

## **International Conference on HIV Treatment Adherence workshop abstract:**

### **Title: An Interdisciplinary Medication Adherence Clinic Utilizing Pharmacists and Peer Educators**

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Various medication adherence models have been demonstrated and validated in the scientific literature, including those models that utilize a clinical pharmacist and/or peer educators. The Med-REST (Medication Reinforcement & Education for Successful Treatment) clinic at the Kansas City Free Health Clinic combines the expertise of a pharmacist and trained peer educators to provide a multidisciplinary approach to medication education and adherence training.

Patients from the HIV Primary Care Clinic who are considered at high-risk for non-adherence or have multiple identified barriers to care are referred to the Med-REST clinic by their provider or case manager. Patients are interviewed by the clinical pharmacist and specific barriers to adherence are identified. The patient is then referred to the peer educator for multiple educational sessions, tailored specifically to the patients' knowledge level about their disease state ("HIV 101 curriculum"). Upon completion of the "HIV 101" curriculum, the patient is referred back to the clinical pharmacist who utilizes information gained during the sessions along with scientific knowledge and motivational interviewing to create a regimen for the patient to start. The program has proven very successful in engaging otherwise difficult to engage patients and to build patients foundation for successful adherence. In the future, the program would like to evaluate what effect the program has on clinical outcomes and intentions and attitudes about HIV antiretrovirals.