

If you had to take a single drug at the same time every day, could you? What if you had to take more than one, day after day after day? Would you remember each one, like clockwork? If you answered no, you're not alone.



Studies show that up to 6 out of 10 HIV-infected patients in Baltimore fail therapy within the first year.

The JACQUES Initiative



This national pilot program has been named in memory of a dear friend to the Institute of Human Virology and a well known contributor to the field of HIV/AIDS activism. Joseph William Jacques — or “Joe” as he was affectionately called by those who knew him — devoted his life to improving the health and well being of pa-

tients living with HIV/AIDS.

This particular project was developed to create better treatment outcomes for patients living with HIV/AIDS.

J Joint
A AIDS
C Community-wide
Q Quest for
U Unique and
E Effective treatment
S Strategies



The Institute of Human Virology's Clinical Research and Care division has established itself as a leading provider of HIV/AIDS care in Maryland. From a patient load of 250 when our clinics first opened to now 2500 the IHV has provided expert clinical care to Maryland including some of Baltimore's most underserved: the uninsured, addicted, and homeless. In a continued effort to link the best advancements in science to the needs of the community, the IHV initiates this new treatment approach.



The Institute of Human Virology is a center of the University of Maryland Biotechnology Institute and is affiliated with the University of Maryland Medical System.

The JACQUES Initiative



"Because I'm more than HIV positive"

Over the last 20 years great strides have been made in the treatment of HIV/AIDS. HIV infection is being treated as a chronic illness and many patients are living strong and happy lives while infected. Take a look at these comments from a group of people living well with HIV.

"I have HIV. It doesn't have me."

"I don't walk around with HIV in my spirit."

"I just want to say I'm blessed. Many of my friends are HIV positive and we are bonded by what we share."



Starting treatment for HIV is a big step in the care of your infection and may result in you doing well for decades.

But, as you may already know, the medicines you take for HIV must be taken 95% of the time or greater to be successful long term. We know that many patients take their medicines every day and rarely miss a dose. Others try their best, but don't reach these treatment goals.

That's why the Institute of Human Virology has created the JACQUES Initiative. This program has been specially designed to help patients, families and friends better understand HIV and its treatment. Patients, families and providers can choose from many different treatment support options and design a program that works for them.

Available to patients starting antiretroviral therapy (the medicine used to treat HIV infection), these treatment support systems are designed to help a patient live their life to the fullest.

Observed Therapy makes maximum use not only of clinical care staff but community health workers and volunteers to 1) provide support and 2) ensure that patients are taking their medications as prescribed. Volunteers may include close friends and/or family members who agree to provide daily and/or weekly support as needed to ensure success of the patient's treatment program.

How It Works

Several support strategies will be offered, from which you can select:

- 1. Directly Observed Therapy (DOT)**
Someone from our staff will assist and observe you take your medicine here or in the community.
- 2. Weekly Observed Therapy**
This option involves a weekly exchange of a pre-filled pill box.
- 3. Treatment Coach Observed/Supported**
A coach from our staff will observe and/or support you with therapy.
- 4. Treatment Partner**
This system is modeled as a buddy system where two HIV positive people join together to support each other with therapy.
- 5. Care Partner Supported**
This option can be used for someone who chooses to be supported by a friend or relative not HIV positive.

Ask your provider for details of each of these options.

Educational opportunities also will be offered each month and are open to both family and friends. We'll discuss the basics of HIV infection to include how you get it, how you spread it and how you treat it. We'll talk about the medication used to treat HIV infection and why it is so important to take these medicines regularly.

In addition to these workshops we will offer rotating classes that will focus on issues like:

- Coping and stress management
- Job search and resume writing skills
- How to tell your family, friends and potential partners about your HIV status

These workshops will include open discussions and testimonials from patients who are living with HIV. People living with HIV will share their stories and offer real life advice on how to live well with HIV.

You're just a phone call away from being able to better manage your disease or help someone who's having difficulty on their own. After all, it's hard for any of us to remember to take a pill every day *and* at the same time.

To find out how to become involved in the JACQUES Initiative, call 410-706-0162.



The JACQUES Initiative has been designed to help you be successful for a lifetime. Become one of the increasing numbers of HIV patients able to manage their HIV longer. After all, you have a life to live. Live it to its fullest.

*Still Laughing,
Still Living,
Still Loving*