

FEP Week 4 – First Nations Health

Question 1

Human T-lymphotropic virus type 1 (HTLV-1) is an oncogenic retrovirus that causes a chronic infection affecting CD4+ cells. HTLV-1 prevalence above 1% is typically considered high. In some remote Aboriginal communities in Australia, rates of up to 51.7% in adults have been observed. Community leaders and health care providers are urgently calling for a clinical guideline on screening and management of HTLV-1. You are a Public Health Physician working for the Australian Centre for Disease Control and have been tasked with leading National HTLV-1 Guideline development. Describe your approach.

Question 2

You are the public health physician in a regional ACCHO with a substantial Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population, a large non-Indigenous population and a population of migrant workers from Pacific nations. There have been 2 cases of HIV diagnosed at the ACCHO in recent months. How would you investigate this further and what might be some strategies you suggest?

Question 3 (if needed)

You are the public health physician working within the Public Health Division of your State/Territory's Department for Health. The government wants to develop a strategy for climate change and wants to focus on those who might be most vulnerable to the effects of climate change. The Chief Health Officer has asked you to do a health impact assessment on climate change in remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to guide this strategy. Outline your approach.