



C.H.A.I.N. BRIEFING 2015-1

Place of Residence and Location of Services

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Briefing Questions:

How often do CHAIN participants travel outside of their neighborhoods for HIV/AIDS medical care, case management, drug treatment, housing, mental health, or food and nutritional services?

Among CHAIN participants who travel outside of their neighborhoods for medical care and case management, what proportion would prefer to receive these services in their neighborhoods?

Key Findings

- CHAIN cohort members typically travel moderate distances for medical care and social services.
- Over 70% of New York City (NYC) CHAIN participants travel outside of their neighborhoods for HIV/AIDS medical care and case management.
- Approximately half of Tri-County CHAIN participants travel outside of their neighborhoods for HIV/AIDS medical care and case management.
- Among both NYC and Tri-County CHAIN participants who travel outside of their neighborhoods for HIV/AIDS medical care and case management, almost all prefer to receive these services outside of their neighborhoods.
- Among NYC CHAIN participants receiving drug treatment, mental health, housing, food assistance, or nutritional counseling services, between 32% (for food assistance) and 51% (for housing assistance) travel for these services outside of their community district (CD) of residence but within their borough.
- Among Tri-County CHAIN participants receiving drug treatment, mental health, housing, food assistance, or nutritional counseling services, between 50% (for drug treatment services) and 83% (for nutritional counseling) travel for these services outside of their residential zip code but within their county.
- Among NYC CHAIN participants receiving services, between 40% and 46% travel outside of their borough of residence for drug treatment, mental health, food assistance and nutritional counseling services; a quarter travel to another borough for housing services.
- Among Tri-County CHAIN participants receiving drug treatment, housing, food assistance, and nutritional counseling services, between 3% and 11% cross county lines for these services.
- Stigma does not appear to be a significant factor in preferences for receiving medical care and case management in or outside of neighborhood of residence.

NEW YORK CITY

Table 1: NYC CHAIN participants' use and preference for neighborhood HIV/AIDS medical care and case management

		<u>HIV/AIDS MEDICAL CARE</u>					
		Total	Borough of Residence				
			BX	BK	MN	QN	SI
Total (n=)		(572)	(149)	(177)	(134)	(75)	(36)
Use neighborhood services		28%	28%	27%	35%	15%	36%
Do not use neighborhood services	<i>But would prefer services in neighborhood</i>	2%	1%	2%	1%	5%	6%
	<i>Prefer services outside of neighborhood</i>	68%	69%	69%	63%	80%	58%
	<i>Location does not matter</i>	2%	2%	2%	1%	0%	0%

		<u>CASE MANAGEMENT</u>					
		Total	Borough of Residence				
			BX	BK	MN	QN	SI
Total (n=)		(567)	(147)	(178)	(131)	(74)	(36)
Use neighborhood services		27%	26%	20%	43%	14%	33%
Do not use neighborhood services	<i>But would prefer services in neighborhood</i>	2%	1%	3%	1%	3%	3%
	<i>Prefer services outside of neighborhood</i>	68%	71%	74%	54%	79%	61%
	<i>Location does not matter</i>	3%	2%	3%	2%	4%	3%

Source: Rounds 7 and 8 NYC CHAIN surveys: section M, Questions 19 and 20

Note: BX=Bronx, BK=Brooklyn, MH=Manhattan, QN=Queens, SI=Staten Island

When seeking HIV/AIDS medical care and case management, large proportions of NYC CHAIN cohort members travel outside of their self-identified neighborhoods, 72% and 73%, respectively. Among individuals traveling outside of their neighborhoods for these services, the overwhelming majority prefer to receive these services outside of their neighborhoods. Across borough of residence, Queens residents are most likely to travel outside of their neighborhood for these services. Manhattan and Staten Island residents are least likely to travel outside of their neighborhood for these services.

Table 2: Proximity of selected services to Community District (CD) of residence

	Total	Borough of Residence				
		BX	BK	MN	QN	SI
Drug Treatment (n =)	(64)	(23)	(19)	(14)	(3)	(5)
In same CD	14%	4%	5%	29%	0%	60%
In same Borough but different CD	46%	61%	42%	42%	33%	20%
Outside of Borough	40%	35%	53%	29%	67%	20%
Mental Health (n =)	(97)	(23)	(30)	(31)	(11)	(2)
In same CD	14%	13%	13%	23%	0%	0%
In same Borough but different CD	40%	17%	43%	58%	27%	50%
Outside of Borough	46%	70%	44%	19%	73%	50%
Housing (n =)	(231)	(74)	(69)	(50)	(20)	(18)
In same CD	23%	12%	12%	36%	10%	83%
In same Borough but different CD	51%	51%	60%	46%	60%	17%
Outside of Borough	26%	37%	28%	18%	30%	0%
Food Assistance (n =)	(221)	(64)	(67)	(48)	(26)	(16)
In same CD	23%	14%	19%	31%	8%	68%
In same Borough but different CD	32%	25%	30%	50%	31%	19%
Outside of Borough	45%	61%	51%	19%	62%	13%
Nutritional Counseling (n =)	(208)	(65)	(61)	(45)	(25)	(12)
In same CD	15%	14%	12%	16%	4%	67%
In same Borough but different CD	45%	31%	43%	66%	56%	25%
Outside of Borough	40%	55%	45%	18%	40%	8%

Source: Rounds 7 and 8 NYC CHAIN surveys: Section C Question 6 & Section L Question 1 (housing), Section C Questions 43, 45, 46 and 48 (food assistance and nutritional counseling), Section J Question 62 (drug treatment), Question 70 (mental health)

Notes: a. Small sample size (n<25) totals should be interpreted with caution.

b. BX=Bronx, BK=Brooklyn, MH=Manhattan, QN=Queens, SI=Staten Island

The great majority of NYC CHAIN cohort members travel outside of their CD of residence for the health and social services reported in Table 2 (see Figure 1 for a map of community districts). Among those traveling outside of their CDs for drug treatment, mental health, and nutritional counseling, roughly equal percentages travel within and outside of their residential borough. For those receiving housing assistance, a greater percentage travel outside of their CD but stay within their borough (51%) rather than travel to another borough (26%). The travel pattern is reversed for those receiving food assistance; 32% stay within their borough but outside of their residential CD, and 45% travel to another borough for this service.

Borough Variation

The majority of Manhattan residents receive services within Manhattan, and of these, the largest proportion receive services outside of their residential CD. For Manhattan residents receiving services listed in Table 2, out of borough travel ranges between 18% and 29%. In contrast, out of borough travel is more common among residents of the Bronx, Brooklyn and Queens. Typically, more than 40% of residents of these three boroughs receiving services listed in Table 2, travel to another borough. Housing assistance in all three boroughs and drug treatment for Bronx residents are notable exceptions to this pattern. Among users of these services, out of borough travel is between 18% and 37%. Staten Island residents appear to be even less likely to travel to other boroughs for services. However, because of very small sample sizes, Staten Island results should be treated cautiously.

TRI-COUNTY**Table 3:** Tri-County CHAIN participants' use and preference for neighborhood HIV/AIDS medical care and case management

		<u>MEDICAL CARE</u>				
		Total	Rockland	Westchester	Urban	Suburban
Total (n=)		(330)	(46)	(281)	(206)	(121)
Use neighborhood services		50%	26%	55%	58%	37%
Do not use neighborhood services	<i>But would prefer services in neighborhood</i>	4%	13%	2%	2%	8%
	<i>Prefer services outside of neighborhood</i>	45%	61%	42%	39%	55%
	<i>Location of services does not matter</i>	1%	0%	1%	1%	0%

		<u>CASE MANAGEMENT</u>				
		Total	Rockland	Westchester	Urban	Suburban
Total (n=)		(330)	(46)	(281)	(206)	(121)
Use neighborhood services		53%	39%	57%	62%	42%
Do not use neighborhood services	<i>But would prefer services in neighborhood</i>	2%	4%	2%	2%	3%
	<i>Prefer services outside of neighborhood</i>	42%	53%	39%	34%	52%
	<i>Location of services does not matter</i>	3%	4%	2%	2%	3%

Source: CHAIN Tri-County 2010 and 2012 cross sectional surveys; section M Questions 19 and 20

Notes: a. Putnam County sample size is too small to be broken out.

- b. The urban region of Tri-County corresponds to Westchester south of Interstate-287.
The more remote rural regions are included in the suburban category.

Approximately half of Tri-County CHAIN participants travel outside of their self-defined neighborhoods for medical care and case management. A larger proportion of Rockland County residents compared to Westchester County residents, and those living in suburban areas compared to urban regions travel outside of their neighborhoods for medical care and case management. The overwhelming majority of those who travel outside of their neighborhoods for these services prefer to receive services outside of their neighborhoods.

Table 4: Proximity of selected Tri-County services to zip code of residence

	Total	Rockland	Westchester	Urban	Suburban
Drug Treatment (n =)	(36)	(3)	(33)	(26)	(10)
In same zip code	39%	--	42%	50%	10%
In same county outside of zip code	50%	--	49%	46%	60%
Outside of county	11%	--	9%	4%	30%
Housing (n =)	(147)	(15)	(129)	(112)	(35)
In same zip code	24%	7%	25%	26%	20%
In same county outside of zip code	65%	73%	65%	63%	71%
Outside of county	11%	20%	10%	12%	9%
Food Assistance (n =)	(83)	(11)	(72)	(60)	(22)
In same zip code	25%	36%	24%	27%	23%
In same county outside of zip code	72%	55%	75%	73%	68%
Outside of county	3%	9%	1%	0%	9%
Nutritional Counseling (n =)	(69)	(15)	(53)	(37)	(32)
In same zip code	13%	7%	15%	16%	9%
In same county outside of zip code	83%	87%	83%	81%	84%
Outside of county	4%	6%	2%	3%	7%

Source: Tri-County 2010 and 2012 cross sectional surveys: Section C Question 6 & Section L Question 1 (housing), Section C Questions 43, 45, 46 and 48 (food assistance and nutritional counseling), Section J Question 62 (drug treatment), Question 70 (mental health)

Notes: a. Putnam County sample size is too small to be broken out.

b. The urban region of Tri-County corresponds to Westchester south of Interstate-287.

The more remote rural regions are included in the suburban category.

c. Sample size for mental health services is too small to report.

d. Drug treatment sample size for Rockland too small to report.

e. Small sample size (n<25) should be interpreted with caution.

Among Tri-County CHAIN participants who receive drug treatment, housing assistance, food assistance or nutritional counseling, between 50% and 83%, travel outside of their residential zip code but within their county for these services. Few travel to another county.

County and Regional Variation

Rockland County residents are more likely than Westchester residents to travel outside their residential zip code for housing assistance and nutritional counseling; the reverse is the case for food assistance. A lower proportion of urban than suburban residents, 50% versus 90%, travel outside of their zip code for drug treatment. Otherwise, travel outside of zip codes for services is roughly equal for those living in the urban and suburban regions. There is minimal cross-county travel for services. The notable exceptions are the 20% of Rockland County residents receiving

housing assistance, and the 30% of suburban residents receiving drug treatment services, who travel to another county for these services.

Is stigma a reason for traveling out of neighborhood for HIV services?

CHAIN participants are asked four HIV stigma questions that are widely used in HIV research. The questions are listed in the Methods Appendix. The answers are summed and averaged, and subtracted from five resulting in a scale ranging in values from 1 to 4. Higher values indicate *higher* stigmatization due to HIV. The following tables summarize mean stigma scores by location of medical care and social services.

Table 5: Experienced stigma by location of services (NYC cohort)

		Mean Stigma Scale Score	
		Medical Care	Case Management
Use neighborhood services		2.14	2.17
Do not use neighborhood services	<i>But would prefer services in neighborhood</i>	2.23	1.84
	<i>Prefer services outside of neighborhood</i>	2.19	2.19
	<i>Location of services does not matter</i>	2.39	2.45

Table 6: Experienced stigma by location of services (Tri-County cohort)

		Mean Stigma Scale Score	
		Medical Care	Case Management
Use neighborhood services		2.25	2.27
Do not use neighborhood services	<i>But would prefer services in neighborhood</i>	2.57	2.62
	<i>Prefer services outside of neighborhood</i>	2.29	2.30
	<i>Location of services does not matter</i>	2.37	1.00

While not free of stigma, the majority of CHAIN participants report experiencing a low level of HIV-related stigma. Between 26% and 37% of all New York City residents and between 22% and 43% of all Tri-County residents agreed or strongly agreed with any one of the four HIV stigma questions. Turning to the values on the HIV stigma scale, 32% of New York City

residents and 41% of Tri-County residents had scale values higher than 2.5, that is to say in the agree or strongly agree range for experiencing stigma.

The results summarized in tables 5 and 6 indicate that the mean HIV stigma scale values for persons who use neighborhood services are similar to or slightly lower than those for people who travel outside of their neighborhood for these services. However, variation with respect to location and location preference is not statistically significant. Therefore, stigma appears to have minimal influence on locational preferences for medical care and case management in either New York City or Tri-County.

Figure 1: New York City Community Districts



METHODS APPENDIX

Data Sources

CHAIN Interviews conducted between 2010 and 2014. Questions are the same for NYC and Tri-County residents.

CHAIN Interview Questions:

Section A: Zip code/borough/county of current residence

Section C

6. Which Agency or Paid provider helped get your current residence?

Case Manager, Social Worker

Other

Zip code/borough/county of above provider

43. Thinking of the past six months, have you had any of your meals in a group setting, where the food was provided by a program or agency, such as a hot lunch program or agency?

45. In the past six months, have you received any food or food voucher for a food pantry, in which a program or agency provided food for you to take home?

46. Since _____ (reference date), have you attended any group presentations about food and nutrition, in which someone at a clinic, agency, or program talked about how to prepare healthy meals?

48. Since _____ (reference date), have you received any one-on-one counseling about food and nutrition?

Zip code/borough/county for agency providing food or nutritional counseling

Section J

62. You told me that in the last six months you have received treatment or counseling for problems related to alcohol or drug use. Please look at this card and tell me what kind of treatment or counseling this is. Code all that apply

Outpatient Treatment

Methadone Maintenance

Buprenorphine Maintenance

Individual Counseling

Other Drug and Alcohol Treatment

Alcohol Anonymous

70. You told me that you used the services of a support group or received psychological or religious counseling in the last six months.

*Psychiatrist, psychologist other mental health professional
Clinical social worker/therapist
Support group
Social worker or case manager who also helps you get social services
Clergy or other religious Counselor*

Zip code/borough/county of provider agency

Section L

1. Please tell me if in the last six month whether or not you had a problem in the areas listed below and have you received any services or assistance in these areas

*Housing
Emotional or Psychological Difficulties including relationship problems*

Zip code/borough/county for any listed agency

For NYC residents, community districts are used to designate neighborhoods in Table 2, and in Westchester zip codes are used to designate neighborhoods in Table 4. In the few instances in which an individual received a service from multiple providers in different geographic areas, we took into account the recency of use and judged the importance of each service within each service domain.

Section M

19. Do you go to HIV/AIDS medical provider/Case Management providers in your neighborhood/community?

*Yes
No
If No*

20. Would you prefer to get medical/case management services in the neighborhood where you live?

*Yes
No
It really doesn't matter*

Stigma items:

Section F

Would you strongly agree, disagree or strongly disagree:

7. I have lost friends by telling them I have HIV.

8. I have been hurt by how people reacted to learning I have HIV.

9. I have stopped socializing with some people due to their reaction to my HIV status.

10. I regret having told some people I have HIV.

(Cronbach alphas for the four-item scale are .91 for NYC residents and .89 for Tri-County residents.)