AIDS-Defining Conditions

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Together, we can change the course of the HIV epidemic...one woman at a time.

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AIDS stands for **Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome**.

AIDS is the most advanced stage of HIV.
What Is an AIDS Diagnosis?

- CDC defines a person as having AIDS if (s)he is **living with HIV** and has a **CD4 cell count of 200 or less**
  - CDC has list of opportunistic infections (OIs), cancers, conditions considered **AIDS-defining conditions** (see slides 6 and 7)
  - If you are living with HIV and have 1 or more of these conditions, you have a diagnosis of AIDS, no matter your CD4 count or how it changes
    - This does not necessarily mean you are sick or will get sick in the future
    - Public health system’s way to count people with advanced HIV

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AIDS is also sometimes referred to as stage 3 HIV. CDC defines and uses “stages” of HIV to keep track of the # of HIV cases in US and to plan for prevention and care on a population level. WHO uses a similar staging system, set of definitions where WHO refers to AIDS as “severe HIV” or “stage 4”. Health care providers don’t use definitions to make clinical decisions for individual patients.
AIDS-Defining Conditions

• AIDS-defining conditions on slides 6 and 7 come from a government report and contain medical terms

• If you have any questions:
  – Ask your health care provider
  – Contact an educator at a local ASO
    Find ASO at POZ’s Health Services Directory
  – Read The Well Project’s fact sheet on AIDS-Defining Conditions for links to articles with more details
List of AIDS-Defining Conditions I

- Bacterial infections (multiple, recurrent)
  - Only for children <13 years old
- Candidiasis of bronchi, trachea, or lungs
- Candidiasis, esophageal
- Cervical cancer, invasive
  - Only among people >13 years old
- Coccidioidomycosis, disseminated or extrapulmonary
- Cryptococcosis, extrapulmonary
- Cryptosporidiosis, chronic intestinal (>1 month)
- CMV disease (other than liver, spleen, or nodes)
  - Beginning when older than one month
- CMV retinitis (with loss of eyesight)
- Encephalopathy, HIV-related
- Herpes simplex: chronic ulcers (>1 month); bronchitis, pneumonitis, esophagitis
  - Beginning when >1 month old
- Histoplasmosis, disseminated or extrapulmonary
- Isosporiasis, chronic intestinal (>1 month)
List of AIDS-Defining Conditions II

- Kaposi sarcoma
- Lymphoma, Burkitt
- Lymphoma, immunoblastic
- Lymphoma, primary, of brain
- *Mycobacterium avium* complex or *M. kansasii*, disseminated or extrapulmonary
- *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, of any site, pulmonary (≥13 years old), disseminated, extrapulmonary
- *Mycobacterium*, other species or unidentified species, disseminated or extrapulmonary
- *Pneumocystis jirovecii* pneumonia (PJP, formerly PCP)
- Pneumonia, recurrent (≥13 years old)
- Progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy
- *Salmonella septicemia*, recurrent
- Toxoplasmosis of brain, beginning when >1 month
- Wasting syndrome due to HIV

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• To learn more about this topic, and for links to articles featuring more details, please read the full fact sheet on this topic:
  – Fact sheet: AIDS-Defining Conditions

• For more fact sheets and to connect to our community of women living with HIV, visit:
  – www.thewellproject.org
  – www.facebook.com/thewellproject
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  – www.thewellproject.org