A Unique Fellowship in HIV Medicine in Los Angeles

In-depth training for primary care physicians to care for people living with HIV in underserved communities
The AIDS Education and Training Center (AETC) at the Keck School of Medicine at USC has expanded their HIV Medicine Fellowship Program, a competitive program designed to train primary care providers to become experts in comprehensive HIV medical care. Beginning in August 2016, in order to further meet the needs of underserved HIV communities, the program has partnered with the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services (LAC-DHS) HIV Program, UCLA’s David Geffen School of Medicine’s Southern California Clinical Leaders Program, and ViiV Healthcare to expand our fellowship to accept up to four fellows annually. Continuing the program’s commitment to develop highly trained HIV experts, this new collaboration is a unique opportunity for young physicians who are committed to improving primary care for people living with HIV in underserved communities.

Goal of the Fellowship
For primary care physicians to become knowledgeable and have the necessary skills to provide comprehensive high-level, patient-centered HIV care, so that as providers they can develop community specific interventions, become systems leaders, and be successful community partners for the most vulnerable populations in HIV epidemics.

Certification and Loan Forgiveness
After completing the first year, fellows will be eligible for specialist certification through the American Academy of HIV Medicine (AAHIVM). At the end of the second year fellows will be eligible for loan forgiveness of $50,000 per year for each year (maximum of three years) they continue to practice in underserved regions after the fellowship.

Applications
Applications are currently being accepted through January 9, 2017. Applicants are encouraged to apply early. The fellowship program may accept up to four qualified candidates and begins August 1, 2017. Ideal candidates are board-certified or board-eligible graduates of a residency program in family medicine or internal medicine with strong interests in HIV medicine and capacity building programs to improve community access to quality HIV care. Applicants must have an active California MD or DO license before beginning the fellowship.

Interested applicants are encouraged to contact us for more information about the program and application procedures.

Additional information and application forms can also be found at: http://www.lachivphfellowship.com.
Fellowship Overview

Year One
The first year of the HIV fellowship program maintains the original AETC training program, while beginning to develop a patient-centered primary care clinic within Los Angeles County Department of Health Services and identifying a community implementation project.

During the first year, fellows are provided in-depth training in the medical management of persons living with HIV/AIDS at all stages of their disease including: initial diagnosis of acute and chronic HIV, treatment of naïve and multidrug resistant virus, and the prevention, identification and treatment of opportunistic infections. Fellows will manage patients at the LAC+USC Medical Center (Rand Schrader HIV Clinic & specialty rotations), Maternal Child, Adult & Adolescent Center of Infectious Disease and Virology clinic, LAC+USC Medical Center Emergency Department, Children's Hospital of Los Angeles, the LA County Jail System, and selected county and community clinical sites.

Clinical Rotations

- HIV Primary Care
- Communicable Disease/ Infectious Disease Clinic
- HIV Resistance Test Interpretation
- HIV Test Counseling
- Inpatient ID Service
- Colorectal Clinic
- Community HIV Clinics
- Correctional HIV Clinics
- Dermatology
- Emergency Department
- Hematology/Oncology
- Neuropsychology
- Neurology
- Palliative Care
- Pediatric & Adolescent
- Pulmonary Medicine
- OB/GYN
- STD Clinics
- Women’s Health

In addition to learning how to be HIV educators, fellows will have an opportunity to identify projects and local mentors for project(s) that seek to improve care on a community or system level.

Year Two
The second year enables the fellows to spend approximately half of their time providing HIV and primary care within Los Angeles County Department of Health Services primary care settings and the rest of their time participating in course work at UCLA. Fellows will also complete their implementation project focused on providing accessible HIV care in a meaningful and sustainable way to communities hardest hit by the epidemic.

More questions? Contact us.

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The HIV Fellowship is based in and managed by the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services (LAC-DHS), the second largest municipal health system in the nation. Fellows in this program will be employed by LAC-DHS. Their mission is to ensure access to high-quality, patient-centered, cost-effective health care to Los Angeles County residents through direct services at LAC-DHS facilities and through collaboration with community and university partners. Through its integrated system of 19 health centers, four hospitals and expanded network of community partner clinics, LAC-DHS cares for 670,000 unique patients.

LAC-DHS provides a range of ambulatory care services from patient-centered medical homes to children, adolescents, adults and the elderly. They also offer specialized care to youth in the juvenile justice system and specialized medical services for children in foster care to older adults. LAC-DHS is also integrated with the LA County Department of Mental Health and Public Health. Through academic affiliations with the University of Southern California and the University of California, Los Angeles, LAC-DHS hospitals are training sites for physicians completing their graduate medical education.

AIDS Education and Training Center at USC
The AETC is housed in the Department of Family Medicine at the Keck School of Medicine at USC, since its creation in 1988. Early in the HIV epidemic the AETC developed innovative programs and approaches to educating and training physicians and other healthcare professionals to prevent the spread of the disease, identify, test, and manage individuals living with HIV and AIDS. The first clinical training program for community providers and residents in the U.S. was established in September of 1988.

In 2000, recognizing an increasing need for well-trained HIV providers, AETC developed one of the first HIV fellowships in the United States. This 12-month fellowship accepted recent graduates from family and internal medicine residencies who had a passion for HIV medicine, primary care, and a desire to practice in underserved communities hardest hit by the HIV epidemic. This LAC+USC Medical Center based HIV clinical fellowship was unique in that it also included experiences in several community and academic settings. In 2010 the only HIV Corrections fellowship in the United States was established, in partnership with the LA County Sheriff’s Department, which operates the largest jail system in the world.

The AETC HIV Fellowship Program graduated its first fellow in 2001 and its 17th in 2016. All former fellows are providing HIV care in underserved communities in California and other states hardest hit by HIV. Many former fellows have advanced into leadership positions, including receiving academic appointments.

ViiV Health Care
The vision for this two-year fellowship along with financial underwriting are provided through the generous support of ViiV Healthcare. ViiV is a global specialist HIV company dedicated to delivering advances in treatment and care for people living with HIV. With its dedicated staff of over 700 people located in 15 countries and three regional hubs ViiV is able to extend its geographical reach through extensive relationships throughout the pharmaceutical community. ViiV is equipped to move quickly in response to the needs of the HIV community and has launched industry-leading access initiatives to help deliver on World Health Organization (WHO)/UNAIDS goals to reach all those who need treatment.

LA BioMed
The administrative support partner for this fellowship. LA BioMed is a non-profit scientific research organization dedicated to saving lives not only in the greater Los Angeles metro area, but throughout the world. The organization is located on the LAC-DHS Harbor-UCLA Medical Center Campus and affiliated with the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA.