



Dear HIV Expert

We are seeking researchers and service providers, whose research or clinical work focuses on people living with HIV or other chronic episodic conditions (such as arthritis, multiple sclerosis, depression, diabetes and others) to participate in a focus group or individual interview to share their ideas about service delivery models for addressing the rehabilitation needs of people living with HIV. Rehabilitation refers to prevention and treatment activities and services that address impairments, limitations in activities and barriers that prevent people from fully participating in society. Rehabilitation is an emerging but under-researched field in the context of this population. The purpose of our research is to develop a strong foundation for the development, implementation and evaluation of rehabilitation intervention service models for people living with HIV by strengthening relationships and collaborations among stakeholders, learning about best practices and promising rehabilitation interventions for people living with HIV and other chronic episodic conditions, and examining intervention service delivery models for rehabilitation as they could apply to people living with HIV in diverse settings.

We are currently conducting a literature review to discover effective and promising rehabilitation practices for people living with HIV and other chronic episodic conditions. We will then be conducting a small number of focus groups with service providers and researchers from across Canada to share the findings of our literature review and seek their perspectives about the appropriateness and feasibility of these practices. If you participate in the project you will be asked to provide your perspectives about an ideal rehabilitation service delivery model and view an in-person or online presentation that will communicate the results of our literature review. You will participate in a 1.5 hour telephone focus group with people from across Canada to discuss the applicability and feasibility of rehabilitation service delivery models.

The expertise of leaders in the field of HIV is vital to the success of this project. If you are interested in participating, please contact Stephanie Giberson-Kirby, Research Coordinator at ssgibers@cc.umanitoba.ca or (204) 977-5604.

Please contact me if you would like more information about the project.

Sincerely,

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