# Cutting Through Stigma and Getting to "Yes!"

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## **Disclosures**

Brandon Mizroch has no conflicts of interest to disclose





## Overview: History of Detailing Work

- After receiving MD/MBBS, pivoted to public health work with the Louisiana Department of Health in 2017
- Attended the first-ever NaRCAD PrEP Institute in San Francisco in 2018
- Began AD program for Office of STDs/HIV
  - Created first provider pack
  - Began PrEP detailing statewide







# History, continued.

- Program expands to cover PrEP, PEP, syphilis, and eventually HCV
  - In 2019, Louisiana launches first-ever HCV elimination program
  - Tasked with creating and delivering education to providers who most likely have never treated HCV before
  - Created 2 Project ECHO Series
  - Champions Training Program

**HEPATITIS C** 

IT'S TIME FOR CHANGE.

It's Time to Eliminate Hep C.

Over 11,000 Louisiana residents have accessed hepatitis C life-saving medication

# History, cor

 In October of Utah AETC

Half supportServices for

New Project
Oriented Virunique med

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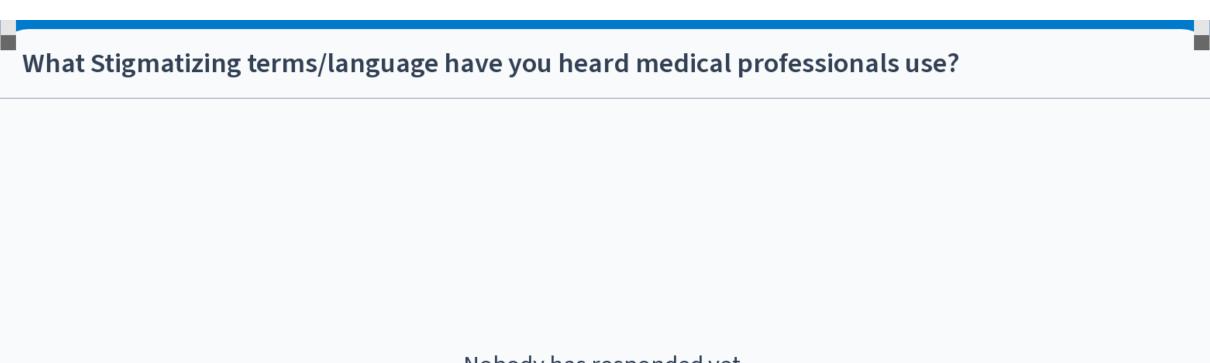


## **Barriers to Effective Detailing**

- Provider stigma has been one of the largest barriers to our work
  - Manifests itself very differently based on region or even person to person
    - Aggressive vs avoidant
    - Topic-based
    - Providers feeling overwhelmed







Hang tight! Responses are coming in.

## Overcoming Stigma: Aggressive vs. Avoidant

### Some providers will clearly voice their disapproval

• "I don't want to give my patients permission to have unprotected sex."

#### **Response:** Acknowledge their concern:

• "I know, it's so frustrating sometimes. I appreciate you want your patients to be as healthy as possible."

#### Remind them of the principles of harm reduction

• "PrEP involves frequent visits to be tested, so you can cure any infections before they have a chance to spread."





## Overcoming Stigma: Aggressive vs. Avoidant

## Some providers prefer to avoid the subject

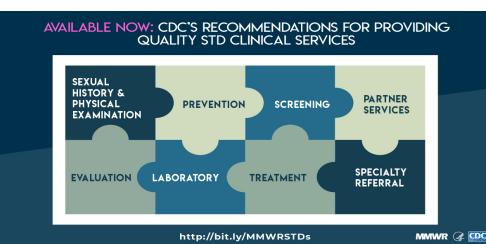
• "Oh, we don't have those kinds of patients here."

Response: Avoid confrontation, and remind them of the community approach to communicable diseases

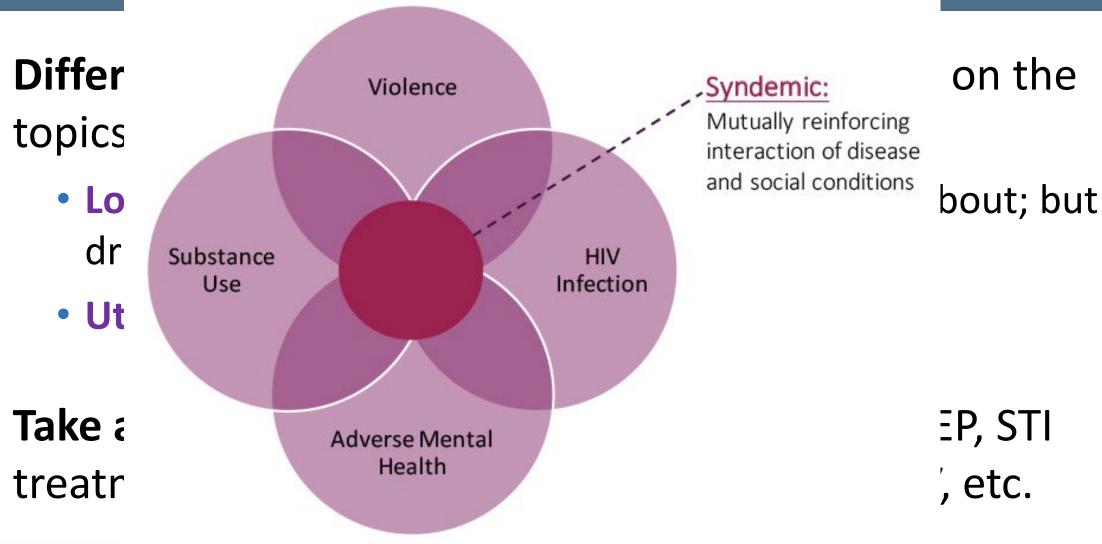
• "It sounds like you really value your patients here, but the CDC is asking all doctors to talk to their patients about PrEP now

regardless."





## Overcoming Stigma: Topic Based









## **Overcoming Stigma: Topic Based**

- Multitopic detailing ensures you'll always have some common ground.
  - Establish trust with the provider
  - Ask to come back to discuss another topic
- The most successful detailing results come from multiple interactions







## Overcoming Stigma: Overwhelmed Providers

- The more stigmatized a topic, the less language a provider will have to discuss it
  - Can feel daunting to incorporate a new practice w trouble talking about it
- Remind providers you're there to help
  - Treatment algorithms, LGBTQIA+ language guides.
  - Offer ongoing support and check in frequently







# **Key Takeaways for Detailing Programs**

- Start with getting comfortable yourself with discussing topics related to sex, STI's, and drug use
  - Helps set the tone, model how they can interact with their patients
- Focus on shared interests, not positions
  - Active listening, mirroring back language, patient health as a common goal
- Try to inspire!
  - Humanize your topic with stories of people
  - Connect your topic to larger public health goals like elimination and ending health inequities



