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National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors

<http://www.nastad.org>

Founded in 1992, the National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors (NASTAD) is a nonprofit organization of state health agency staff with programmatic responsibility for federal- and state-funded HIV/AIDS-related health care, prevention, and supportive service programs in the United States. AIDS directors in all 50 US states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and US territories are represented by NASTAD. The organization's website features content organized into five key areas: public health advocacy; HIV prevention; HIV care and treatment; viral hepatitis; and the NASTAD Global Program, which increases the capacity of resource-constrained countries to plan, implement, and manage HIV prevention and care activities. Each focus area includes listings of available publications and technical assistance materials. Key publications include "ADAP Watch," "HIV Prevention Bulletin," and "Reauthorization Watch," a resource chronicling legislative activity surrounding the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency Act. A publicly accessible directory of state HIV/AIDS programs and staff, along with agency web and contact information, as well as care and prevention profiles, is featured. The site also contains an employment opportunity listing. The website is well organized, with a useful search engine for locating specific contact quickly.

Access requirements: Freely accessible.

Forum for Collaborative HIV Research

<http://www.hivforum.org>

Launched in 1997, the Forum for Collaborative HIV Research is an independent public-private partnership housed at the Department of Prevention and Community Health at the George Washington University School of Public Health and Health Services. Its mission is to facilitate dialogue on emerging HIV clinical research issues and promote translation of research results into care. A wide variety of HIV clinical research stakeholders collaborate to address critical unanswered questions about optimal management of HIV disease and encourage coordination among public and private research initiatives. The Forum's website provides an overview of its projects, which recently have included definition of antiretroviral treatment failure, standardization of HIV drug resistance testing, HIV therapeutic vaccine development, regulatory considerations in lipodystrophy treatment, and buprenorphine in primary care, among others. Key reports and summaries are downloadable. The Forum's website provides investigators and agencies access to a listing and brief description of existing patient cohorts and databases relevant to basic demographics of HIV-positive patient populations, long-term drug toxicity monitoring, cardiovascular risk assessment, and HIV drug resistance, among others. Special events and announcements are regularly posted to the site. A free e-mail list service allows users to receive periodic notices of new reports, publications, and other Forum news.

Access requirements: Freely accessible.

HIV Visual Med Scheduler

<http://www.medactionplan.com>

The HIV Visual Med Scheduler is a web-based interface that allows HIV care providers to input and organize antiretroviral regimens to allow printing of patient assistance tools to support adherence to medication regimens. Once individual patient information is entered by the provider, the program will generate patient medication schedules and customized patient instructions in letter-

or wallet-sized formats, including visual reminders of medications to take with pill illustrations along with quantity and timing of doses. Adherence tips and special instructions can be entered. Also included is a weekly medication checklist and a chart for patients to record entries for CD4⁺ T-cell count, viral load, cholesterol, weight, and vital signs. A drop-down menu allows the user to switch between English and Spanish output. The company states it is committed to working with customers around compliance with Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act and other laws governing privacy and security of health information, as well as confidentiality and data security concerns. There is no cost to the qualified professional user to access the HIV Visual Med Scheduler, as the service was created with educational grants to the program's developer. Links to the Department of Health and Human Services' antiretroviral guidelines, the Food and Drug Administration's MedWatch, Medline Plus, HIVInsite's Database of Antiretroviral Drug Interactions, and Stanford's HIV Drug Resistance Database are integrated into the site. An advisory board of noted HIV care providers and pharmacists is accessible. The website provides a fluid, attractive interface, and end user help is available via the site.

Access requirements: Requires registration by qualified health care professionals to access full site features, which are free to the user.