



# Management of TB, STDs, HIV, Hepatitis and Substance Abuse at the Border: a 4TC Collaboration

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A Member of the UCSF AIDS Research Institute





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# Long Term Collaborations

- **TB/HIV CA Prison Project (1997 – 2000)**
- **STDs/HIV: Prisons, American Indian communities, HIV testing, Prevention with Positives**
- **Substance abuse/mental health/HIV: training, curriculum development (2005), TOT**
- **Asilomar Faculty Development Conference (2001)**



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# US-Mexico Border Region

- **Most crossed border in the world**
- **Health outcomes among the poorest in the US**
- **Multiple health issues seen by clinicians; few HIV specialists**
- **Challenging Setting: rural and remote; few local expert resources**
- **Dedicated Border funding**





# Diseases Without Borders: Coordinated Approach

- **Why? Efficiency; better diagnosis for patients at risk for multiple health issues; better coordination; integrated prevention**
- **What: Annual ID Update: 4TC model began in 2004, in partnership with local health department and CHCs**
- **Specialty expertise to rural areas**



# **Diseases Without Borders: Coordinated Approach**

- **Easy border access for Mexican clinicians: simultaneous translation (USMBHC)**
- **Address multiple needs in one program; free CMEs**
- **Include hepatitis**
- **Past themes: Families and Communities; Focus on Addiction; Focus on Testing**



# **June 2008: Managing the Binational Patient**

- **150 registered; 19 clinicians from Mexico**
- **Binational Focus: binational TB care; binational continuum of HIV care; binational syphilis elimination**
- **Prevention with Positives: Ask Screen Intervene curriculum (PTC)**



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# **2008: Managing the Binational Patient**

- **Drug Addiction and Treatment**
- **Local Epidemiology: HIV, STDs, TB, Hepatitis**
- **No Man's Land: HIV, TB, HCV Research in the Frontera**
- **Working with Transgender Communities**
- **Web-based Training**



# Outcomes

**Follow-up self report: 75% of respondents indicated changes in practice**

- **New practices and procedures with meth-using patients for better adherence**
- **Expanded risk assessments with patients**
- **Hepatitis C education and outreach**
- **Connections in Mexico to support continued care**



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# Lessons Learned

- **We accomplish more together than we can alone**
- **High quality training resources to remote communities: better participation**
- **Expanded collaborations: HIV testing in CA**
- **Challenge: too many forms**