

Central Florida HIV  
**PLANNING**  
**COUNCIL**

**SERVING**

Orange | Osceola | Seminole | Lake | Brevard Counties

# Conducting Needs Assessments



# Objectives

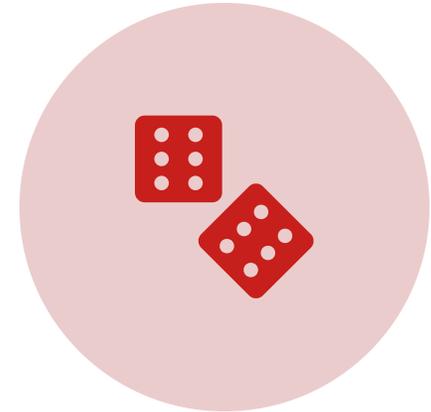
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WHAT IS A NEEDS  
ASSESSMENT?



WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?



WHAT IS INCLUDED IN A  
NEEDS ASSESSMENT?

# What is a Needs Assessment?

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- The process of collecting information about what medical and support services PWH need to:
  - Enter/return to care
  - Remain in care
  - Achieve and maintain viral suppression
- Measures the extent to which our current system of care can meet the needs of PWH, and helps identify service needs & gaps
- Includes data obtained from multiple sources using a variety of methods



# What is a Needs Assessment?

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- What is needed to bridge any gaps along each step of the HIV care continuum?



# Importance of Needs Assessment

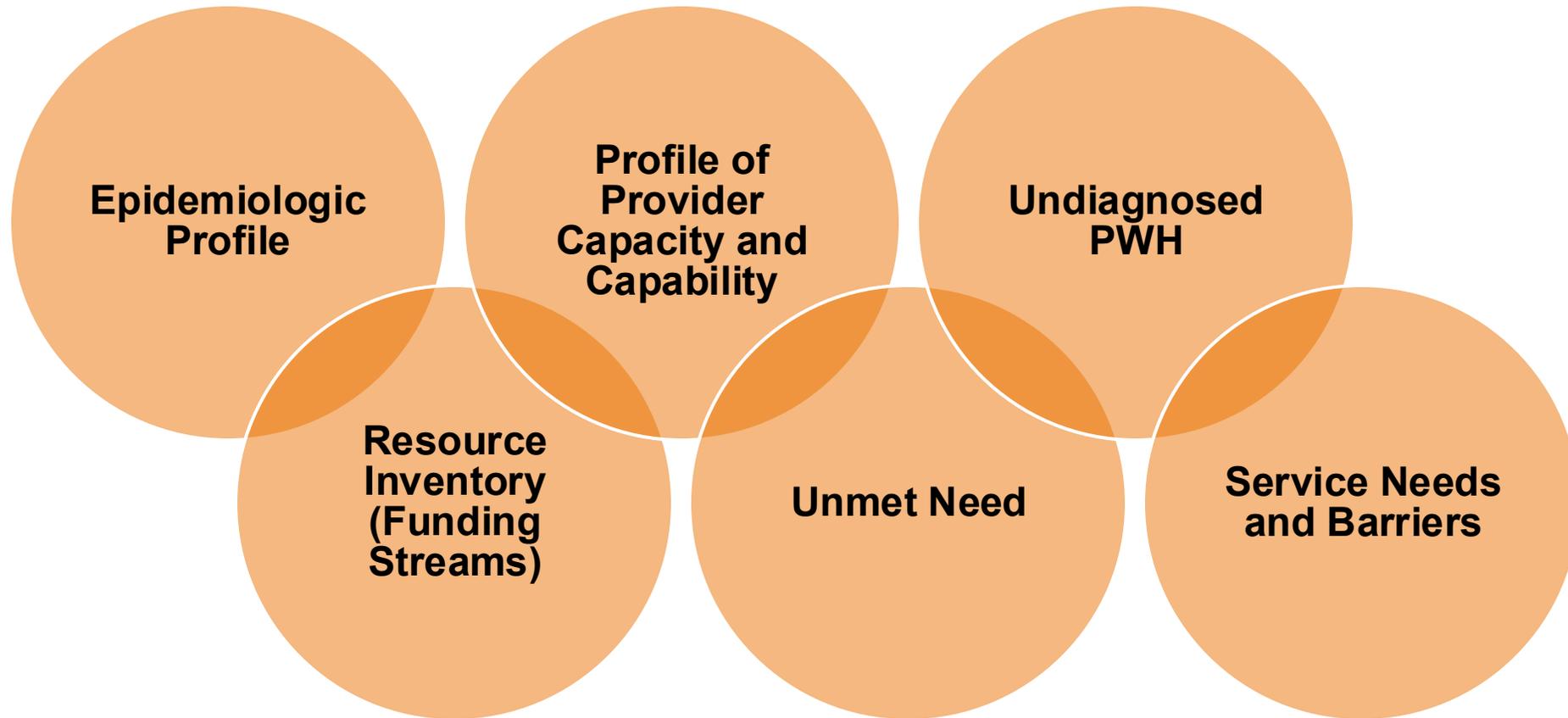
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- Legislative requirement
- Generates data for key planning tasks:
  - Priority Setting and Resource Allocation (PSRA), including developing directives
  - Developing or updating the Integrated Plan
- Helps identify service needs, barriers, and gaps
  - Improving services, with particular emphasis on reducing HIV-related health disparities



# Components of a Needs Assessment

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# Timing and HRSA Expectations

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- The epidemiological profile is updated **annually**
- Other components are on a **multi-year cycle** (different parts updated each year)
- Timing:
  - Needs Assessment (NA) completed prior to Data Presentation
  - NA data and input inform Priority Setting & Resource Allocation

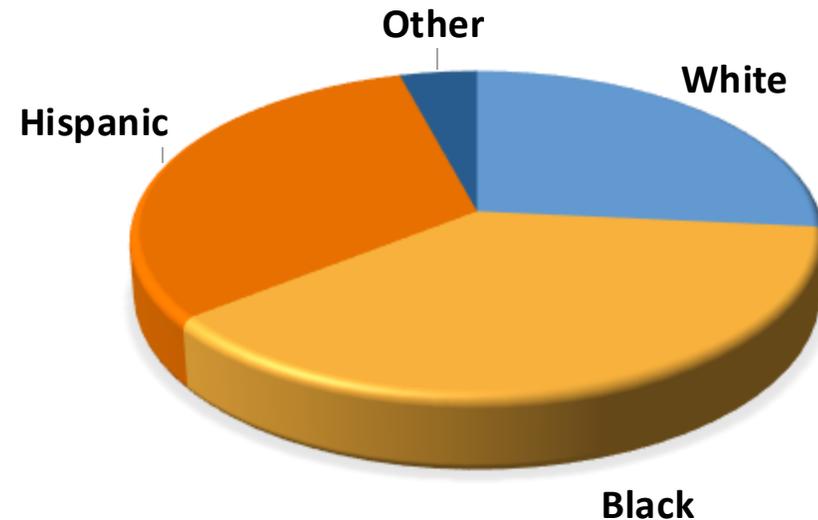
***Needs Assessment process must include direct input from people living with HIV!***



# Epidemiological (Epi) Profile

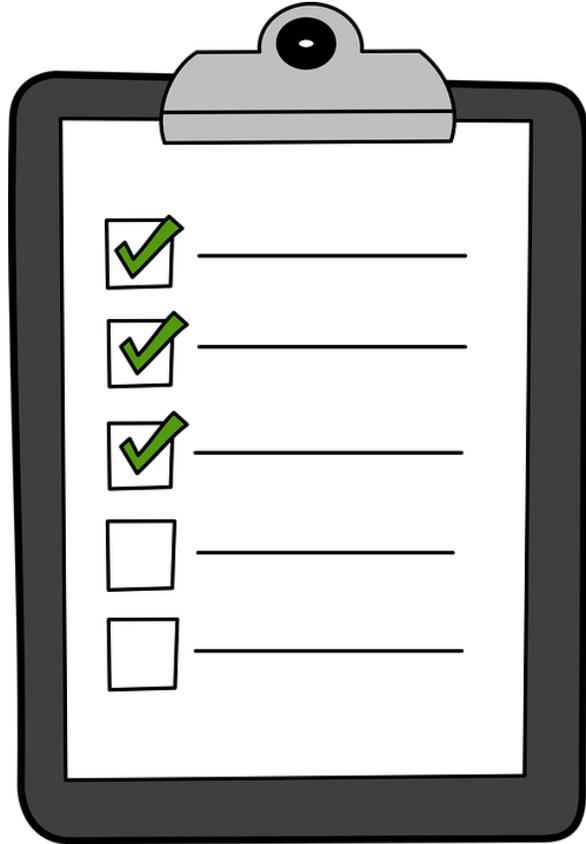
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- The number and characteristics of people in an area who have been diagnosed with HIV.
- Important for tracking how the epidemic is changing over time
- Examples of characteristics:
  - Geographic distribution
  - Racial demographics
  - Risk factors
  - Number of HIV vs. AIDS cases
  - Emerging populations



# Resource Inventory (Funding Streams)

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**A listing and description of providers of HIV-related services and:**

- Types of services provided
- Where services are located
- Who the providers serve

**Examples:** RW-funded providers, Medicare/Medicaid, housing services, support groups, food pantries, capacity to meet needs financially



# Profile of Provider Capacity and Capability

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- Provides information on service capacity and capability of providers to meet the needs of PWH
- Service **availability**
  - Ex. How many “slots” are there? Is there a wait list?
- Service **accessibility**
  - Ex. Location; service hours; wait times; public transit
- Service **appropriateness**
  - Ex. Languages spoken; cultural responsiveness

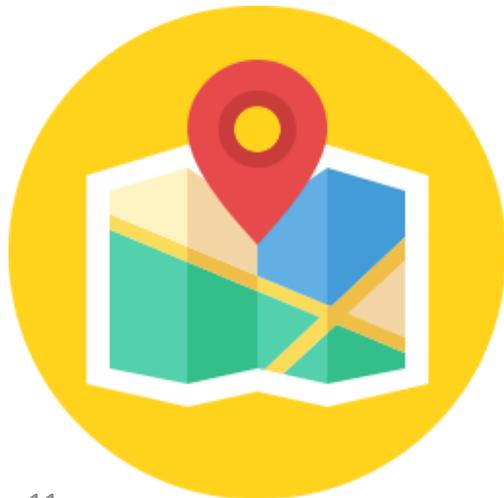


# Unmet Need

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- **Estimate:** The number of people living with HIV who know their status but are not receiving regular primary medical care.
- **Assessment:** Information about people living with HIV who know their status but are not receiving regular primary medical care.

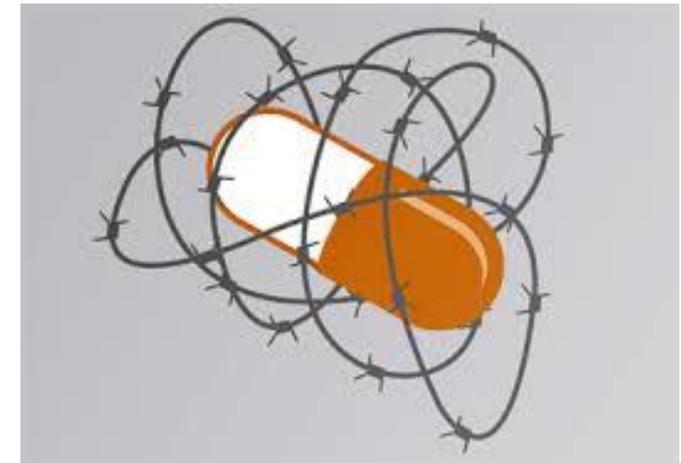
Location



Primary Care Needs

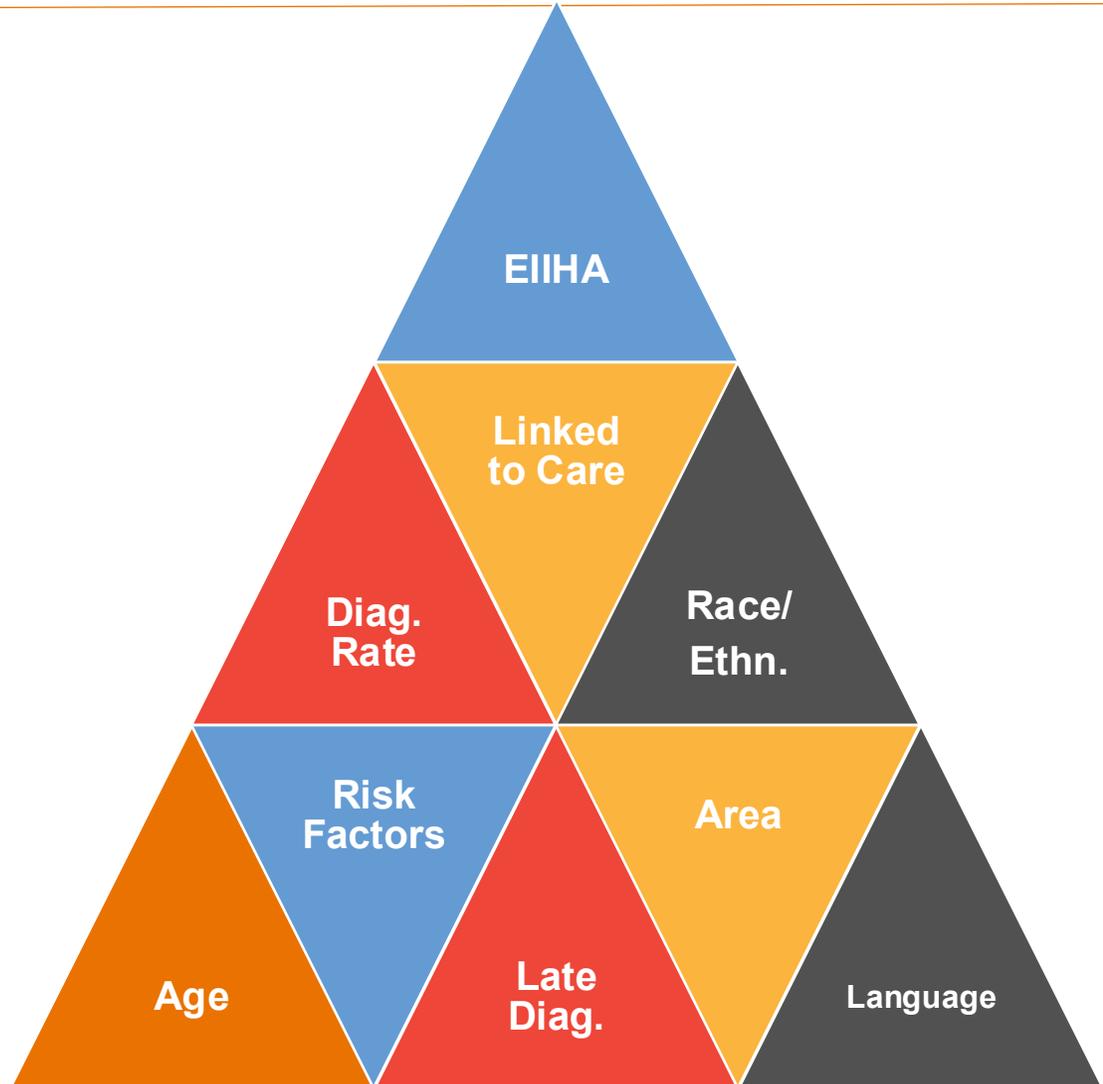


Barriers to care



# Undiagnosed PWH

- **Estimate:** The number of people living with HIV who do not know their status (usually calculated using CDC formula).
- **Assessment:** Exploring what subpopulations are most likely to be unaware of their status.



# Service Needs & Barriers

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- Collection of information about the service needs of people with HIV and barriers to obtaining these services
- Includes client needs assessment survey (3-year cycle)
- Looks at all HIV-related care needs
- Considers:
  - Are enough resources available?
  - Ease or difficulty in accessing services?
  - Identification of barriers?



# Ways to Collect Data

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- Surveys
- Focus groups
- Special studies
- Community round tables
- Town hall meetings
- Key informant interviews

What kind of tools would you use to collect data for:

Epidemiological Profile?

Resource Inventory?

Provider Capacity & Capability?

Unmet Need?

Undiagnosed PWH?

Service Needs and Barriers?



# Assessment of Service Gaps

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- A review of all data gathered through the Needs Assessment plus other data on service utilization and client characteristics to determine gaps by service category and location, and for specific subpopulations
- Through analysis, we can determine...
  - Who falls into the gap?
  - How do we fill the gap? (E.g., other supportive services)
- Addressing these needs may require changes in what services are funded and at what amounts





Questions?