

BEAT-HIV

DELANEY COLLABORATORY

BEAT-HIV ATI Position Paper: Perspectives and Discussion

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Outline of Presentation

- BEAT-HIV CAB – Who we are
- Why is this ATI Position Paper important and Who is our audience?
- Development of Position Paper
 - Process and Timeline
- Description of Document:
 - Five Modules (questions and reflections)
- Participant & Staff Bill of Rights and Responsibilities
- Appendixes:
 - Glossary
 - Resources
- **Discussion & Input**

BEAT-HIV CAB



Vision Statement

A world where HIV and AIDS research *meaningfully involves* impacted communities, is *collaboratively created*, and *openly shared*.

Mission Statement

As a Philadelphia based HIV Cure Research Community Advisory Board our Mission is to:

- Integrate community involvement in HIV and AIDS cure related research and clinical trials;
- Serve as a bridge community to provide input and feedback to BEAT HIV projects;
- Foster and maintain communication and partnerships with project researchers in order to promote transparency and to disseminate findings in HIV cure research to our communities.



BEAT-HIV CAB



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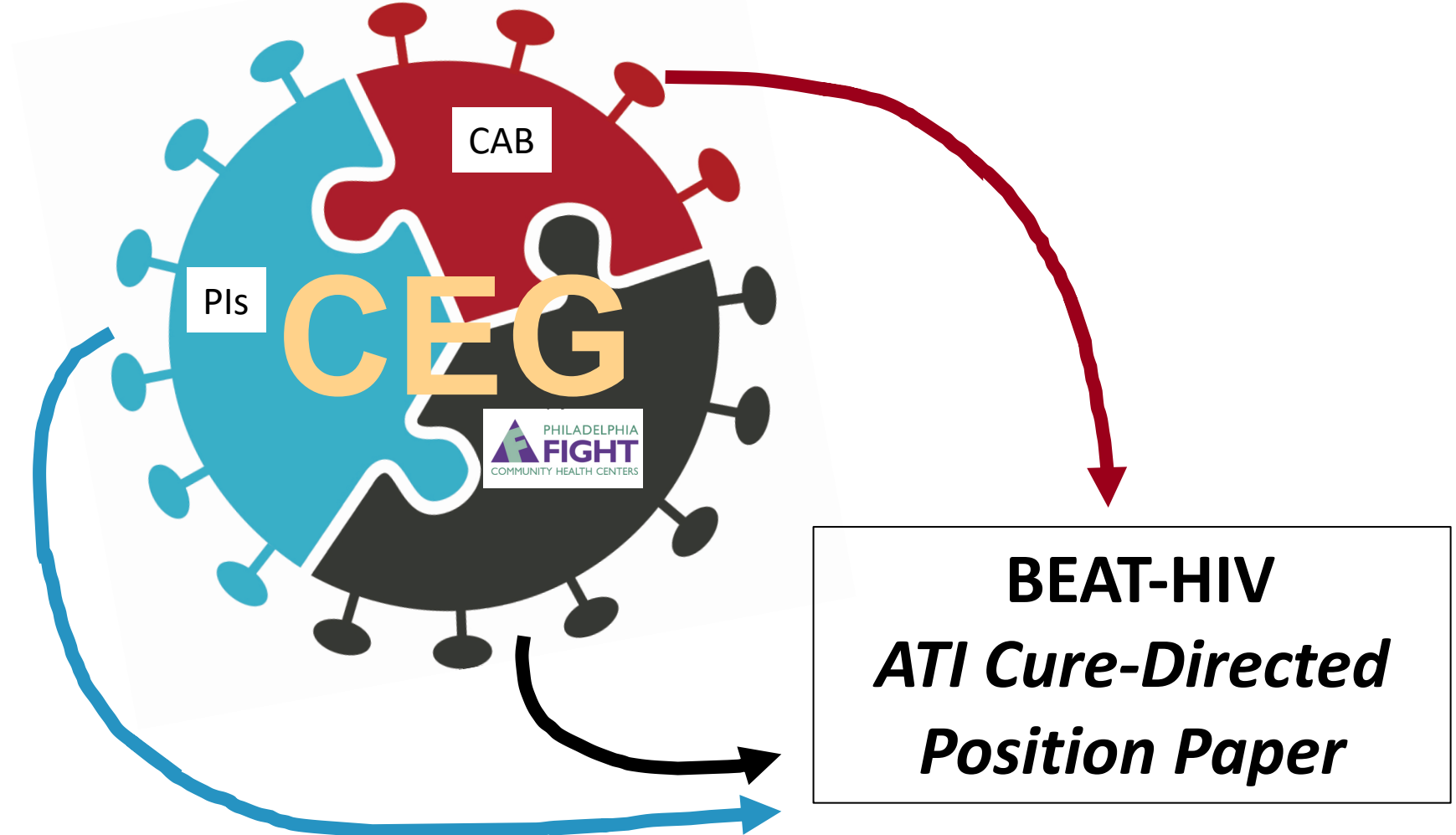
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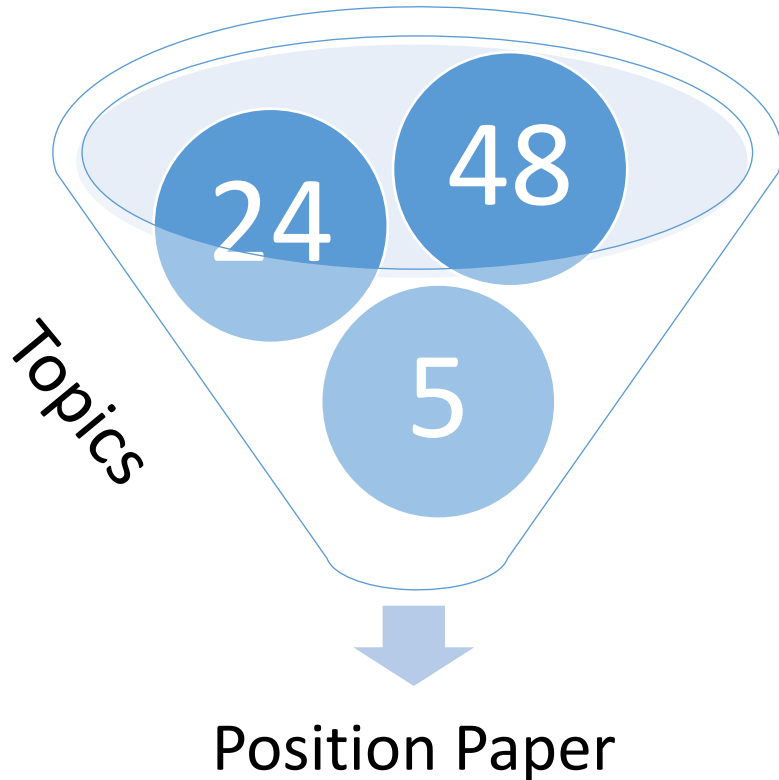
- **Integrate community involvement** in HIV and AIDS cure related research and clinical trials;
- Serve as a bridge community to **provide input and feedback to BEAT HIV projects**;
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BEAT-HIV MODEL: Community Engagement Group

[Scientists+CBO+CAB]



Process towards Modules

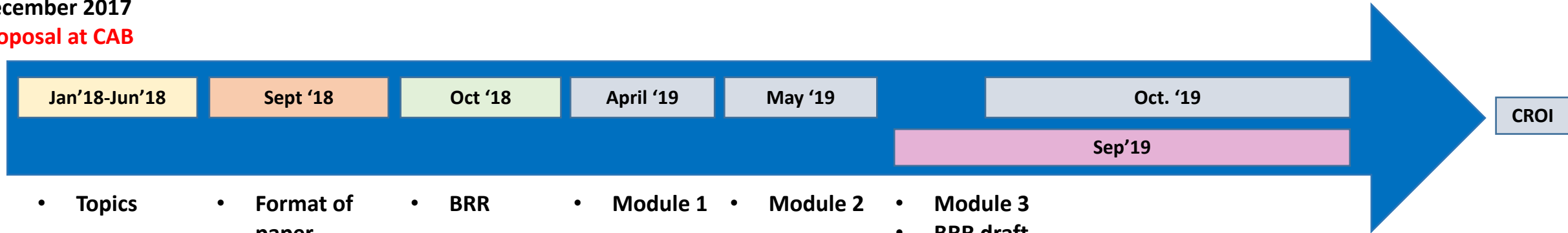


- CAB-led project; identification and consolidation of topics for inclusion and prioritization
 - Collaborate with our partners, PIs and Philadelphia FIGHT:
Community Engagement Group (CEG)

Timeline

December 2017

Proposal at CAB



- Topics
- Format of paper
- Module assignments
- Info gathering
- BRR
- Review other position papers
- Personal reflections
- Module 1
- Module 2
- Module 3
- BRR draft
- Module 4
- Module 5



*BEAT-HIV
Videos Started

June '19

Why is this important?

Essential information that we want the BEAT-HIV community members to know about participation in cure-directed studies, *with special attention to studies including therapy interruption.*

Audience

- Paper written at an 8th grade level
- Directed to Western Society audiences
- Directed to Adults
- Primarily directed to participants and interested persons; secondary audience includes scientific or medical professionals
- Intended to complement BEAT-HIV study documents

Outline of Document

- **Introduction**
- **Modules**
 - Module 1: What and why are ATI interruptions in HIV cure-directed studies?
 - Module 2: Considerations for participation in cure-directed studies
 - Module 3: Navigating the informed consent process
 - Module 4: Social implications to consider when enrolling in an ATI studies
 - Module 5: Women in HIV Cure-Directed Research
- **Participant & Staff Bill of Rights and Responsibilities**
- **Appendixes**
 - Glossary
 - Added Resources

Format of Each Module

- Summary Points
- Frequently asked questions
- Personal reflections

Module 1 – What and why are ATI interruptions in HIV cure-directed studies

- What is a therapy interruption or analytical treatment interruption (ATI) and why are they needed?
- Are all ATI the same?
- When are ATIs appropriate?
- What are the risks of an ATI?
- How are risks of an ATI best managed?
- How do I know if a study with an ATI is appropriate for me?
- What are acceptable ATI criteria for the BEAT-HIV study team?

Module 2 – Personal considerations for participation in cure-directed studies

- **Why participate** in an HIV cure-directed study when my meds are working?
- Will the intervention hurt, affect or **change my general health**?
- Does it matter **if I withdraw** from a cure-directed study?
- Am I going to be viremic? How long will I be off meds? **Will I get sick** if I get off meds under a study?
- Will I be able to go back to using the **same meds**? Will I be undetectable again?
- **Who will interact with me** and what role does the researcher have? Will I see him/her?
- Are study activities and tests to be covered by my **insurance**?
- Why do studies often ask for my **samples to be stored** long after study is over?

Module 3 – Navigating the informed consent process

- What are the **essential points** to an informed consent form?
- Is the named researcher on the informed consent the one that should be **consenting me?**
- If English is not my first language, can I ask for a **translation** or for a native-speaker to help me?
- If the informed consent states that I will get paid during study, is my participation like being “hired” for a **job?**
- Does the informed consent need to state what happens if I get **injured** in study?
- Should the consent make clear how my **confidentiality** will be guarded?
- If I sign an informed consent form, **am I done** with consenting until the study ends?
- What aspects are often not in the informed consent but I **should ask about anyway?**
- Should the informed consent state clearly **who is sponsoring** this study?



Module 4 – Social implications to consider when enrolling in an ATI study

- Given that I can remain undetectable under ART, why should I risk losing this status and possibly be **stigmatized** by the community? How can I justify this to myself?
- Why are there different arms on my study? **Can I choose which arm** I want to be on? What does this mean for me?
- If I need **mental health support** during the study, will that be provided?
- Does my state **criminalize HIV transmission**? How do I find this out, and how will this affect me during my study?
- **What happens if it works?** and I remain virally suppressed. Will I keep receiving the study treatment? How long will you follow me?
- What are some **benefits** to participating in an ATI study?

Module 5 – Why is the participation of Women important in advancing HIV cure research?

- Why is **gender equity** important in HIV cure-directed research?
- What are the **biological differences** in women that matter?
- Why is it harder to recruit women?
- What are concerns that are **particular to women** in HIV cure-directed research?
- What **motivates** women to participate in HIV cure-directed research?



Module 5 – Why is the participation of Women important in advancing HIV cure research?

- Providers must support the **autonomy** of their female patients by offering opportunities to engage in HIV cure-directed research
- Community education and engagement that meets women **where they are**
- **Flexible and mindful** scheduling (early morning, late evening, weekends)
- Provide additional honorarium sufficient to cover the cost of **childcare** for study visits
- Provide supervised play **area for children** during study visit
- Provide **transportation support** via car sharing to make it easier for women to attend visits, especially for those with children (taxi, Lyft or Uber)
- Provide a **meal or snacks**
- In studies where investigators are concerned with blood draws and anemia, provide **iron supplement**
- Offer **birth control** for women of reproductive age (two methods of contraception if study so stipulates in the informed consent form)

Module 5 – Why is the participation of Women important in advancing HIV cure research?

- Provide rest area for longer or more invasive visits
- Provide children's books (for children to take home)
- Ensure study team and environment is safe and welcoming for all women
- Screening process should include a trauma-informed assessment to evaluate potential participants' needs in the context of the study
- Engage the potential participant's case management team at to address social issues that could interfere with study completion, for instance, does she have a safe place to live
- Funding agencies mandates for clinical trial enrollment that reflects the epidemic

Bill of Rights and Responsibilities for Participants and Staff

- 22 Participant Rights
- 13 Participant Responsibilities
- 11 Staff and Study Team Responsibilities

Appendices

- Glossary of key terms
- Resources
 - TAG Cure-Related Resources (Richard Jefferys)
 - Local resources (Ex. AIDS Law Project, Bebash, Mazzoni Center, Philadelphia FIGHT)
 - Bibliography – key articles and papers

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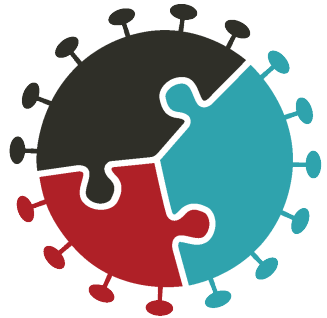


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Questions for Discussion

What are your thoughts on the topics we covered?

What did we miss?

Thank you for your interest and support!

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Module 1 – What and why are ATI interruptions in HIV cure-directed studies

- Therapy interruption **remains the best measure** to evaluate HIV cure-directed strategies, particularly those that work with the immune system.
- Therapy interruption studies are only appropriate if **other research has already shown** that the treatment to be added has the potential to be effective .
- Risks of long-term interruptions of ART are primarily associated with the onset of a future **viral rebound**.
- Main risks upon therapy interruption are the potential for development of **resistance** against anti-HIV medicines, disease **progression**, and the risk of **transmission**.
- Make sure you understand the **study sequence** (i.e., what will happen when) and **the informed consent** and have discussed what individual issues you may need to consider.
- Discussing study participation with your significant other or **partners**, if warranted, should also be recommended as ATIs may present a transmission risk.
- Above all, ask questions, get informed and only proceed when you (not just your provider) fully understand the risks and that participation **is right for you**.

Module 2 – Considerations for participation in cure-directed studies

- HIV Cure-directed studies are conducted to achieve either a long-term remission of ART therapy, or to get closer to achieving a stable cure for HIV.
- You need to be comfortable with all persons and organizations associated with the study.
- Determine what aspects of the study design depend on your insurance versus covered by study. This is important with respect to complications if encountered.
- Understand that if you consent to enroll in a cure-directed study, the hope and the expectation is that you will be able to complete the study.
- Cure-directed studies often include therapy interruption periods that will result in periods of viremia (even if carefully monitored).
- Clarify who will interact with you during a study and to what extent you will interact with doctors at the start of the study or if complications emerge.
- Cure-directed studies may ask you to consent to long-term storage of your samples after the study ends in order to allow for new analysis in future as novel techniques and information changes.



Module 3 – Navigating the informed consent process

- The informed consent process is intended to provide you with information in an **easy to understand** format.
- The informed consent form should clearly state that you participate only because **you want to**.
- You should take the informed consent form home and **spend time with it**, ask questions, and ensure that you fully understand it before you sign it. **YOU SHOULD FEEL COMFORTABLE TO REVIEW THE INFORMED CONSENT FORM WITH WHOMEVER YOU WANT.**
- Pay special attention to who is sponsoring study, what are the **side effects** expected and how will they be addressed.