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HIV/AIDS, STDs and STIs

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Elizabeth Secord

Wayne State University, USA

Adherence barriers in youth with perinatally acquired HIV

Adherence to antiretroviral medication is fraught with emotional baggage for many of our perinatally infected youth. This course will cover the reasons for poor adherence that we have encountered and the programs we have designed to work with youth around these issues. Objectives for learners are: 1) To understand the multiple reasons for non-adherence in perinatally infected youth, including aversion to medication, lack of consistent housing, anger and disorganization. 2) Knowledge of possible interventions including home based programs, electronic interventions and the tools of motivational interviewing and other brief targeted psychological interventions versus long term therapy and 3) Use of a multi-disciplinary team approach. Cases will be discussed to illustrate various aspects of this very complex issue.

Biography

Elizabeth Secord is the Medical Director of the Horizons HIV Prevention and Treatment Center for Youth in Detroit, Michigan. She is a Professor of Pediatrics at Wayne State University and is the Division Chief for Allergy and Immunology at WSU, Children's Hospital of Michigan.

ae8701@wayne.edu**Notes:**