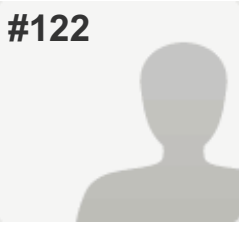


Ending the Epidemic Task Force Recommendation Form

#122



COMPLETE

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Q1: OPTIONAL: This recommendation was submitted by (please provide your first and last name, affiliation, and email address)

First Name	Joseph
Last Name	Krasovsky
Affiliation	The Fortune Society
Email Address	krasovj711@gmail.com

Q2: Title of your recommendation General Education of the Public on the Immune System and How Microorganisms make us Sick

Q3: Please provide a description of your proposed recommendation

I believe that the more informed the general public is on how our immune systems work, and how microorganism and viruses (such as HIV) contribute to disease, the more likely they will take common sense approaches to protecting themselves. A public education campaign educating the public could be a valuable tool in the fight, not only against HIV, but maintaining personal health in general.

I am not sure if things have changed, but it was not until I was undertaking college studies did I obtain a clear understanding of how bacteria and viruses work and can lead to disease. It wasn't until I was working professionally, before I learn how our immune systems work to maintain health, and combat diseases such as HIV.

I believe that knowledge is empowering, and that our youth and adult populations will have a better appreciation to protect themselves, when they possess a good general education in the areas of immunity, and microbiology.

Q4: For which goal outlined in the Governor's plan to end the epidemic in New York State does this recommendation apply? (Select all that apply)

Facilitating access to Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) for high-risk persons to keep them HIV negative
,
Other (please specify) A strong early general public education in these areas would also help people prevent diseases in general, and not only HIV.

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Q5: This recommendation should be considered by the following Ending the Epidemic Task Force Committee (Select all that apply)

Data Committee: Develop recommendations for metrics and identify data sources to assess the comprehensive statewide HIV strategy. The Committee will determine metrics that will measure effective community engagement/ownership, political leadership, and supportive services. It will also determine metrics that will measure quality of care, impact of interventions and outcomes across all populations, particularly identified sub populations such as transgender men and women, women of color, men who have sex with men and youth. In addition, the Committee will evaluate to determine optimal strategies for using data to identify infected persons who have not achieved viral suppression and address their support service, behavioral health, and adherence needs.

Q6: Does this recommendation require a change to an existing policy or program, or the creation of a new policy or program?

New program

Q7: Would implementation of this recommendation be permitted under current laws or would a statutory change be required?

Unknown

Q8: Is this recommendation something that could feasibly be implemented in the short-term (within the next year) or long-term (within the next three to six years)?

Within the next year

Q9: What are the perceived benefits of implementing this recommendation?

A good appreciation of how our immune system works, and how microorganisms circumvent it, may give people a better capability to avoid high - risk behaviors. This may be akin to our public education campaigns into the dangers of tobacco and certain drugs.

Q10: Are there any concerns with implementing this recommendation that should be considered?

None that I can see. It needn't be too complicated or difficult to understand. The concepts can be presented in very simplistic terms and concepts.

Q11: What is the estimated cost of implementing this recommendation and how was this estimate calculated?

Not known...but I suspect, relatively inexpensive in the scheme of things.

Q12: What is the estimated return on investment (ROI) for this recommendation and how was the ROI calculated?

Respondent skipped this question

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Q13: Who are the key individuals/stakeholders who would benefit from this recommendation?

The population in general, and not only HIV at risk., or infected individuals.

Q14: Are there suggested measures to accompany this recommendation that would assist in monitoring its impact?

This would necessitate a monitoring of long term infection rates. On would hope that with a better educated population in these areas, the rates would drop in time.

Q15: This recommendation was submitted by one of the following Member of the public