Public Health

Name

[Institutional Affiliation(s)]

Author Note

HIV Policy

1. **Recommend modifications to the existing public health policy.**

Surveillance and resource management are essentially required to be implemented in healthcare facilities to prevent HIV/AIDS from communities. Research and development in the field of HIV transmission should be established to promote health education among communities. Health education and awareness programs are significantly required to change communication priorities among individuals and healthcare providers (Easterbrook, Johnson, Figueroa, & Baggaley, 2016). It has been observed that information delivered at the healthcare facilities is critically less, as compared to the required information. This shows that individuals seeking help from healthcare providers have no education regarding the transmission of diseases and therefore, detailed information should be provided by the healthcare facilities (McKay, Margaret Dolcini, & Hoffer, 2017). Governmental organizations are required to maintain policies for detailed health information to be available for individuals to prevent societies from HIV/AIDS.

Various studies have shown that policies and programs are developed however, these programs usually fail to reach its objectives and aims because of lack of implementation and accountability. Proper planning, policies and communications among healthcare facilities should be established and modified to attain goals of a certain policy implemented (Easterbrook, Johnson, Figueroa, & Baggaley, 2016). Collaboration among stakeholders, communication barriers and information desks should be improved so that a program of policy can achieve its goals and objectives adequately. External factors such as communication among stakeholders, private and public sector partnerships and availability of sufficient resources are essentially required to be modified and improved to sustain reproductive health status.

1. **Justify these modifications and explain how you think they represent an improvement.**

Modifications in the policy, such as collaboration among stakeholders, can significantly improve essential health needs, particularly, the reproductive health of the communities. Collaboration and teamwork will enhance the health of people through better planning and communication (McKay, Margaret Dolcini, & Hoffer, 2017). Healthcare providers working in private and public sectors need to be engaged in health education programs, and accountability can provide additional strength to the healthcare providers such as timely achievement of goals and objectives of the programs (Easterbrook et al., 2016). Planning and policies can achieve its goals effectively if the policies are prepared according to the needs of the people of a community. Rural and urban areas have different health needs, such as with people from rural areas that require the delivery of healthcare services along with health education.

People from rural areas are less educated and are less aware of their health priorities. Similarly, women are ignored regarding healthcare decisions and therefore, are the victims of health disparities. Communication among private and public sector healthcare providers is essentially important because this platform can establish a better way of communication for the people in need (McKay et al., 2017). Availability and accessibility are other factors that should be provided at all healthcare facilities, such as, lack of condoms that may have a higher risk of developing HIV and AIDS among communities. Modifications in the policies such as private-public partnerships, enhancing communication and accountability factors can significantly improve healthcare facilities.

1. **Evaluate related health policies that provide support for your modifications to the policy.**

The health policies such as:

1. Ensuring persons have access to condoms and effective behavioral interventions, so they have the tools needed to protect themselves from becoming infected with HIV (“DHAP Strategic Plan | DHAP Strategic Plan | About the Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention (DHAP) | HIV/AIDS | CDC,” 2019).
2. Increasing awareness of HIV, reducing HIV-related stigma, and promoting HIV testing and proven HIV prevention strategies through key communication campaigns and messaging among populations most affected by HIV (“DHAP Strategic Plan | DHAP Strategic Plan | About the Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention (DHAP) | HIV/AIDS | CDC,” 2019).
3. Conducting research designed to identify innovative, cost-effective, and high-impact prevention strategies that are needed to protect persons most at risk of HIV infection

These healthcare policies can significantly help and support the provision of modifications in healthcare policies. For example, healthcare facilities should ensure the availability and accessibility of reproductive health devices to all members of the communities. Education of people regarding healthcare interventions, precautions, and safe sexual practices can provide support to the healthcare providers in identifying the cases following instructions. People should be aware of the fact that healthcare services are meant to improve their health status. Healthcare providers, particularly nurses, can significantly improve the health of people regarding reproductive safe practices (Easterbrook et al., 2016). The availability of affordable preventive measures and cost-effective innovations, such as free condoms and check-ups, can significantly improve the health of communities. Health education can improve the stigma attached to the reproductive health-seeking behaviors of communities and reduce the HIV/AIDS incidence (McKay et al., 2017). The high-risk population needs to know their practices and what it can cause in the future. People from the communities that are at higher risk of developing HIV and AIDS need priority services and governmental organizations should deliver essential services free of cost to reduce the disease burden from communities.

1. **Examine how your proposed modifications address the ethical issues you identified in the previous assignment.**

People should be educated and provided relevant information regarding their health status. Healthcare providers are required to take informed consent from individuals before screening for HIV/AIDS. It is essentially important because the autonomy of the patient should be respected in all perspectives. Healthcare providers should deliver health information safely and harmlessly so that people are aware of reproductive health rather than getting stressed (Easterbrook et al., 2016). New and advance research should be delivered appropriately so that people adopt essential lifestyle behaviors. End of life issues should also be given priority. People should know-how and in what way HIV/AIDS is destroying their health. Healthcare providers should deliver information regarding the health of people, particularly reproductive health.

Health information on how the disease is transmissible and how it causes the death of tissues and systems. End of life issue is a sensitive issue that should be delivered to the people in a way that it should not hurt their feelings, particularly to those who have been diagnosed with this disease. Information about how antiviral vaccination can be helpful in the prevention of the disease, should also be delivered to the communities (McKay et al., 2017). Prenatal HIV screening and ethical issues related to this procedure should be addressed on priority, as the patient's consent is essentially important. Other ethical issues concerning the problem are delivery of services to practice maintaining nonmaleficence and justice.

1. **Synthesize scientific, legal, and regulatory approaches that inform your proposal.**

Government and policymakers are involved in the establishment of policies that are safe and improve the health status of individuals. Governmental organizations provide interventions that are specifically designed to improve individual behavior through education and incentives. Legal and other policy-level authorities need to establish laws and policies that are safe, cost-effective and encourage lifestyle changes (Easterbrook et al., 2016). Panels of legal advisors should recommend requirements from HIV screening and testing to prevent communities from disease. It has been suggested that early detection and screening can significantly reduce the burden of disease (Easterbrook et al., 2016). Communities and societies need to be engaged in health education and legal experts and policymakers should streamline the policies that are best suitable, cost-effective and significant in evaluating lifestyle behaviors of the communities.

Legislations and laws should be implemented, following positive lifestyle changes that are intended to achieve good health for all. Policymakers and legal advisors should know the importance of interventions that are cost-effective and affordable for communities and societies. Economic incentives to healthcare providers can improve their delivery of services, and indirectly, burden of disease would be reduced (Beyrer et al., 2015). Taxation and laws that promote health insurance should be prepared and executed according to the needs of the communities. Direct regulatory authorities such as pharmacies, healthcare facilities need to ensure the regulatory policies that help in the provision of policies safe for public health.

1. **Evaluate opposing opinions about your proposed policy modifications.**

Organizations and healthcare administrations involved in illegal practices would hinder the existing policies that are safe and protective (McKay et al., 2017). Healthcare insurance plans provided by various organizations, usually discourage safe and secure medical practices (Easterbrook et al., 2016). Non-availability and absentees of healthcare providers is another issue that opposes the ideas and modifications of the policies to be implemented, to achieve targets. Lack of education among communities, lack of financial resources to use safe precautionary measures during sexual practices and non-availability of precautions in the healthcare facilities can significantly reduce the implementation of modifications in policies (McKay et al., 2017).

1. **Recommend additional policy changes that might be needed in the future, based on current trends.**

Management of HIV/AIDS, with antiretroviral therapy (ART), has a significant role in the epidemic and has transformed how HIV/AIDS are treated and prevented. Therefore, additional research is required to be conducted on the study to evaluate the efficacy of the intervention in the communities. Interventions and policies should be modified to prevent transmission of HIV/AIDS infection from mothers to children (“DHAP Strategic Plan | DHAP Strategic Plan | About the Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention (DHAP) | HIV/AIDS | CDC,” 2019). It is essentially important to focus on those policies that work on prevention methodologies rather curative (Conner et al., 2019). Primary healthcare interventions and strategies to control the disease from communities are significantly important, as this would be able to reduce disease burden in the future (Easterbrook et al., 2016). Healthcare practices need to be redesigned particularly for the promotion of healthy behaviors among communities that can reduce the disease burden (McKay et al., 2017). Support and help are essentially required to form the departmental authorities, governmental organizations and policymakers to promote health and prevent populations from HIV/AIDS.

1. **Analyze how culture contributes to the issue and how you addressed this in your policy redevelopment.**

Policies are designed and established according to the needs and requirements of the public. For example, a high-risk population that has a higher incidence of HIV/AIDS transmission, need such policies that can reduce further transmission of disease among their communities, prevention of disease in people that are not yet acquired disease (Easterbrook et al., 2016). People need to know how behaviors and a healthy lifestyle can help in the reduction of diseases among communities. Lifestyle changes and health behaviors particularly reproductive health practices should be encouraged among communities to reduce disease burden (“DHAP Strategic Plan | DHAP Strategic Plan | About the Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention (DHAP) | HIV/AIDS | CDC,” 2019). Education regarding the use of condoms, safe reproductive practices and women's health, such as feeding children, is essentially important among communities to prevent people from HIV/AIDS (Beyrer et al., 2015). Cultural practices such as precautions during sexual practices need to be encouraged among communities.

# References

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