



<Insert your county here>
<Insert local contact name
and address here>

<Insert any specific
information >

Statewide Resources:
CAREAssist #971-673-0144
AETC #503-229-8428

Medical Care Needs of PLWH in Oregon:

HIV is only one issue that PLWH in Oregon face. Most also have other medical and/or behavioral health conditions that must be managed and coordinated. According to a 2013 survey of CAREAssist clients:

- 4 in 5 report having one or more chronic medical conditions in addition to HIV. For example, 41% report chronic pain.
- Behavioral health issues are common. About 6 in 10 report depression, anxiety, or an “emotional problem” and 1 in 10 report drug or alcohol problems.
- CAREAssist clients are about twice as likely to use tobacco as Oregon adults overall.

Medical Care for People Living with HIV in Oregon

Approximately half of all people living with HIV (PLWH) in Oregon receive services from the Ryan White Continuum of Care. The goal of these services is to support the entry and ongoing engagement of PLWH in medical care.

Ryan White services embody the triple aim of Oregon’s health transformation:

- **Better Health:** PLWH who are in Ryan White services are more likely to access regular medical care, experience fewer opportunistic infections and are more likely to have undetectable viral loads, reducing risk of transmission to others.
- **Better Care:** Coordination of care through Ryan White case managers helps reduce duplication of services and improves health outcomes.
- **Lower Cost:** PLWH with well-managed HIV disease avoid costly hospitalizations and treatment of conditions like opportunistic infections.

Ryan White Services Help Keep PLWH in Medical Care

- **CAREAssist (the AIDS Drug Assistance Program):** healthoregon.org/careassist
- Provides access to health insurance, prescription medications, tobacco cessation supports, medication therapy management, and help with co-pays.
- PLWH at 500% of the federal poverty level or below are eligible for CAREAssist, and the program can help with gaps in coverage or when someone becomes ineligible for Medicaid.

Case Management Services:

- Services may include patient education on treatment adherence, liver health, and oral health; risk reduction counseling; connection to behavioral health care; and patient navigation to remove barriers to accessing medical care, such as medical literacy and transportation help.
- Case managers have extensive training in culturally-competent care for specific populations, such as people who inject drugs, LGBTQ communities and survivors of trauma.
- Ryan white nurse case managers help persons learn to self-manage their chronic disease.

Supportive Services:

- Many Oregon counties have programs that assist with housing and other basic needs, such as utility assistance, transportation to medical services and nutrition assistance. Call your local program.

AIDS Education & Training Center (AETC):

- Education and training for health care providers.
<http://depts.washington.edu/nwaetc/>