

IMPROVING ADHERENCE AND CLINICAL OUTCOMES THROUGH AN HIV PHARMACIST'S INTERVENTIONS (B4), Angela Ma. Kaiser Permanente Medical Care Program, Vallejo, CA (Angela.X.Ma@kp.org) IRB approval received.

Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) positive individuals who fully adhere to their antiretroviral (ARV) regimens are more likely to achieve a suppressed HIV viral load and improved immunologic response; however, for most patients, medication adherence remains a challenge. In literature, clinical pharmacists contribute to the management of HIV infected patients; but due to variability in their clinical responsibilities, their value has not been fully realized. The objective of this study is to investigate the specific interventions of an HIV clinical pharmacist at Kaiser Permanente Medical Center Vallejo, who utilizes her medication expertise to provide recommendations for ARV regimen changes. The pharmacist may suggest new ARV regimens in order to attain virologic suppression, improve immunologic response, or minimize ARV adverse effects while simultaneously aiming to optimize the patient's adherence by decreasing pill burden and/or dosing frequency. This retrospective cohort study will assess the effectiveness of a HIV clinical pharmacist's interventions that occurred between September 2006 and September 2008 on pill burden, dosing frequency and adherence rates. In addition, CD4+ cell count and HIV viral load pre and post HIV pharmacist intervention will be evaluated for uncompromised patient outcomes. Medication adherence is calculated utilizing pharmacy refill records and based on

the general formula: pills dispensed/pills prescribed per day/days between refills. Final results and conclusions will be presented.