



OHTN RESEARCH LOUNGE EVALUATION SUMMARY

February 15, 2017 @ Glad Day Bookshop

SHORT SUMMARY: Dr. Beth Rachlis facilitated the discussion around barriers to HIV treatment access among people living with HIV in Ontario. Based on reading the article, “Use of Compassionate Supply of Antiretroviral Drugs to Avoid Treatment Interruptions or Delayed Treatment Initiation among HIV-Positive Patients Living in Ontario: Retrospective Review”, attendees discussed implications of compassionate supply of HIV medications in Ontario.

NUMBER OF ATTENDEES: 8

ATTENDEES WHO COMPLETED AN EVALUATION: 8 (100%)

DEMOGRAPHICS: Completed 7/8

- ▶ Community member: 3 (38%)
- ▶ Student: 0
- ▶ Researcher/academic: 2 (25%)
- ▶ Community agency staff person: 2 (25%)

OVERALL SATISFACTION: Completed 7/8

- ▶ Good/Fabulous: 6 (75%)
- ▶ Average/Okay: 1 (13%)
- ▶ Poor:

TOP COMMENTS

- ✓ **I loved...**
 - ▶ The engaging discussion and passion among attendees on this topic People being blunt, honest, that there was space for that
 - ▶ The interactive nature of the event
 - ▶ Listening and touching upon the people’s shared experiences and challenges to access the medication
 - ▶ Small group discussions and stories!
- ✓ **Wow, I didn’t know this!**
 - ▶ 1 in 10 Canadians cannot access medication because of costs
 - ▶ Many challenges of anti-retroviral access are largely structural, and in many cases, deliberate
 - ▶ All these barriers are inherent part of systemic/structural violence
 - ▶ Who is not included...who is slipping through the gap
- ✓ **One thing I learned that I will use in my work/volunteering/life is...**
 - ▶ I am going to review the article again and will share the points from this discussion with folks/peers who couldn’t be here
 - ▶ There are optimism/alternative possibilities that I was not aware of
 - ▶ To try and advocate to be included in this kind of research projects
 - ▶ Given point of contact and areas to manage to access the treatment and medication