The Academy gives HIV frontline practitioners the support, resources and educational opportunities they need for providing optimal care for those living with or at risk for HIV.
A Message from the Executive Director

I am grateful to the Academy’s board of directors, staff, members and HIV Specialist/Pharmacist credentialedees for another banner year, in this – my first – as Executive Director of the organization. We are and always have been a grassroots, bottom-up entity, and all of our successes are tied directly to the passion and commitment of the providers caring for HIV patients across the country. In 2019, we welcomed new Academy members and saw an increase of credentialed HIV specialists and pharmacists. We had substantial growth in the overall budget and income for the organization. The Academy also had a strong meeting and exhibiting presence at several conferences, including the National Health Council health leadership conference, the US Conference on AIDS, the CDC prevention conference, ID Week and ACTHIV.

The year presented a difficult political environment. Despite the challenges, the Academy still succeeded in beating back potentially deleterious changes to Medicare Part D proposed by the Administration, and successfully fought against legislative efforts to fundamentally change Medicaid. We continue to work through our chapter structure in order to mobilize on the state and regional level on HIV policy issues that affect providers and patients in certain parts of the country. As the epidemic condenses its stronghold in specific regions and demographics, our advocacy and educational work in the chapters will be more important than ever, as we look to link with and refine the Administration’s End the Epidemic initiative focusing on the hardest hit counties and states.

In 2019, the Academy was also in the forefront of bringing PrEP awareness and education to the places that need it most. We worked with state legislatures on making PrEP widely and inexpensively available. We also continued our series of accredited grand rounds on PrEP and PEP, focusing particularly on the southeast part of the country. Other live workshop clinical topics that we presented across the country included HIV/HCV co-infection, metabolics and HIV, and the newest treatment options for the full spectrum of HIV patients.

As I promised at the beginning of my tenure, the Academy substantially grew its digital medical education presence with the launch of the AAHIVM Provider Education Center (PEC). The PEC houses single topic clinical webinars on treatment during pregnancy, PrEP, precision medicine and other topics, the Core Curriculum in HIV care, the HIV and Aging project (with updated clinical recommendations and case studies), the Transgender Health Resource Center and much more to come. In 2019 we also published a fully revised complete edition of the flagship clinical textbook Fundamentals of HIV Medicine.

The Academy still SUCCEEDED in beating back potentially deleterious changes to Medicare Part D proposed by the Administration, and successfully FOUGHT AGAINST legislative efforts to fundamentally change Medicaid.

The Academy undertook a strategic planning process, beginning with the Board of Directors and moving to the staff and individual organizational departments. Looking forward, this plan will see us through well into the new decade, as HIV providers will play a key role in bringing an end to new transmissions in the U.S. We are taking a leadership role in educating and certifying providers in the broader arena of sexual health in the clinic. We will be looking again at workforce issues, investing in the full care team, and looking for policy and educative initiatives involving pharmacists and advanced practice providers. We will be heavily investing in our credentials and will be looking to enhance recognition of these roles.

The Academy is moving into its third decade as a relevant and impactful trade association of providers on the frontlines of HIV care. I am privileged to serve all of our hardworking, dedicated members and credentialedes in the HIV care team in my role as executive director. I hope to move the organization forward in lock step with broader national efforts to eradicate HIV. It is in our power to do, and I’m ready for the challenge.

by Bruce J. Packett II
Executive Director, AAHIVM
About The American Academy of HIV Medicine

OUR MISSION
The Academy’s mission is to ensure health care professionals have the resources needed to provide prevention, treatment and care for those living with or at risk for HIV and related conditions to achieve optimal health.

OUR VISION
The Academy’s vision is to create an empowered, skilled and robust healthcare workforce able to intervene at all levels of prevention, care and treatment for those at risk for or living with HIV. Through a focus on overall wellness, we will see a reduction in HIV transmission, an increased quality of life for those living with HIV and, ultimately, an end to the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

PILLARS
The Academy will achieve our vision by adhering to our four organizational pillars. These pillars represent our core values and activities.

Educate
The Academy’s educational and professional development programs help HIV care providers remain current with HIV’s rapidly evolving treatment and prevention landscape. The Academy’s programs and curricula expand beyond just HIV disease to include clinical issues of primary care and wellness, HCV (and other common co-conditions), overall sexual health, mental health, substance use disorder, and common conditions of an aging population.

Credential
The Academy’s credentialing programs promote standards of care as an independent verification of a provider’s knowledge of HIV and HCV care, professional ethics, and overall sexual health competencies. The HIV Specialist™ (“AAHIVS”), HIV Expert™ (“AAHIVE”), and HIV Pharmacist™ (“AAHIVP”) are the only credentials designated specifically for HIV care providers in the United States.

Connect
The Academy is the only network of frontline HIV care providers and other clinicians that is inclusive of physicians, physician assistants, nurses, nurse practitioners and pharmacists offering numerous opportunities for peer-to-peer connection.

Advocate
The Academy leverages the unique perspective and the powerful collective voice of HIV health care providers to address policy issues having impact on HIV care practice, patients with and at risk for HIV, sexual health and HIV prevention and care access and delivery. As an organization, and through strategic partnerships, we focus advocacy efforts on ending the epidemic initiatives, with a clear emphasis on underserved populations, geographic disparities and elimination of structural and intersectional stigma around those with and at risk for HIV.
As I finish my fourth and final year as chairperson of the American Academy of HIV Medicine's Board of Directors, I look back on 2019 with great pride and excitement for the future of the organization. This was a year of change within the ranks of the Academy. We said a very fond goodbye to Jim Friedman who had been our executive director for 11 years and welcomed Bruce Packett who had been with the Academy for the past 13 years as our new executive director. The Board could not be more pleased to pass the leadership baton to Bruce. He has been an integral part of the continued growth of the Academy over the years thanks to his extensive knowledge of the clinical landscape of HIV treatment, as well as his understanding of the unique advocacy and educational needs of HIV care providers.

Like the staff, the diverse work of the Academy continues to grow and change. Last year the Academy's Board, in conjunction with our national office staff, conducted a strategic planning exercise to look ahead at our role in supporting the HIV care provider and the optimal care of people living with and at risk for HIV. To that end, we are expanding our mission to better reflect the overall sexual health of the population. This mission expansion will provide for continued growth in all areas including membership, credentialing and educational offerings.

Our public policy committee remains active in this rapidly changing political time. You will read in this report of the successes we've had this year in advocating for policies that are inclusive of all people needing access to affordable and quality care and treatment, including our big win in protecting the six protected Medicare classes.

The education initiatives in 2019 were vast and varied, offering a number of accredited continuing education options. From in-person workshops to webinars, the Academy was able to reach practitioners far and wide with treatment and prevention curriculum.

I'd like to take a moment to thank the national staff, my fellow board members and chapter steering committee members, and all members of AAHIVM for all they do each and every day to make us the amazing organization we are- a place where all providers are and have always been welcome and can make a difference on a larger scale. During this time of great division and civil discourse, it's wonderful to know that we as members of this large organization can- and often do- differ in our opinions, and yet still find in the Academy a comfortable environment to work together to advance our profession.

I am especially grateful for my vice chair and incoming chairperson of the Academy Board of Directors, Dr. Jonathan Appelbaum. His exceptional clinical knowledge and frontline perspective has been and will continue to be an invaluable asset to the Academy. Here's to tomorrow and all the exciting projects that lie ahead.

Margaret L. Hoffman-Terry, MD, FACP
AAHIVS
Lehigh Valley Hospital, Allentown, Pennsylvania
Policy Update

At a time of massive political change in the US, we are very encouraged by the energy and determination displayed by the Academy’s members and credentialed members who have raised their voices and lent their energy to be heard in the political part of our work. In this rapidly evolving political environment, new legislation, innovative decisions by the Administration and high court decisions are affecting (and sometimes threatening) the health and well-being of people with HIV and those vulnerable to it. At the Academy, we speak out on these issues – sometimes in partnership with other organizations, often along with our members, and always with the active support of the Academy’s Public Policy Committee members.

The start of 2019 began with a push by the Trump Administration to remove the protections in place for Medicare’s six protected classes of drugs. By way of background, when it created Medicare Part D in 2006, Congress set aside six classes of drugs, directing that these would never be subjected to prior authorization, step therapy, or other financial practices that can impede patients’ steady access to medications. Among these were antiretroviral drugs, as well as certain cancer drugs, mental illness medications and a few others.

In December 2018, the federal Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) announced a new proposed rule that would eliminate the six protected classes and allow the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to subject all Part D recipients to the same procedures, including the risk of delays and interruptions in their medication access. Twenty-five percent of the people in the U.S. with HIV rely on Medicare for their survival.

Recognizing that any such interruption would be unacceptable, the Academy immediately launched a public campaign urging our members to reject this CMS proposal. We equipped and encouraged members to take action by calling and e-mailing their elected representatives, submitting op-eds to their local newspapers and circulating our “Act Now” fact sheet widely among their colleagues. We also visited legislators and DHHS staff, aired television spots explaining how this proposed rule endangered the lives of people with HIV and conducted an extensive digital advertising campaign. In May, CMS announced that it was revising its proposal and would maintain people with HIV as a protected class with regard to Medicare access. We continue to support advocates for the other “protected classes” whose prompt access to their essential medications is still threatened.

This was easily our most dramatic campaign in 2019 but is it far from being the only public policy and advocacy work. At our Public Policy Committee’s behest, we resumed our advocacy efforts to strengthen the HIV medical workforce. We are building a factual case and generating political support for legislation to expand academic debt forgiveness opportunities for student health care providers willing to work after graduation in U.S. areas with high HIV prevalence. This proposal can fit into the Administration’s “Ending the HIV Epidemic” initiative which pinpoints areas hard hit by HIV.

As active members of the Federal AIDS Policy Partnership (a national coalition meeting regularly since 2002), we have a strong voice particularly in their Healthcare Access Working Group, where we share the perspectives of our members. Most recently, we have joined AIDS United’s national Public Policy Council, a newer coalition that really needs more perspectives from HIV health care providers. Tapping the Academy’s expertise and wisdom, we can relay information to policy makers about what it will take to make ending HIV a reality. With biomedical advances overtaking the speed at which effective public policy decisions regarding HIV are being made, communication between the two worlds is more important than ever.
Programmatic Highlights

REGIONAL WORKSHOPS
A flagship continuing medical education programming, the Academy conducted its 2019 regional clinical workshops in major cities across the United States. Focused on new treatment modalities and recently approved new treatment agents, HIV Treatment Update: Caring for the Full Spectrum of Patients Living with HIV, from the Everyday to the Esoteric, was attended by nearly 300 medical providers. The series focused on treatment modalities especially in the context of treatment adherence, common co-morbidities, potential drug-drug interactions, short- and long-term side effects, and implications for use in older individuals. The series also focused on agents that are expected to come to market soon including long-acting injectable therapies, two-drug regimens, and new options for PrEP.

The Academy also launched a second HIV workshop series in 2019, Lipids, Lipodystrophy, and Obesity: Metabolic Issues in HIV led by Dr. Daniel Lee of the Owen Lipid/Lipodystrophy Clinic at UC San Diego to address the growing challenge of treating metabolic issues in patients with HIV.

To round out the 2019 regional clinical workshops, the Academy hosted a set of workshops targeting advanced practice clinicians on the treatment of hepatitis C. Hepatitis C: Treatment, Management and Prevention; a CE Activity for Nurse Practitioners, Physician Assistants and other Advanced Practice Providers focused on helping advance practice providers gain the necessary knowledge and competencies to treat hepatitis C in patients co-infected with HIV. This series was keynoted by Angela Kapalko, a physician assistant from Philadelphia FIGHT Community Health Centers.

PREP, PEP, HIV TESTING, AND RAPID START GRAND ROUNDS
The Academy used its vast network of HIV specialists and healthcare providers across the country to launch in-person grand rounds medical trainings on PrEP and rapid start targeted towards providers in the southern U.S. The program reaches clinics and providers, specifically primary care and family practice providers across the South to address the lower uptake and utilization of PrEP. Participants were also encouraged to adopt “rapid start” and enroll patients who were seeking PrEP but identified as HIV-positive by immediately prescribing antiretroviral therapy to intervene in the domestic epidemic.

FUNDAMENTALS OF HIV MEDICINE
In 2019, the Academy released the 2019 edition of the Fundamentals of HIV Medicine, a comprehensive prevention, care, and treatment publication specifically authored on topics in HIV medicine. Authored by more than 50 expert clinicians, the textbook offers the most up-to-date science and data on the latest HIV treatments and guidelines. Chapters include information on immunology, HIV epidemiology, viral resistance, substance abuse treatment, infectious disease medicine and common co-morbid conditions. With over 45 continuing medical education credits, the Fundamentals textbook is designed as a comprehensive study guide for providers seeking the AAHIVS, AAHIVE, and AAHIVP credentials.

THE PROVIDER EDUCATION CENTER
As the Academy expands more into online, enduring CME in 2019, we launched a new and improved Provider Education Center (PEC). Currently housing the Core Curriculum in HIV, and HIV-Age.org continuing medical education resources, the PEC offers recorded lecture modules which allows for optimization across multiple platforms including computer and mobile devices. Additional PEC improvements include interactive quizzes to assess learning in real time, an improved search functionality, and improved metrics on usage including exit clicks to CME University to track user CME acquisition. The Academy anticipates the PEC will be expanded in 2020 to include an update to the Institute for Hepatitis C, single topic webinars, and an HIV prevention-focused resource.
CORE CURRICULUM

In 2019, the Academy updated and renewed CME credits for the 16 module online, learning resource covering both basics of HIV and the latest data and scientific advances in clinical care. This online, self-paced resource is designed to assist care providers new to the HIV field seeking baseline knowledge on prevention, testing, care and treatment. In addition, it provides HIV providers with more advanced experiences with insights into more complex topics and clinical advances. A tool to aid in preparation for the HIV Specialist™ and HIV Pharmacist™ Credentialing examinations and a teaching platform for students, fellows, and residents, each of the 16 modules includes downloadable pre-reads, narrated slide presentations, self-assessment questions and free continuing medical education credits for physicians, physician assistants, pharmacists, nurse practitioners and nurses.

HIV-Age.org

Initially launched in 2011 as Recommended Treatment Strategies for Clinicians Managing Older Patients with HIV based on the Academy Membership’s early identification of the need, HIV-Age.org is the go-to online resource for clinicians seeking the best practices for older populations living with HIV. In 2019, HIV-age was updated with new clinical data and accredited for ongoing continuing medical education credits and now includes 23 chapters ranging from immunizations and co-existing conditions such as cardiovascular disease, cancers and osteoporosis to advanced care planning and depression. HIV-age.org also includes a regular, systematic literature review to capture new peer-reviewed journal articles of interest to HIV-age.org related to the growing body of literature. An ever expanding field, less than 100 articles were published in 2000 on Aging with HIV to more than 500 published in 2019 alone.

ACCREDITED CE WEBINARS

The Academy hosted and recorded four webinars in 2019 that are accredited with enduring continuing medical education credits. PrEP and the HIV Workforce was designed to expand the knowledge of patients at risk for HIV and help providers identify and offer PrEP to prevent new HIV infections. An Introduction to the All of Us Research Program sought to introduce HIV providers to the research initiative and to
Programmatic Highlights (CONTINUED)

encourage patients with HIV to participate in clinical research. Barriers to the Uptake of PrEP was produced to help providers understand the barriers to offering PrEP in the clinical setting and solutions for providers to expand their prescribing of PrEP for patients at risk for acquiring HIV. Is It Safe? Safety Surveillance through the Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry educated providers with information on the use of antiretroviral therapies with women of childbearing years and an ongoing registry to monitor and assess medications with pregnant women.

TREATMENT GUIDELINES AND CLINICAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TREATING HEPATITIS C AMONG PEOPLE WITH HIV.

In 2018, results of a study led by the Academy sought to better understand providers' experience in treating hepatitis C. While a majority of study participants surveyed (93%) agreed that they were knowledgeable enough to treat hepatitis C, these same providers identified four areas where they need guidance. In response, the Academy convened a task force of experienced providers who treat hepatitis C in their patients co-infected with HIV. Specific recommendations include an overarching principle to treat hepatitis C as soon as possible, recommendations to build a team approach, considerations for special populations (i.e. people who inject drugs, women of childbearing age, patients with cirrhotic liver, homeless/unistably housed patients, etc.), and recommendations for insurance and third party payment navigation.

ALL OF US RESEARCH PROGRAM

The Academy continued its partnership with the National Institutes of Health's All of Us Research Program. The All of Us Research Program seeks to encourage more than a million patient volunteers across the country to participate in building a diverse database for health research. Participants share information over many years via surveys, electronic health records, physical measurements, blood and urine samples and wearable technology. Researchers of all types, from citizen scientists to academy researchers, may request utilize free aggregate data to aid in research. De-identified data may provide new insights about how individual differences affect health and disease and how more tailored treatments and prevention strategies may be deployed in the future.

ENDING THE EPIDEMIC WORKFORCE SURVEY

In the 2019 State of the Union Address, the President unveiled plans to end the HIV epidemic in the United States by 2030. Plans unveiled under the President's “Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America” initiative the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services will initially target 50 jurisdictions and seven southern, rural states with high prevalence of HIV with resources to intervene in the epidemic. In response, the Academy developed a survey for our members in these targeted areas to assess their community's readiness to implement the Administration's plans. Results were shared at USCA 2019 where the Academy hosted a session with NASTAD, AIDS United, and the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin to discuss the implications of the initiative and how to avoid missteps.

2019 AAHIVM/INSTITUTE FOR TECHNOLOGY IN HEALTH CARE HIV PRACTICE AWARD

The Academy awarded Maria Ann Andrews MSN, FNP-C and the RipplePHX team in Phoenix, AZ, the annual AAHIVM/Institute for Technology in Health Care HIV Practice Award. Andrews and her team received $25,000 in recognition of their unique approach to engaging the community by leveraging innovative technology to reach those living with HIV and those most at-risk. The award-winning technology, a mobile HIV prevention kiosk called “Ariel” was developed by RipplePHX, a nonprofit organization that recognized that while 30+ HIV-related organizations in Phoenix, Arizona were successfully serving existing clients, thousands of at-risk individuals still weren’t actively engaged or being reached for services. In 2018 RipplePHX launched the mobile “Ariel” outreach units to motivate those individuals to educate themselves about HIV transmission risk and to seek out direct clinical services and referrals for supportive services.
The Academy's HIV-focused professional certifications are the first and only credentials offered domestically and internationally to physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants and pharmacists specializing in advanced level HIV care. The HIV Specialist™ (AAHIVS) credential is available to practicing frontline clinical providers, while the HIV Expert™ (AAHIVE) designation can be earned by non-practicing clinicians. The HIV Pharmacist™ (AAHIVP) certification is available to eligible HIV-specialized pharmacists.

**Total of Currently Credentialed Providers**

- **Physicians (MD, DO)**: 1312
- **NP**: 511
- **PA**: 161
- **Pharmacist**: 1461

**2019 Exam Participant Snapshot**

- **HIV Expert**: 32
- **HIV Specialist**: 536
- **HIV Pharmacist**: 574

**2019 HIV Credentialing Exam First Time Test Taker Pass Rates**

- **HIV Expert**: 72.7% Pass, 4.5% Retake
- **HIV Pharmacist**: 84.2% Pass, 6.2% Retake
- **HIV Specialist**: 74.0% Pass, 7.5% Retake
Membership Spotlight:

Academy members are part of a dedicated group of physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, pharmacists and other allied health care professionals committed to promoting excellence in HIV care through advocacy, education, professional development and direct peer-to-peer contact. Membership fosters a unified collective voice of HIV care providers nationally, giving strength to the causes most salient to the issues of HIV prevention and care.

PROVIDER TYPES:

- Physicians (MD, DO) - 50%
- Pharmacists (PharmD, RPh) - 24%
- Nurse Practitioners - 15%
- Students - 6%
- Physician Assistants - 4%
- Other (DDS, Case Mgr., EMT, Clergy, etc.) - 1%
- Students - 1%
PRINCIPAL PRACTICE SETTINGS:

- Hospital/Hospital-Based Clinic: 26%
- Community Health Center: 24%
- Private Practice: 13%
- Speciality/Retail Pharmacy: 9%
- Other/Unspecified: 9%
- HMO/Managed Care: 6%
- Industry/Research: 3%
- Industry/Research: 3%
- VA/Government: 2%
- Non-Practicing: Student: 2%
- Non-Practicing: Retired: 2%
- Health Department: 1%
Financials

The following financial chart represents our overall 2019 audited expenses for AAHIVM. For more in-depth information, please contact AAHIVM Finance Director Ericka Nanalig at ericka@aahvim.org.

American Academy of HIV Medicine
Total Expenses Year December 31, 2019

Program Services: $3,324,174.60
General & Administrative: $317,161.79
Fundraising & Development: $102,990.27
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