IN ONLY, no appointments *STUDENTS AND VISITORS ACCEPTED* No diagnostic tests ordered or specialist referrals Saturday: 10:00-2:00pm Please ring the door bell. http://imagine-clinic.squarespace.com/clinic/</p> <p>FCJ Refugee Centre 208 Oakwood Avenue, Toronto (St. Clair & Oakwood) BY APPOINTMENT ONLY (No Walk-Ins) *STUDENTS AND VISITORS ACCEPTED* Fridays 1:00 pm –5:00 pm and Saturdays 9:00 am - 1:00 pm (except long weekends) Counsellors available. Phone: 416-9754 Ext. 230 Fax: 416-975-4690 www.fcjrefugeecentre.org/our-programs/for-refugees/health-clinic/</p>	<p>The Canadian Centre for Refugee and Immigrant Health Care 4158 Sheppard Avenue East, Scarborough (between Midland Ave. & Kennedy Rd.) *STUDENTS ACCEPTED* Phone: 647-267-2176 Fax: 647-493-3121 https://www.healthequity.ca/ (1) Community Volunteer Clinic (The CVC) DROP-IN ONLY, no appointments Family doctors and nurses available Tuesday & Thursday: 5:00-8:00pm (last client seen at 7:30) (2) SWAN Clinic Provides Women's Health Check-Ups BY APPOINTMENT ONLY (No Walk-Ins) Call 647-267-2176 Ext. 3 One Wednesday a month 4:00-7:00pm</p> <p>Muslim Welfare Centre Free Medical Clinics (two clinic locations) *STUDENTS, VISITORS, REFUGEES & NEW IMMIGRANTS ACCEPTED* https://www.muslimwelfarecentre.com/causes/free-clinic/ Email: freeclinic@muslimwelfarecentre.com BY APPOINTMENT ONLY (No Walk-Ins) - Call 647-641-1027 to book appointments:</p> <p>(1) Scarborough Location: 100 McLevin Avenue, Unit 2A Scarborough (Markham Rd. & McLevin)</p> <p>(2) Mississauga Location: 780 Burnhamthorpe Road West, Unit 4 Mississauga (Mavis & Burnhamthorpe)</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"><p>Tips for Uninsured Persons Needing Medical Care:</p><ul style="list-style-type: none">⇒ Confirm eligibility & service information in this handout by contacting each clinic directly⇒ Bring a list of your current medications & medical records if you have any⇒ These clinics are for "episodic care" — medical care for specific health problems without ongoing follow-up⇒ Contact your local Community Health Centre (CHC) to ask about getting a primary care provider (family doctor or nurse practitioner). CHCs serve people who are uninsured.</div>

Printed handouts on your table!

Compiled by the Access Alliance Multicultural Health and Community Services Health with Dignity Program.
<http://accessalliance.ca/health-with-dignity/>



PRIMARY CARE & MENTAL HEALTH CLINIC

We are providing appointments on a virtual care mode or via phone as need

ONLY BY APPOINTMENT:

Eli Ibarra
 eli.ibarra@fcjrefugeecentre.org
 by phone : 416-469-9754

208 OAKWOOD AVE.
 TORONTO ON
 www.fcjrefugeecentre.org



IMAGINE Clinic is now open for in-person visits, no appointment required.


Virtual appointments will continue to run.

Our clinic is located at **168 Bathurst St, Toronto**. We are open every **Saturday from 10 AM to 2 PM** (except holidays and long weekends).

[Book Appointment >](#)

[About Our Clinic >](#)

For any medical emergencies, please call 9-1-1 or visit your closest emergency department.

The Non-Insured Walk-in Clinic (NIWIC)

What can a person expect at the NIWIC?

The NIWIC offers timely, confidential primary care and support at no charge. We offer a combination of walk-in and appointment-only service. The NIWIC is a welcoming space for non-status residents of Toronto.

NIWIC services include:

- Primary care and support
- Referral to other health care providers/specialists, if required
- Midwives for prenatal care
- Health coaching and peer support
- Interpretation available as needed

Who can use the NIWIC?

You can use the NIWIC if you:

- Are a resident of Toronto, and
- Do not have a family doctor, and
- Do not have current coverage under the Ontario Health Insurance Program (OHIP), Interim Federal Health Program (IFHP), or Ontario Temporary Health Program (OTHP) or private health insurance

You cannot use the NIWIC if you are:

- On vacation
- A tourist
- An official visa holder

Please bring a list of your medications and any medical records.


When is the NIWIC open?

Walk-in clinic, no appointment required	Mondays & Thursdays: 12:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. • Midwife services available Thursdays: 12 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. •
Call ahead to book: Appointments can only be booked by clients who have visited our walk-in clinic at least once.	Tuesdays: 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Wednesdays: 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Fridays: 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The NIWIC is closed on statutory holidays.

Where is the NIWIC located?

AccessPoint on Jane, 761 Jane Street (2nd Floor)
 Toronto, ON M6N 4B4 | 416-760-8677
 (Jane St & Woolner Ave is the closest major intersection.)

Scan for Google map 

New Beginnings for Newcomers | Access Alliance

Source: <https://www.fcjrefugeecentre.org/our-programs/settlement-programs/health-clinic/>
Link: <https://www.imagineclinic.ca/>
Link: <https://accessalliance.ca/programs-services/primary-health-care-services/non-insured-walk-in-clinic/>

SWAN

Scarborough Women Need & Assessment

Community Volunteer Clinic

Around the world the numbers of women and girls forced from their homelands fleeing violence and crushing poverty has grown into an overwhelming, worldwide humanitarian crisis. Women and girls are fleeing violence and crushing poverty in every part of the world. Their numbers are staggering.

Journeys are arduous and treacherous. Women are the main economic providers for their families.



FREE MEDICAL CLINICS FOR THE UNINSURED

+ DONATE NOW

Free Medical Clinics for the Uninsured



Community Volunteer Clinic provide free primary care for all uninsured, including UNHCR protected refugees and refugee claimants, on Monday and Thursday evenings, nurses, physicians, and medical care. No proof of health insurance is required. Thanks to your and other support, the clinics are able to provide care before arriving.



Healthcare services for precariously insured

2. Virtual emergency room services are available online through University Health Network Hospitals and Sunnybrook Hospital. No health card required, translation services available.

- ▶ Patient must be located in Ontario at time of virtual appointment.
- ▶ Booking for virtual Toronto emergency room visits opens daily at 7 a.m. for same-day appointments.
- ▶ Visit <https://www.torontovirtualed.ca/>



Welcome to
Toronto's Virtual Emergency Department



Toronto's Virtual
Emergency Department

Toronto's Virtual Emergency Department offers online urgent care services from emergency doctors across Toronto. Same-day appointments available seven days a week.

Participating Sites



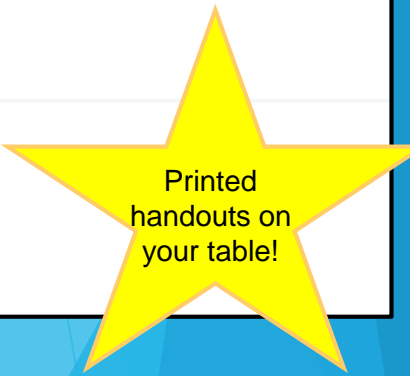
Jump To:

- [Who can use this service?](#)
- [When should I visit an Emergency Department in person?](#)
- [When are virtual ED visits available?](#)
- [What can I expect at the virtual ED visit?](#)
- [What do I need for my virtual visit?](#)
- [How do I book?](#)

Who can use this service?

You can book a virtual ED visit if you:

- Cannot make an urgent appointment with a family doctor or nurse practitioner
- Have an urgent medical problem that is **not life threatening**
- Are physically located in Ontario at the time of the appointment



Healthcare services for precariously insured

3. Sexual Health Clinics offer free testing and treatment for Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) for non-insured people.

- ▶ **Toronto Sexual Health Clinics:** <https://www.toronto.ca/community-people/health-wellness-care/health-clinics/sexual-health-clinics/>
- ▶ **Peel Sexual Health Clinics:** <https://www.peelregion.ca/health/sexuality/clinics/cli-locations.htm>
- ▶ **York Region Sexual Health Clinics:** <https://www.york.ca/health/sexual-health/sexual-health-clinics>
- ▶ **Durham Region Sexual Health Clinics:** <https://www.durham.ca/en/health-and-wellness/sexual-health.aspx#Clinic-locations-and-hours>

4. Most Community Health Centres (CHCs) will accept clients once visitor visa is expired.

Find a CHC: <https://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/common/system/services/chc/locations.aspx>

List of Community Health Centres:

<https://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/common/system/services/chc/locations.aspx>



Community Health Centres (CHCs)

- ▶ **CHCs** are non-profit organizations that provide primary health in combination with health promotion & illness prevention services
- ▶ They provide a multidisciplinary approach to health and well being
- ▶ They serve people most at risk for poor health outcomes e.g. low income individuals, newcomers, people with mental health issues etc.
- ▶ Eligibility criteria usually catchment area (sometimes expanded catchments for NFA or HIV+)
- ▶ They provide services to:
 - ▶ People in the federal refugee process
 - ▶ Clients who identify as homeless and have no access to OHIP/ID
 - ▶ Clients who reside in Ontario; however due to their immigration status are non-insured or undocumented
 - ▶ Temporary foreign workers without healthcare coverage
 - ▶ Clients with expired visitor visas



Healthcare services for precariously insured

5. Visit the [Health Network for Uninsured Clients](https://www.hnuc.org) website for more information about other healthcare services such as:

- ▶ pregnancy/ midwifery care
- ▶ abortion care
- ▶ mental health/ counselling
- ▶ dental care
- ▶ optometry
- ▶ intimate partner violence
- ▶ immunizations
- ▶ tuberculosis



Health Network for Uninsured Clients: <https://www.hnuc.org/healthcare-services>



Precariously Insured Resources

General

- [Access Alliance](#)
- [Settlement.org](#)
- [Steps to Justice](#)
- [CLEO \(Community Legal Education Ontario\)](#)
- FCJ Refugee Centre <https://www.fcjrefugeecentre.org/>
- Migrant Workers Alliance for Change <https://migrantworkersalliance.org/>
- Butterfly Asian and Migrant Sex Workers Support Network <https://www.butterflysw.org/>
- Workers' Action Centre <https://workersactioncentre.org/>
- Canadian Centre for Victims of Torture <https://ccvt.org/>
- The Canadian Centre for Refugee & Immigrant Health Care <https://www.healthequity.ca/>
- The Caregivers' Action Centre (CAC) <https://www.caregiversactioncentre.org/>
- [Centre for Spanish Speaking Peoples- Newcomer Settlement Program](#)
- [Low Cost Dental Care in Toronto](#)

HIV specific

- Ontario HIV Directory for Newcomers <https://helloontario.info/>
- HALCO- HIV & AIDS Legal Clinic Ontario <https://www.halco.org/>
- Blue Door Clinic- <https://www.bluedoorclinic.org/>
- Latinos Positivos- Settlement Support <https://www.latinospositivos.ca/english/index.html>
- Black CAP- Refugee Settlement Coordinator <https://blackcap.ca/programs-services/refugee-settlement-program/>
- Ethno-specific ASO programs: [APPA](#), [ASAAP](#), [ACAS](#), [Centre Francophone](#)



Blue Door Clinic: <https://www.bluedoorclinic.org/>

Blue Door Clinic is located on the 2nd floor of Regent Park Community Health Centre
Open every Monday 9:30am-12:30pm

- HIV primary care clinic for precariously insured persons living in the GTA
- 4-10 clients seen per week with additional nursing follow up visits in between clinics
- both newly diagnosed HIV+ clients and follow-up appointments
- clients receive care from multidisciplinary team (case manager, registered nurse, doctor/nurse practitioner, peer worker etc.).



Our Purpose:

- Response to the growing reality that many individuals living in GTA, diagnosed with HIV have limited or no health insurance to secure the treatment/ testing now considered standards of care in Ontario
- Since 2017, service providers in Toronto reported an increase in this population and the need for service
- For example, Hassle Free Clinic, the largest provider of HIV testing services in Toronto, reported 40% of clients testing HIV-positive in 2017 had inadequate health insurance or **no coverage at all** including many people here as international students, people with visitor visas, work permits etc.



Our History:

- In August 2019, The Blue Door Clinic opened for service at Regent Park Community Health Centre after a year of collaborative planning (and years of dreaming) amongst a group of community health providers, HIV service organizations and HIV activists with lived experiences.
- The group conducted community needs assessments and focus groups with affected community members to co-develop the clinic service model.
- 10 community agencies and groups came together and developed the Blue Door Clinic, with the goal of supporting People living with HIV & AIDS (PHAs) with limited or no health insurance.
- Partner agencies meet monthly as a Steering Committee and commit to contributing in-kind support such as physician/ nursing staffing support, administrative support, IT support, office space, human resources infrastructure etc.
- Other funding sourced through community donations, grant applications etc.



Our Community Partners:



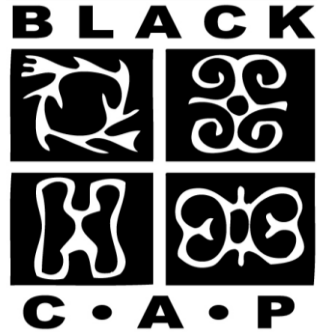
sherbourne **HEALTH**



CSSP Centre for Spanish Speaking Peoples
CGHH Centro para Gente de Habla Hispana



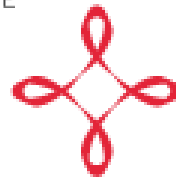
Hassle Free Clinic



REGENT PARK
COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE



**PARKDALE
QUEEN WEST**
Community
Health Centre



**ONTARIO
HIV TREATMENT
NETWORK**



**CASEY
HOUSE**



**ONTARIO
LATINOS
POSITIVOS**



**THE
PrEP Clinic**

Our Clients:

- provided HIV primary care to **250+ people** since opening August 2019
- currently providing care to **120+ active patients**
- face unique challenges and **many intersections of marginalization**
- 40 + different countries of origin
- 33% **newly diagnosed** with HIV
- 10% have **advanced untreated HIV/AIDS**



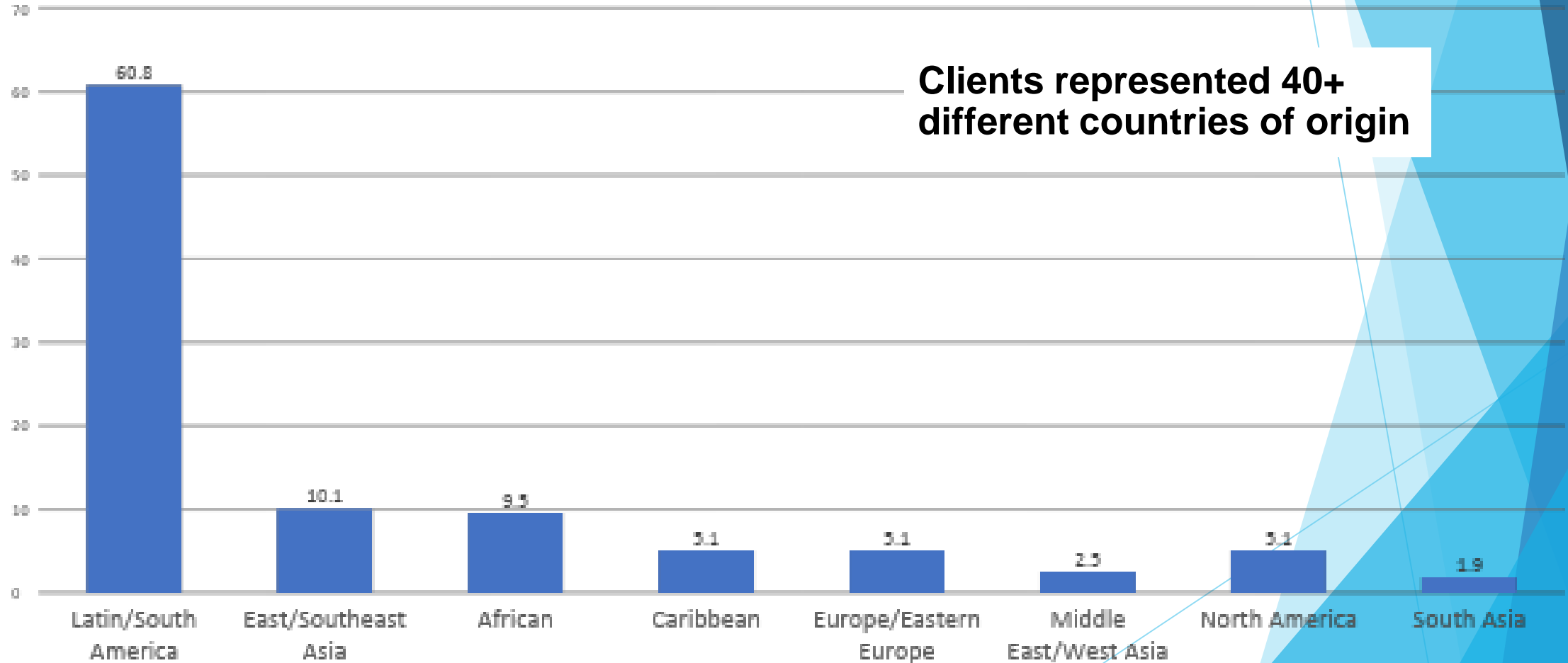
Client Demographics

N = 159

* data from Sept 2019 - June 2022

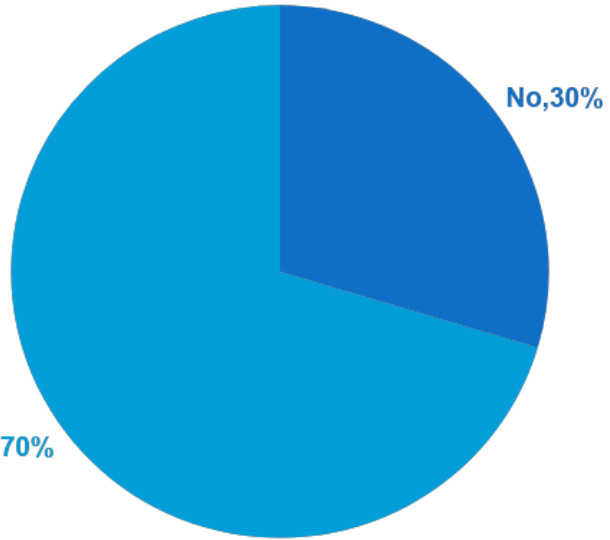
Age (Mean, SD)	33.87 , 8.56		
Gender		Racial group	
Male	142 (89.3)	Black / African Caribbean	25 (15.7)
Female	14 (8.8)	Asian	22 (13.8)
Transgender	3 (1.9)	Latinx	102 (64.2)
Sexual orientation		White/Caucasian	10 (6.3)
Gay	125 (78.6)		
Bisexual	13 (8.2)		
Straight	21 (13.2)		
Immigration status		Prefer language use with providers	
No official status	18 (11.3)	English	62 (39.0)
Work permit	10 (6.3)	Spanish	73 (45.9)
Student visa	34 (21.4)	Portuguese	16 (10.1)
Visitor visa	90 (56.6)	Chinese (Mandarin + Cantonese)	6 (3.8)
Pending PR/PR	4 (2.5)	Other Languages	2 (1.2)
Naturalized Citizenship	3 (1.9)		

Countries of Origin

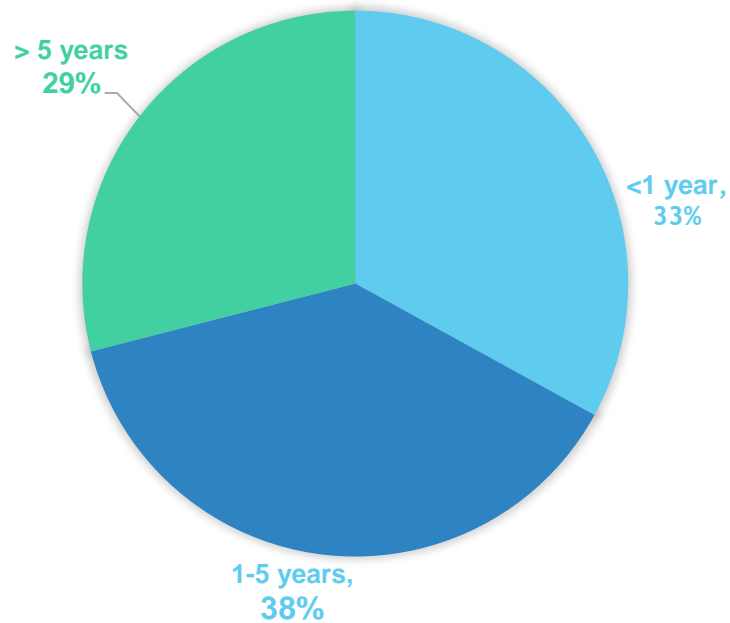


Accessing Care & Medication at Intake

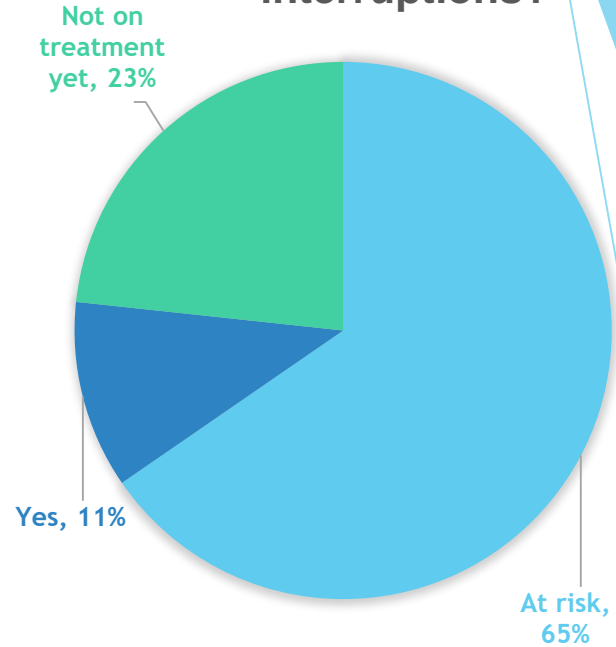
On HIV treatment at intake?



When did you receive your HIV diagnosis?



HIV treatment interruptions?



How it works...

Referral received from community partner/ sexual health clinic/ ASO/ word of mouth etc.

Telephone intake call & eligibility reassessment with Case Manager



Triaged/ referred out if possible/ meds bridged by community partners (The PrEP Clinic/ Street Health)/ wait-listed for in-person appointment



Street Health
Together We Can Make It Work

Weekly in-person clinics by appointment (booking 2-3 months in advance)



Provider time donated in-kind by partner agencies including peer interpreters (Spanish & Portuguese)



In-person appointment (first time appt vs. follow up appt)
Client sees 3 providers- Case Manager, Prescriber (MD/NP) and RN



Service delivery = full HIV care and primary health care assessment, lab testing, diagnostics, vaccines, treatment initiation, medication access, TB skin test, referrals, psychosocial case management, counselling, referral to specialists etc.

Follow up between appointments- immunizations, new acute health issues, injuries, STIs, COVID, Mpox, TB skin test readings, advocacy letters for lawyers, engagement in care letters for Immigration Medical Exam (IME), ODSP/ Special Diet/ Medication Transportation Forms, WSIB forms, legal/ settlement/ housing/ immigration case management, mental health crisis, medication access etc.

Re-referral if status lost



Referral for ongoing care when eligible (e.g. OHIP/ IFH/ expired visitor visa)
Case manager reviews options for accepting providers, initiates referral, record transfer/ warm handover, retention follow up



Clinic Services = **HIV PRIMARY CARE**

- HIV Primary care = family medicine + HIV specialist care
- health assessments provided by a doctor/ nurse practitioner
- treatment for HIV and other health conditions
- laboratory testing and coverage of laboratory fees
- immunizations
- connection to medication access programs
- referral to specialists, if needed
- referral to community supports (e.g. housing, legal, settlement etc.)
- referral to ongoing healthcare when eligible

All services FREE and confidential



Primary Care Needs

- Holistic primary care:
 - mental health support
 - case management support
 - support related to social determinants of health
 - psychosocial support
 - legal/immigration/ settlement/ housing support
- HIV care that recognizes compounded barriers
- Non-HIV medical conditions:
 - **75%** **mental health care** related to PTSD, trauma, depression, anxiety, addiction, ADHD, new HIV diagnosis etc.
 - **30-40%** need **medication** for depression, ADHD or other mental health issues
 - **25-30%** **chronic conditions** (e.g. hypertension, diabetes, lipid reduction agents)
 - **10-15%** referrals to non-infectious disease **specialists** (Oncology, Dermatology, GI, Endocrine, Ophthalmology etc.)



HIV Primary Care Baseline Testing

- Random Glucose
 - Creatinine (eGFR)
 - Sodium
 - Potassium
 - ALT, AST
 - Alk Phosphatase
 - Bilirubin
 - Lipid Assessment
 - CBC
 - G6PD (glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase)
 - Hb A1C
 - Urinalysis
- [General Ministry of Health and Long Term Care Laboratory Requisition](#)

- Syphilis serology
- Varicella & MMR Immunity
- Cytomegalovirus serology
- Schistosomiasis serology
- Strongyloides serology
- Toxoplasmosis serology
- Hepatitis A serology
- Hepatitis C serology
- Hepatitis B Surface Antibody/ Surface Antigen/ Core Antibody serology
- Gonorrhea/ Chlamydia swabs (rectal/ throat), urine

[Public Health Laboratory Ontario General Requisition](#)

- HIV Viral Load
[Public Health Laboratory Ontario HIV Viral Load Requisition](#)
- Absolute CD4, CD8 Count and CD4/ CD8 ratio
[Life Labs Flow Cytometry Requisition](#)
- HIV Genotyping, Resistance, Tropism and HLA-B*57:01 Abacavir Hypersensitivity Testing (select HIV Drug Resistance Testing, Integrase Resistance Testing & HLA-B*5701)
[Public Health Ontario Laboratory HIV Genotyping, Resistance, Tropism, and HLAB*57:01 Abacavir Hypersensitivity Testing Requisition](#)



HIV Primary Care Immunizations

Tdap- IPV 0 months _____
(Adacel/ Adacel- Polio IM)
Td-IPV 2 months later after Tdap-IPV _____
(Td ADSORBED IM 6-12 months later _____
PLUS + Imovax Polio SQ)

MMR Required: CD4 >200 cells/ml and CD4 >15%
(Priorix SQ 0 months _____
or M-M-R II SQ) 4 weeks later _____

Varicella Required: CD4 >200 cells/ml and CD4 >15%
(VARIVAX III SQ 0 months _____
or VARILRIX SQ) 4 weeks later _____

*The combination measles, mumps, rubella, and varicella (MMRV) vaccine has NOT been studied in immunocompromised hosts and should NOT be administered to people living with HIV

Hepatitis A 0 months _____
(HAVRIX 1400 IM 6 months later _____
or AVAXIM IM
or VAQTA IM)

Hepatitis B
(Double dose of 20 mcg Engerix IM = 40 mcg OR dialysis formulation Recombivax 40 mcg IM)
0 months _____
1 month later _____
5 months later _____
Titre in 1 month; If no response, repeat series
After repeat series, check titre in 1 month
If no response, consider non-responder and susceptible

Pneumococcal-C-13
(Pneum IM) 0 months _____
*Alternatively, if Pneu-P-23 has already been received, Pneu-C-13 should be given ≥1 year after the last dose of Pneu-P-23

Pneumococcal-P-23 If eligible for Prevnar, give Prevnar first
(Pneumovax IM) 0 months OR 8 weeks after Prevnar _____
Booster every 5 years

*PCV-13 (Prevnar 13) vaccine and Men ACWY-D (Menactra) vaccine should **NOT** be administered simultaneously to persons with functio
When both Prevnar 13 and Menactra are indicated, Prevnar 13 should be administered first, followed by Menactra at least 4 weeks later.

Meningococcal (Men C ACYW)
(Nimenrix IM 0 months _____
or Menactra IM 2 months later _____
or MENVEO IM) Booster every 5 years until age 55
One lifetime booster after age 56 may be given ≥5 years after last dose

HPV 0 months _____
(Gardasil 9 IM) 2 months later _____
4 months later _____

Herpes Zoster Eligible at age 50, covered at age 65, avoid Zostavax (live)
(Shingrix IM) 0 months _____
2-6 months later _____

Coronavirus (COVID-19)
1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Seasonal Influenza Avoid live attenuated
Annual _____

Mpox For the Purposes of Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP)
(Imvamune SQ) 1. _____
2. _____ (2nd dose at least 28 days later)

*Individuals who have been a confirmed case of Mpox in the current outbreak are **NOT** recommended to receive the Mpox vaccine at this time (as of Aug 29,

*For the Purposes of Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP), a single dose of the vaccine should be offered ideally within 4 days (up to 14 days) from the date of



HIV Patient Support Programs ("Drug Cards")

Pharmaceutical company ViiV covers the cost (for eligible clients) for HIV medications:

- ▶ **Triumeq, Tivicay, Trizivir, Viracept, Retrovir, Telzir, Celsentri, Ziagen, Dovato**
- ▶ ViiV Patient Support Program: <https://www.viivsupports.ca/>.
- ▶ Call 1-855-525-5300 (Monday to Friday, 8 am-8 pm EST)



Pharmaceutical company Gilead covers the cost (for eligible clients) for HIV medications:

- ▶ **Biktarvy, Complera, Descovy, Genvoya, Odefsey, Striblid**
- ▶ Gilead Patient Support Program: <https://mymaxsupport.ca/>.
- ▶ Call 1-855-711-4MAX (4629) between 8 am and 8 pm EST Monday to Friday.



Clients should call the Patient Support Program phone numbers rather than applying online. Cards can be ready to use within 2 hours of activation. Clients may be asked questions about their employment, immigration status etc. These questions are confidential, and are asked in order to assess people's financial eligibility. People without immigration status are eligible to apply.

Sometimes the client will not be offered 100% drug coverage. If this happens, advise the client to advocate for 100% drug coverage due to their financial situation. The Patient Support Programs will usually grant 100% coverage if asked. Most pharmacies require a Canadian prescription. Most pharmacies will NOT accept a prescription from another country.

Referrals to services at discharge

N = 159
* data from Sept 2019 - June 2022

N = 159	N(%)
Have you been referred to other community-based organizations?	
Yes	152 (95.6%)
No	7 (4.4%)
If yes, Types of Referrals (Check all that apply)	
Mainstream ASO	140 (92.1%)
Ethno-ASO/ Peer network	125 (82.2%)
Legal	101 (66.4%)
Social services (Settlement/Housing/Food)	49 (32.2%)
Community health centre	31 (20.4%)
HIV primary care physicians	22 (14.5%)
Other	2 (1.3%)

Community partnerships are at the centre of our success!



Blue Door Clinic Wise Practices:

What do clients say is working well at Blue Door Clinic?

Service providers are committed, compassionate, flexible and professional

Language specific services with support from Peer Navigators and Case Managers

Humane and affirming care where clients feel integrated into a support network

Holistic approach to case management addressing clinical and psychosocial needs

Timely and coordinated access to starting and bridging treatment access

Continued to operate (in fact increased hours) in person during/throughout pandemic



Our Impact:

*“...they are much more **comprehensive in their medical care**. And they don't just specialize in HIV and that's it. As the topic of the vision of health is much **more holistic than you imagine**. And the rest of those who work there, they also do it that way. The nurses, **very empathic, very human, very helpful. Very sensitive**. And the experiences make them **change so much the self-esteem** of the person who arrives, that normally you already carry the stigma of the disease. ...you find yourself with a totally different panorama in which they **make you feel seen as a human being**, this sensitive one and then that has great value in the treatment of those of us who have had this experience with the Blue Door Clinic....”*

*“ I feel I did not only get treated as a patient, but I was **integrated into a whole support network**.”*



Challenges and Areas for Growth:

- **Resource Related Factors:**

- No core/ sustainable funding sources- rely on community partner donations/ pharma project based pilots/ PHAC and other grant sources
- Limited capacities for multilingual resource development

- **Operational Capacities:**

- Limited access- clinic runs 1 morning per week- not client centred timing
- Lack of continuity of care due to rotational staff schedule
- Challenges co-ordinating follow up needs- one Clinic Nurse Coordinator for 120+ patients!
- Not designed for long term primary care provision
- Mandated restrictions -unable to care for non-insured HIV negative partners

- **Systems and Structures:**

- Shift in focus to HIV prevention- prioritizing access to PrEP
- Call to “equalize”- disparity in access to HIV care for racialized/ marginalized populations
- Lack of ongoing funding for a growing, underserved population, especially post COVID, current provincial political climate, post March 31st end to hospital billing codes
- General shortage of HIV primary care providers accepting new patients and especially non-insured
- Lack of HIV experienced providers especially outside the GTA

Who is eligible:

1. Must be living with HIV
2. Must be living within the Greater Toronto Area (GTA)
3. Must be non-insured/ under-insured

This includes (but is not limited to) temporary immigration statuses such as:

- people with international student visas without an adequate health coverage plan
- people with work permits without an adequate health coverage plan and are NOT eligible for OHIP
- permanent residents who are ineligible for OHIP
- newcomers awaiting inland processing and review of their immigration and refugee applications
- people with active visitor visas
- Canadian-born individuals who do not have adequate identification due a variety of adverse life circumstances




Referral Process

- Healthcare provider, community agency & self-referrals accepted
- Fax or email completed referral form
- 1 page referral form located on Blue Door Clinic website

Referral Form:

<https://www.bluedoorclinic.org/services/>

Blue Door Clinic
Located at **Regent Park Community Health Centre**
465 Dundas Street East, 2nd Floor, Toronto, Ontario M5A 2B2
Phone: 416-364-0822
Fax: 416-364-0822
www.bluedoorclinic.org



Blue Door Clinic provides healthcare to people living with HIV in the Greater Toronto Area who are non-insured/under-insured. This includes (but is not limited to) temporary immigration statuses such as: migrant workers and those awaiting renewed contracts or work visas, newcomers awaiting inland processing and review of their immigration and refugee applications, individuals with active visitor visas who are not eligible for care through a community health centre, Canadian-born individuals who do not have adequate identification due a variety of adverse life circumstances, international students whose mandatory health insurance does not cover the full range of HIV care etc.

All services are free and confidential and include: HIV primary care/ health assessments provided by a doctor/ nurse practitioner, treatment for HIV and other health conditions, laboratory testing, immunizations, connection to medication access programs, referral to specialists (if needed), referral to community supports (e.g. housing, legal, settlement etc.), referral to ongoing healthcare when eligible.

Patient Information: *To assist the intake process, please provide any many details as possible

First Name: Last Name:

Date of Birth: Gender: Phone Number:

Address: Email:

Immigration Status: Date Arrived in Canada:

Languages Spoken: Interpretation Required: YES / NO

Year of HIV diagnosis: Country of HIV diagnosis:

Is this person currently taking medication for the treatment of HIV? YES / NO

Name(s) of HIV Medication: # of doses remaining:

Referral Information: COMMUNITY AGENCY HEALTHCARE PROVIDER SELF-REFERRAL

Date of Referral: Agency:

Contact Person: Email:

Telephone: Fax:

Additional Information:

Email completed form to: sarahi@regentparkchc.org or Fax to: 416-364-0822 Attention: Blue Door Clinic
Patients will receive an intake call within 2 weeks & medical appointment (phone or in-person) within 1-2 months dependent upon clinic schedule & triage.
We do our best to ensure all patients with existing prescriptions are bridged to avoid any gaps in treatment.

Last updated: January 2012



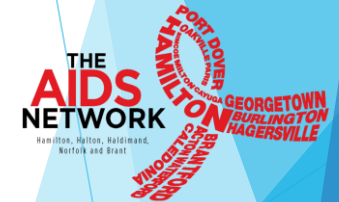
Non-insured HIV care partners within the GTA

- ▶ **St. Michael's Hospital Positive Pregnancy Program, "P3"**- clinic that is anonymously blended into and runs out of the prenatal clinic at St. Michael's. Sees individuals and couples in which one or both partners are HIV+, before (pre-pregnancy), during and/or after pregnancy. Referrals can be faxed to 416-867-3742 attention: Dr Yudin. To maintain Patient privacy, please put 'P3' on the cover page. [Read more](#)
- ▶ **Women's Health in Women's Hands Community Health Centre-** Specialize in the health and wellness needs of racialized women and prioritizes those from African, Caribbean, Latin American and South Asian communities. HIV primary care available. Email [intake form](#) to Irene irene@whiwh.com
- ▶ **HQ Clinic-** HIV care (no primary care) cis guys into guys and two-spirit, transgender and non-binary people, walk-in services no referral needed. [Read more](#)
- ▶ **Regent Park Community Health Centre- Wednesday One Stop Walk-In (WOW)-** low barrier weekly walk-in clinic with a focus on providing care for people who are homeless, marginally housed, seniors with cognitive impairment and people with mental illness . [Read more](#)
- ▶ **Partnerships with private physicians/ clinics** (e.g. Maple Leaf Medical, Church Wellesley Health Centre, The PrEP Clinic)
- ▶ **Inner City Health Associates** –MD/NPs provide HIV care for clients experiencing homelessness, living in shelter system
- ▶ **Street Health-** NPs provide primary care including HIV care for non-insured, people experiencing homelessness, harder to reach populations etc. [Website](#)



Non-insured HIV care outside the GTA

- ▶ Most HIV care outside GTA provided in hospital outpatient clinics (e.g. London, Windsor, Kingston)
 - ▶ **OHTN Rapid Linkage to Care Initiative** covers cost of all non-public health labs, diagnostics, specialists (if enrolled)- Email sarahi@regentparkchc.org to obtain client registration forms
 - ▶ Hospital fees, consult fees need to be negotiated by outpatient clinic/ social worker or client negotiates directly with hospital billing department
 - ▶ Blue Door Clinic/ OHTN working to address this gap after PHSUP pandemic response funding ended
- ▶ Many Community Health Centres (if client eligible e.g. expired visitor visa) do not provide HIV primary care services
- ▶ Hamilton area- [The AIDS Network](#) support workers can refer to ID specialist and cover fees
- ▶ Niagara area- no HIV care in region at all, all clients (insured and non-insured) referred to Hamilton Health Sciences Special Immunology Services (SIS) Clinic and local ASO- [Positive Living Niagara](#) arranges appointment transportation
- ▶ **When in doubt- contact local ASO re: accessing precariously insured HIV care within region**



HIV Primary Care Resources

Training:

Clinical Education and Training Programs

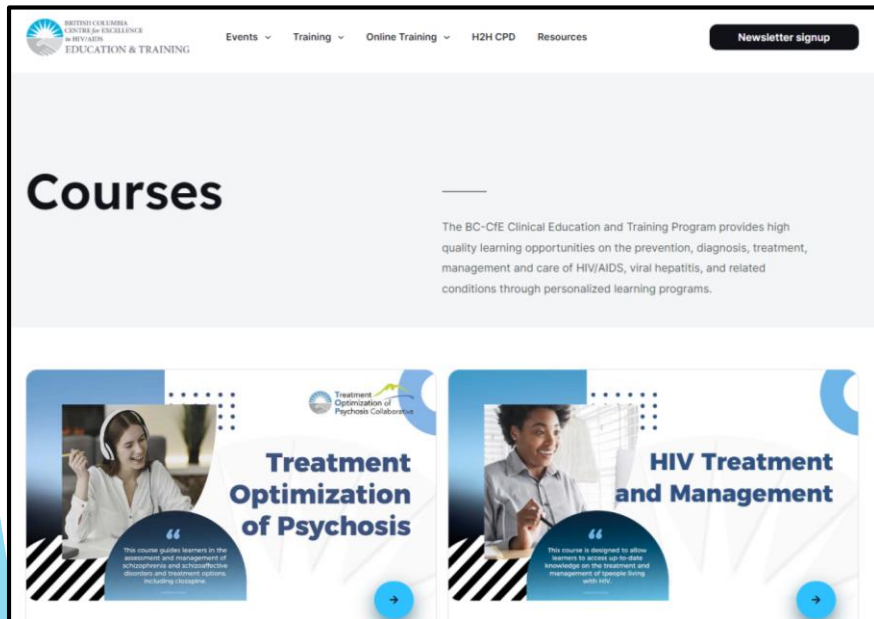
The BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS

<https://education.bccfe.ca/>

Accessing HIV care and resources for precariously and non-insured people living with HIV in Ontario- Training for service providers, February/ March 2021

Learnings from the Blue Door Clinic

<https://www.bluedoorclinic.org/home/learningevent2021/>



Guidelines:

Ontario Clinical Care Guidelines for Adults and Adolescents Living with HIV in Ontario

<https://occguidelines.com/guidelines/>

Therapeutic Guidelines: Primary Care Guidelines for the Management of HIV/AIDS in Adults in British Columbia

The BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS

<https://www.bccfe.ca/therapeutic-guidelines/primary-care-guidelines>

Federally Approved Clinical Practice Guidelines for HIV/AIDS

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services- “Clinical Info”

<https://clinicalinfo.hiv.gov/en/guidelines>

Women-Centered HIV Care

The Centre for Effective Practice

<https://cep.health/clinical-products/hiv/>

Best Practice Guidelines- Caring for clients who are at risk for or living with HIV/AIDS

Canadian Association of Nurses in AIDS Care

https://canac.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/CANAC_BPG_v2013.pdf

HIV Primary Care Resources

Medication:

Therapeutic Guidelines for Antiretroviral (ARV) Treatment of Adult HIV Infection

The BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS

<https://bccfe.ca/therapeutic-guidelines/guidelines-antiretroviral-arv-treatment-adult-hiv-infection>

HIV Drug to Drug Interaction Checker

University of Liverpool

<https://www.druginteractions.org/>

Common HIV drugs available in Canada for adults

CATIE <https://www.catie.ca/your-guide-to-hiv-treatment/common-hiv-drugs-available-in-canada-for-adults>

Immunization:

Immunize.org- good website for nuanced vaccine questions

<https://www.immunize.org/search/?cx=017386553933306082099%3A5o7di6h-q-e&cof=FORID%3A10&ie=UTF-8&q=HIV&sa=Search>

Guidelines for Immunizations for Preventable Diseases in Adults and Adolescents Living with HIV

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services- “Clinical Info”

<https://clinicalinfo.hiv.gov/en/guidelines/hiv-clinical-guidelines-adult-and-adolescent-opportunistic-infections/immunizations>

Basic HIV Primary Care - Immunizations in Adults

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services – “The National HIV Curriculum”

<https://www.hiv.uw.edu/go/basic-primary-care/immunizations/core-concept/all>

Immunization of immunocompromised persons- Table 5: Vaccination of HIV-infected persons

Canadian Immunization Guide

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/healthy-living/canadian-immunization-guide-part-3-vaccination-specific-populations/page-8-immunization-immunocompromised-persons.html#a29>

Publicly Funded Immunization Schedules for Ontario

Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care

<https://health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/immunization/schedule.aspx>

The screenshot shows the 'HIV Drug Interactions' website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Language' and 'Apps' dropdown menus. Below the navigation bar, there are links for 'About Us', 'Interaction Checkers', 'Prescribing Resources', 'Videos', 'Site News', 'Contact Us', and 'Support Us'. A blue banner below the navigation bar reads 'Interactions with Lenacapavir (Sunlenca®) now available - click here for more details'. Below the banner, there is a green text box that says 'Looking for interactions with COVID-19 therapies, including Paxlovid? Click here for covid19-druginteractions.org'. Below the green text box, there is a warning: 'If a drug is not listed below it cannot automatically be assumed it is safe to coadminister'. Below the warning, there are three columns: 'HIV Drugs', 'Co-medications', and 'Drug Interactions'. The 'HIV Drugs' and 'Co-medications' columns have search boxes. The 'Drug Interactions' column has a checkbox labeled 'Check HIV/ HIV drug interactions' and a note that says 'Drug Interactions will be displayed here'.

Let's connect

Sarah Ionson, RN, BScN, PDTN
Clinic Nurse Coordinator

Phone/SMS/WhatsApp: + 1 437-235-7423

Fax: 416-364-0822

Email: sarahi@regentparkchc.org

Website: www.bluedoorclinic.org

Pronouns: she/her/hers

Simran Kaur, RSW, MSW

Program Manager

Linkage to Care Program

Fife House

Cell: 647-407-6245

Fax: 416-548-7232

Email: skaur@fifehouse.org

Pronouns: she/her/hers



Blue Door Clinic
Every Monday 9:30am-12pm (closed holidays)
By appointment only

Please call to request an appointment:
437-235-7423

Regent Park Community Health Centre
465 Dundas Street East, 2nd Floor
(intersection of Parliament & Dundas)
Toronto, Ontario M5A 2B2
Fax: 416-364-0822

www.bluedoorclinic.org