

**New York State Department of Health AIDS Institute  
SPNS Linkage and Retention Measures and Timeframe Guide**

The New York State SPNS Linkage and Retention measures aim to monitor the progress and impact of the NYS SPNS collaborative efforts to improve linkage to and retention in HIV clinical care. All participating organizations are expected to routinely collect this data set and to report aggregate results through the data reporting web application every two months. Your data should capture all patients/clients with a diagnosis of HIV/AIDS, regardless of age or funding source of services. These data will be used to set linkage and retention priorities and evaluate the effectiveness of interventions developed. Detailed data submission instructions and measurement resources are available to support your improvement efforts.

**Overview of Measures**

| Measure                            | Program Type   |                          |
|------------------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| 1. Linkage                         | All Programs that Conduct HIV Testing  |                          |
| 2A. Retention                      | HIV clinical care  | Same as in+care Campaign |
| 2B. New Patient Retention          |  |                          |
| 3A. Clinical Engagement            | Supportive Service <sup>1</sup> ,<br>General Medical <sup>2</sup> , & Dental |                          |
| 3B. New Client Clinical Engagement |  |                          |

<sup>1</sup>**Supportive Service** encompass all services offered to HIV+ clients including: case management, care coordination, early intervention, mental health, supportive counseling, food and nutrition, harm reduction, risk reduction, syringe exchange, prevention, substance use treatment, and treatment adherence services.

<sup>2</sup>**General Medical** refers to encounters with clinical providers who do not prescribe ARTs but provide primary care, such as reproductive health, STI screening, and education

**When should your program report on “Supportive Service, General Medical, & Dental” measures?**

All free-standing, non-HIV clinical care supportive service, general medical, and/or dental programs should report on the “Supportive Service, General Medical, & Dental” measures.

For supportive services, general medical, and/or dental services co-located within HIV clinical care, please adhere to the following guidelines:

- For HIV clinical care programs with fully integrated supportive services, general medical, and/or dental services it is NOT NECESSARY to report on the “Supportive Service, General Medical, & Dental” measures.
- For HIV clinical care programs without fully integrated supportive services, general medical, and/or dental services it IS NECESSARY to report on the “Supportive Service, General Medical, & Dental” measures.
- Lastly, if within your HIV clinical care program there are HIV+ clients who receive only supportive services, general medical, and/or dental services and not HIV clinical care services from your agency, it IS NECESSARY to report on the “Supportive Service, General Medical, & Dental” measures.

**Questions regarding the SPNS Measures or in need of technical assistance?**

Please contact Steven Sawicki, [svs03@health.state.ny.us](mailto:svs03@health.state.ny.us), who will connect you with the appropriate staff or resources.

## Definitions

### Measures Applicable to All Sites that Conduct HIV Testing

*Including those co-located within HIV clinical care sites*

- 1. Linkage Measure:** Percentage of newly diagnosed patients in the reporting period who had their first HIV clinical care visit within 30 days of the date of their confirmatory HIV test result.

### Measures Applicable Only to HIV Clinical Care Sites

- 2A. Retention Measure:** Percentage of patients with at least one HIV clinical care visit during the first 6 months of the 24-month measurement period who had at least one HIV clinical care visit in each 6-month period of the remaining 18 months of the measurement period with a minimum of 60 days between HIV clinical care visits.
- 2B. New Patient Retention Measure:** Percentage of new patients who have their initial HIV clinical care visit during the first 4 months of the 12-month measurement period who had an HIV clinical care visit in each of the subsequent 4-month periods in the measurement period.

### Measures Applicable to Supportive Service, General Medical, & Dental Programs

*Including those co-located within HIV clinical care sites*

- 3A. Clinical Engagement Measure:** Percentage of active HIV clients/patients with a supportive service, general medical, or dental visit during the reporting period who have a documented or self-reported HIV clinical care visit within the prior 6 months.
- 3B. New Client Clinical Engagement Measure:** Percentage of new clients/patients to the supportive service, general medical, or dental program without an HIV clinical care visit within the 6 months prior to enrollment that subsequently have an HIV clinical care visit within 30 days of enrollment in the supportive service, general medical or dental program.

### Measure Terminology

“**Reporting period**” is the time span used to construct the denominator for a measure. Reporting periods are measure-specific. See the measurement/reporting table under each measure.

“**Measurement period**” is the time span used to construct the numerator for a measure. Measurement periods are also measure-specific. See the measurement/reporting table under each measure.

### Data Submission Deadlines

Aggregate data will be submitted every two months through [http://newyorklinks.org/ny\\_database/](http://newyorklinks.org/ny_database/). Upcoming dates:

|           |            |            |            |
|-----------|------------|------------|------------|
| 4/01/2013 | 06/03/2013 | 08/01/2013 | 10/01/2013 |
|-----------|------------|------------|------------|

**Detailed Review of SPNS Measures**

**1. LINKAGE TO CARE AMONG NEWLY DIAGNOSED PATIENTS**

*Applicable to All Sites that Conduct HIV Testing  
Including those co-located within HIV clinical care sites*

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Measure</b>   | Percentage of newly diagnosed patients in the <u>reporting period</u> who had their first HIV clinical care visit within 30 days of the date of their confirmatory HIV test result                                  |
| <b>Numerator</b>   | Number of newly diagnosed patients in the <u>reporting period</u> who had their first HIV clinical care visit within 30 days of the date of their confirmatory HIV test result within the <u>measurement period</u> |
| <b>Denominator</b>   | Number of newly diagnosed patients within the <u>reporting period</u>   |
| <b>Patient Numerator and Denominator Exclusions</b>  |   |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Patients who are documented to be deceased at any time in the measurement period</li> <li>2. Patients who relocated out of the service area in the measurement period</li> </ol>   |   |
| <b>Important Definitions</b>   |   |
| <p>An <b>"HIV clinical care visit"</b> is defined as a visit with a medical provider with prescribing privileges.<br/> A <b>"provider with prescribing privileges"</b> is a health care professional who is licensed in their jurisdiction to prescribe ARV therapy (i.e., physician, physician assistant, and/or nurse practitioner).</p>                         |   |
| <b>Additional Note</b>   |   |
| Linkage of a patient to another institution such as a mental health inpatient unit, inpatient drug detox program, or correctional facility would, for purposes of this measure, count as "linkage." Ongoing efforts to assure engagement and retention or a follow-up linkage to an outpatient program are not the responsibility of the primary referring entity. |   |

| MEASUREMENT PERIOD<br>3 Months   |                              |  | SUBMISSION<br>DUE DATE |
|--|------------------------------|--|------------------------|
| REPORTING PERIOD<br>2 months during which new diagnoses are counted<br>(denominator) |                              | 1 month to allow linkage<br>to clinical care |                        |
| MEASUREMENT PERIOD &<br>REPORTING PERIOD<br>START DATE                               | REPORTING PERIOD<br>END DATE | MEASUREMENT<br>PERIOD<br>END DATE            |                        |
| 08/01/12   | 09/30/12                     | 11/01/12                                     | 12/03/12               |
| 10/01/12   | 11/30/12                     | 01/01/13                                     | 02/01/13               |
| 12/01/12   | 01/31/13                     | 03/01/13                                     | 04/01/13               |
| 02/01/13   | 03/31/13                     | 05/01/13                                     | 06/03/13               |
| 04/01/13   | 05/31/13                     | 07/01/13                                     | 08/01/13               |
| 06/01/13   | 07/31/13                     | 09/01/13                                     | 10/01/13               |
| 08/01/13   | 09/30/13                     | 11/01/13                                     | 12/02/13               |
| 10/01/13   | 11/30/13                     | 01/01/14                                     | 02/03/14               |
| 12/01/13   | 01/31/14                     | 03/01/14                                     | 04/01/14               |
| 02/01/14   | 03/31/14                     | 05/01/14                                     | 06/02/14               |
| 04/01/14   | 05/31/14                     | 07/01/14                                     | 08/01/14               |
| 06/01/14   | 07/30/14                     | 09/01/14                                     | 10/01/14               |
| 08/01/14   | 09/30/14                     | 11/01/14                                     | 12/01/14               |

**2. RETENTION IN HIV CLINICAL CARE**

**2A. Retention Measure**

*Applicable to All HIV Clinical Care Facilities*

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Measure</b>  | Percentage of patients with at least one HIV clinical care visit during the first 6 months of the 24-month measurement period, who had at least one HIV clinical care visit in each 6-month period of the remaining 18 months of the measurement period with a minimum of 60 days between HIV clinical care visits  |
| <b>Numerator</b>  | Number of patients with at least one HIV clinical care visit during the first 6 months of the 24-month measurement period who had at least one HIV clinical care visit in each 6-month period of the remaining 18 months of the measurement period. A minimum of 60 days between the first HIV clinical care visit in a 6-month period and the last HIV clinical care visit in the subsequent 6-month period is required. |
| <b>Denominator</b>  | Number of patients with at least one HIV clinical care visit during the first 6 months of the 24-month measurement period   |
| <b>Patient Numerator and Denominator Exclusions</b>   |   |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Patients who are documented to be deceased at any time in the measurement period</li> <li>2. Patients who were incarcerated for more than 90 days of the measurement period</li> <li>3. Patients who relocated out of the service area or transferred medical care at any time in the measurement period</li> </ol> |   |
| <b>Important Definitions</b>  |   |
| <p>An <b>"HIV clinical care visit"</b> is defined as a visit with a medical provider with prescribing privileges.<br/> A <b>"provider with prescribing privileges"</b> is a health care professional who is licensed in their jurisdiction to prescribe ARV therapy (i.e., physician, physician assistant, and/or nurse practitioner).</p>                    |   |

| MEASUREMENT PERIOD<br>24 Months   |                      |                        |                      |                        |                      |                        |                                   | SUBMISSION<br>DUE DATE |
|---|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| REPORTING PERIOD<br>6-Month Period 1<br>During which active patients<br>are counted (denominator) | 6-Month Period 2     |                        | 6-Month Period 3     |                        | 6-Month Period 4     |                        |                                   |                        |
| MEASUREMENT &<br>REPORTING<br>PERIOD<br>START DATE  | PERIOD 1<br>END DATE | PERIOD 2<br>START DATE | PERIOD 2<br>END DATE | PERIOD 3<br>START DATE | PERIOD 3<br>END DATE | PERIOD 4<br>START DATE | MEASUREMENT<br>PERIOD<br>END DATE |                        |
| 10/01/10  | 03/31/11             | 04/01/11               | 09/30/11             | 10/01/11               | 03/31/12             | 04/01/12               | 09/30/12                          | 12/03/12               |
| 12/01/10  | 05/31/11             | 06/01/11               | 11/30/11             | 12/01/11               | 05/31/12             | 06/01/12               | 11/30/12                          | 02/01/13               |
| 02/01/11  | 07/31/11             | 08/01/11               | 01/31/12             | 02/01/12               | 07/31/12             | 08/01/12               | 01/31/13                          | 04/01/13               |
| 04/01/11  | 09/30/11             | 10/01/11               | 03/31/12             | 04/01/12               | 09/30/12             | 10/01/12               | 03/31/13                          | 06/03/13               |
| 06/01/11  | 11/30/11             | 12/01/11               | 5/31/12              | 06/01/12               | 11/30/12             | 12/01/12               | 05/31/13                          | 08/01/13               |
| 08/01/11  | 01/31/12             | 02/01/12               | 07/31/12             | 08/01/12               | 01/31/13             | 02/01/13               | 07/31/13                          | 10/01/13               |
| 10/01/11  | 03/31/12             | 04/01/12               | 09/30/12             | 10/01/12               | 03/31/13             | 04/01/13               | 09/30/13                          | 12/02/13               |
| 12/01/11  | 05/30/12             | 06/01/12               | 11/31/12             | 12/01/12               | 05/30/13             | 06/01/13               | 11/31/13                          | 02/03/14               |
| 02/01/12  | 07/30/12             | 08/01/12               | 01/31/13             | 02/01/13               | 07/30/13             | 08/01/13               | 01/31/14                          | 04/01/14               |
| 04/01/12  | 09/30/12             | 10/01/12               | 03/31/13             | 04/01/13               | 09/30/13             | 10/01/13               | 03/31/14                          | 06/02/14               |
| 06/01/12  | 11/30/12             | 12/01/12               | 05/31/13             | 06/01/13               | 11/30/13             | 12/01/13               | 05/31/14                          | 08/01/14               |
| 08/01/12  | 01/31/13             | 02/01/13               | 07/31/13             | 08/01/13               | 01/31/13             | 02/01/13               | 07/31/14                          | 10/01/14               |
| 10/01/12  | 03/31/13             | 04/01/13               | 09/30/13             | 10/01/13               | 03/31/13             | 04/01/13               | 09/30/14                          | 12/01/14               |

**2B. New Patient Retention Measure**

*Applicable to All HIV Clinical Care Facilities*

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Measure</b>  | Percentage of new patients who have their initial HIV clinical care visit during the first 4 months of the 12-month measurement period who had an HIV clinical care visit in each of the subsequent 4-month periods in the measurement period |
| <b>Numerator</b>  | Number of new patients who had at least one HIV clinical care visit in each 4-month period of the measurement period  |
| <b>Denominator</b>  | Number of patients who were new to the clinic AND had at least one HIV clinical care visit in the first 4 months of the measurement period  |
| <b>Patient Numerator and Denominator Exclusions</b>   |   |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Patients who are documented to be deceased at any time in the measurement period</li> <li>2. Patients who were incarcerated for more than 90 days of the measurement period</li> <li>3. Patients who relocated out of the service area or transferred medical care at any time in the measurement period</li> </ol>   |   |
| <b>Important Definitions</b>  |   |
| <p>An <b>"HIV clinical care visit"</b> is defined as a visit with a medical provider with prescribing privileges.</p> <p>A <b>"provider with prescribing privileges"</b> is a health care professional who is licensed in their jurisdiction to prescribe ARV therapy (i.e., physician, physician assistant, and/or nurse practitioner).</p> <p><b>"New patients"</b> include any patients who are <u>new to your clinic</u>. This also includes patients returning to your HIV clinic following a 2-year absence and patients transferring into your clinic. This group is <u>not</u> limited to newly diagnosed patients.</p> |   |

| MEASUREMENT PERIOD<br>12 Months  |                   |                     |                   |                     |                             | SUBMISSION<br>DUE DATE |
|--|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| REPORTING PERIOD<br>4-Month Period 1<br>During which active patients are counted (denominator) |                   | 4-Month Period 2    |                   | 4-Month Period 3    |                             |                        |
| MEASUREMENT & REPORTING PERIOD START DATE  | PERIOD 1 END DATE | PERIOD 2 START DATE | PERIOD 2 END DATE | PERIOD 3 START DATE | MEASUREMENT PERIOD END DATE |                        |
| 10/01/11   | 01/31/12          | 02/01/12            | 05/31/12          | 06/01/12            | 09/30/12                    | 12/03/12               |
| 12/01/11   | 03/31/12          | 04/01/12            | 07/31/12          | 08/01/12            | 11/30/12                    | 02/01/13               |
| 02/01/12   | 05/31/12          | 06/01/12            | 09/30/12          | 10/01/12            | 01/31/13                    | 04/01/13               |
| 04/01/12   | 07/31/12          | 08/01/12            | 11/30/12          | 12/01/12            | 03/31/13                    | 06/03/13               |
| 06/01/12   | 09/30/12          | 10/01/12            | 01/31/13          | 02/01/13            | 05/31/13                    | 08/01/13               |
| 08/01/12   | 11/30/12          | 12/01/12            | 03/31/13          | 04/01/13            | 07/31/13                    | 10/01/13               |
| 10/01/12   | 01/31/13          | 02/01/13            | 05/31/13          | 06/01/13            | 09/30/13                    | 12/02/13               |
| 12/01/12   | 03/31/13          | 04/01/13            | 07/31/13          | 08/01/13            | 11/31/13                    | 02/03/14               |
| 02/01/13   | 05/31/13          | 06/01/13            | 09/30/13          | 10/01/13            | 01/31/14                    | 04/01/14               |
| 04/01/13   | 07/31/13          | 08/01/13            | 11/31/13          | 12/01/13            | 03/31/14                    | 06/02/14               |
| 06/01/13   | 09/30/13          | 10/01/13            | 01/31/14          | 02/01/14            | 05/31/14                    | 08/01/14               |
| 08/01/13   | 11/30/13          | 12/01/13            | 03/31/14          | 04/01/14            | 07/31/14                    | 10/01/14               |
| 10/01/13   | 01/31/14          | 02/01/14            | 05/31/14          | 06/01/14            | 09/30/14                    | 12/01/14               |

**3. ENGAGEMENT IN HIV CLINICAL CARE FOR SUPPORTIVE SERVICES, GENERAL MEDICAL & DENTAL**

**3A. Clinical Engagement Measure**

Applicable to all free-standing, non-HIV clinical care supportive service, general medical, and/or dental programs

For supportive services, general medical, and/or dental services co-located within HIV clinical care facilities:

- For HIV clinical care programs with fully integrated supportive services, general medical, and/or dental services it is NOT NECESSARY to report on this measure.
- For HIV clinical care programs without fully integrated supportive services, general medical, and/or dental services it IS NECESSARY to report on this measure.
- For HIV clinical care programs with HIV+ clients who receive only supportive services, general medical, and/or dental services and not HIV clinical care services from your agency, it IS NECESSARY to report on this measure.

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Measure</b>   | Percentage of active HIV clients/patients with a supportive service, general medical, or dental visit during the reporting period who have a documented or self-reported HIV clinical care visit within the prior 6 months               |
| <b>Numerator</b>   | Number of active HIV clients/patients, who had a supportive service, general medical, or dental visit within the 2-month reporting period, who had a documented or self-reported HIV clinical care visit within the prior 6-month period |
| <b>Denominator</b>   | Number of active HIV clients/patients who had a supportive service, general medical, or dental visit within the 2-month reporting period   |
| <b>Patient Numerator and Denominator Exclusions</b>  |  |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Patients who are documented to be deceased at any time in the measurement period</li> <li>2. Patients who were incarcerated for greater than 90 days of the measurement period</li> <li>3. Patients who relocated out of the service area or transferred medical care at any time in the measurement period</li> </ol> |  |
| <b>Important Definitions</b>   |  |
| <p>An “HIV clinical care visit” is defined as a visit with a medical provider with prescribing privileges.<br/>         A “<b>provider with prescribing privileges</b>” is a health care professional who is licensed in their jurisdiction to prescribe ARV therapy (i.e., physician, physician assistant, and/or nurse practitioner).</p>                      |  |

| MEASUREMENT PERIOD<br>8 Months  |   |   | SUBMISSION<br>DUE DATE |
|---|---|---|------------------------|
| Up to 6 months prior: Review if client from the reporting period had a documented/self-reported HIV clinical care visit | REPORTING PERIOD<br>2 months: HIV clients/patients with a supportive service, general medical or dental visit (denominator) |   |                        |
| MEASUREMENT PERIOD<br>START DATE  | REPORTING PERIOD<br>START DATE  | MEASUREMENT &<br>REPORTING PERIOD<br>END DATE |                        |
| 03/01/12  | 09/01/12  | 11/01/12                                      | 12/03/12               |
| 05/01/12  | 11/01/12  | 01/01/13                                      | 02/01/13               |
| 07/01/12  | 01/01/13  | 03/01/13                                      | 04/01/13               |
| 09/01/12  | 03/01/13  | 05/01/13                                      | 06/03/13               |
| 11/01/12  | 05/01/13  | 07/01/13                                      | 08/01/13               |
| 01/01/13  | 07/01/13  | 09/01/13                                      | 10/01/13               |
| 03/01/13  | 09/01/13  | 11/01/13                                      | 12/02/13               |
| 05/01/13  | 11/01/13  | 01/01/14                                      | 02/03/14               |
| 07/01/13  | 01/01/14  | 03/01/14                                      | 04/01/14               |
| 09/01/13  | 03/01/14  | 05/01/14                                      | 06/02/14               |
| 11/01/13  | 05/01/14  | 07/01/14                                      | 08/01/14               |
| 01/01/14  | 07/01/14  | 09/01/14                                      | 10/01/14               |
| 03/01/14  | 09/01/14  | 11/01/14                                      | 12/01/14               |



**3B. New Client Clinical Engagement Measure**

Applicable to all free-standing, non-HIV clinical care supportive service, general medical, and/or dental programs

For supportive services, general medical, and/or dental services co-located within HIV clinical care facilities:

- For HIV clinical care programs with fully integrated supportive services, general medical, and/or dental services it is NOT NECESSARY to report on this measure.
- For HIV clinical care programs without fully integrated supportive services, general medical, and/or dental services it IS NECESSARY to report on this measure.
- For HIV clinical care programs with HIV+ clients who receive only supportive services, general medical, and/or dental services and not HIV clinical care services from your agency, it IS NECESSARY to report on this measure.

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Measure</b>   | Percentage of <u>new clients/patients</u> to the supportive service, general medical, or dental program without an HIV clinical care visit within the 6 months prior to enrollment that subsequently have a HIV clinical care visit within 30 days of enrollment in the supportive service, general medical or dental program   |
| <b>Numerator</b>   | Number of new clients/patients to the supportive service, general medical, or dental program in the reporting period, without a documented or self-reported HIV clinical care visit within the prior 6 months, who subsequently had at least one HIV clinical care visit with a provider with prescribing privileges within 30 days of enrollment in the supportive service program |
| <b>Denominator</b>   | Number of new clients/patients to the supportive service, general medical, or dental program in the reporting period, without a documented or self-reported HIV clinical care visit within the 6 months prior to enrollment   |
| <b>Patient Numerator and Denominator Exclusions</b>  |   |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Patients who are documented to be deceased at any time in the measurement period</li> <li>2. Patients who were incarcerated during the measurement period</li> <li>3. Patients who relocated out of the service area or transferred medical care at any time in the measurement period</li> </ol>  |   |
| <b>Important Definitions</b>   |   |
| <p>An <b>"HIV clinical care visit"</b> is defined as a visit with a medical provider with prescribing privileges.</p> <p>A <b>"provider with prescribing privileges"</b> is a health care professional who is licensed in their jurisdiction to prescribe ARV therapy (i.e., physician, physician assistant, and/or nurse practitioner).</p> <p><b>"New clients/patients"</b> include any patients who are <u>new to your supportive service, general medical, or dental program</u>. This also includes patients returning to your program following a 1-year absence, and patients transferring into your program. This group is <u>not</u> limited to newly diagnosed patients.</p> |   |

| MEASUREMENT PERIOD<br>3 Months  |                              |  | SUBMISSION<br>DUE DATE |
|---|------------------------------|--|------------------------|
| REPORTING PERIOD<br>2 months: New client/patients without an HIV clinical care visit<br>within the 6 months prior to enrollment (denominator) |                              | 1 month to allow linkage<br>to clinical care |                        |
| MEASUREMENT PERIOD &<br>REPORTING PERIOD START DATE   | REPORTING PERIOD<br>END DATE | MEASUREMENT PERIOD<br>END DATE               |                        |
| 08/01/12  | 09/30/12                     | 11/01/12                                     | 12/03/12               |
| 10/01/12  | 11/30/12                     | 01/01/13                                     | 02/01/13               |
| 12/01/12  | 01/31/13                     | 03/01/13                                     | 04/01/13               |
| 02/01/13  | 03/31/13                     | 05/01/13                                     | 06/03/13               |
| 04/01/13  | 05/31/13                     | 07/01/13                                     | 08/01/13               |
| 06/01/13  | 07/31/13                     | 09/01/13                                     | 10/01/13               |
| 08/01/13  | 09/30/13                     | 11/01/13                                     | 12/02/13               |
| 10/01/13  | 11/30/13                     | 01/01/14                                     | 02/03/14               |
| 12/01/13  | 01/31/14                     | 03/01/14                                     | 04/01/14               |
| 02/01/14  | 03/31/14                     | 05/01/14                                     | 06/02/14               |
| 04/01/14  | 05/31/14                     | 07/01/14                                     | 08/01/14               |