Family Case Management

The Robert Wood Johnson AIDS Program's Nurse Case Managers provide nurse case management services for HIV infected and exposed infants, children, youth, and their families. HIV exposed infants are followed for 18 months while HIV infected children and youth are followed from diagnosis through the continuum of their disease process. The medical and psychological needs and medical management of the HIV infected children and youth are intricate and complex. They require close monitoring of lab work, imaging studies, and complex medication regimens and medication adherence. Due to the increased longevity of the perinatally infected children and adolescents their psychosocial needs are intensified. Their normal growth and development is confounded by their disease process, complexities of disclosure, medication adherence, and confounding manifestations of the disease itself which require labor-intensive efforts.

Psychosocial Services

Each patient, as well as their affected family members, is offered psychosocial services by RWJAP's psychologist and family case worker. A psychosocial assessment is performed upon entry into care to determine the patient/family needs and is reassessed at subsequent medical visits. The following services are offered to patients and their families:

- Adherence evaluation for medication compliance
- Individual counseling sessions
- Mental status screenings for anxiety and depression, as well as other mental health difficulties
- Psychosocial support groups
- Referrals to outside mental health agencies
- Assistance with financial/medical benefits; state and federal programs; social services and legal issues.

Psychiatry Consultation Service

Psychiatry consultation services are provided in conjunction with UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School-Division of Child/Adolescent Psychiatry Fellowship Program under the supervision of the Division Chief, Dr. Ted Petti.