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# **HIV/AIDS, STDs and STIs**

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### Gary Blick

The World Health Clinicians Inc., USA

# UNAIDS "90-90-90": Novel and innovative approaches to fighting HIV stigma and discrimination remain urgently needed to overcome these obstacles to HIV testing and linkage-to-care in the developed and developing worlds

On the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first reported U.S. cases of men who have sex with men (MSM) developing *Pneumocystis Carinii* (Jiroveci) Pneumonia and Kaposi's Sarcoma and on the 16<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first international AIDS conference being held in Durban, South Africa to bring attention to the HIV/AIDS crisis ravaging Africans, HIV stigma and discrimination remain the main deterrents to achieving the UNAIDS "90-90-90" 2030 goal of ending the HIV/AIDS crisis worldwide by testing 90% of the population for HIV, 90% of those testing HIV-seropositive being placed on antiretroviral therapy (ART) and 90% of those on ART becoming virologically undetectable. Although there is reasonable understanding of why individuals remain stigmatized, novel and innovative anti-stigma approaches to getting people tested and linked-to-care are desperately needed in both developed and underdeveloped countries around the globe.

#### **Biography**

Gary Blick has completed his Medical School at the University of Miami Medical School in 1984. After completing his Internal Medicine Residency at a Yale University, School of Medicine affiliate, he devoted his medical and research practice to the care and treatment of PLWHIV. He has founded and is the Chief Medical Officer of the non-profit, World Health Clinicians, in 2010 to fight the HIV epidemic in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe and the US (CIRCLE CARE Center, Norwalk CT). He has founded the anti-HIV stigma initiative, HIV Equal<sup>TM</sup>, in 2013. He has published 69 manuscripts in peer-reviewed journals and been a Principal Investigator for over 120 clinical trials and an author/presenter on over 115 scientific presentations.

blickmd@aol.com