

Substance Abuse Treatment as Prevention
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Substance abuse treatment has multiple intervention strategies that reduce the risk of HIV, as well as significantly decreasing substance abuse. The type of drug use and the risk population interact. Heroin decreases sexual risk and cocaine and methamphetamine increase sexual risk. Men who have sex with men, young women, and commercial sex workers are at relatively much higher risk than other populations for both substance abuse and sexual risk. There are five effective strategies for substance abuse treatment that also have significant benefits for HIV risk reduction: HIV testing, needle exchange, contingency management, residential treatment, and methadone maintenance, including buprenorphine. Detoxification is not effective for either reducing substance abuse nor HIV risk. The costs of the treatment rise exponentially from the following ways: HIV testing, needle exchange, contingency management, and residential treatment. At least five strategies for substance abuse treatment are effective in reducing sexual risk for HIV.