HIVInsite

University of California at San Francisco Medical School sponsors a website that provides one of the most up to date sources for HIV/AIDS information, prevention, treatment and policy. This website is located at http://hivinsite.ucsf.edu/InSite. This website was developed and is maintained by the Center for HIV Information (CHI) at UCSF and is in collaboration with San Francisco Veteran's Affairs Medical Center, the Positive Health Program at San Francisco General Hospital, the Center for AIDS Prevention Studies and specific areas of the University's AIDS Research Institute. This website has been available since March 1997 and has the goal to provide in-depth and comprehensive knowledge about HIV/AIDS. This site contains both original materials and links to hundreds of quality sites providing HIV/AIDS information.

The home page is designed with a search box for the entire website. It also provides clickable links to areas such as the Site Map, Basics (which is a section on Frequently Asked Questions), Audio (which includes links to audio archives and streaming media), and News (which are links to current news items related to HIV/AIDS). There is also a general Links section. The home page lists clickable links to HIVInsite featured content, current news and volunteer opportunities. This page also features a bar link to the following areas: Knowledge Base, Medical, Prevention, Policy Analysis and Countries and Regions. Each of these areas contains many links to current original manuscripts, research and news.

The Knowledge Base section is actually an online reference text for HIV/AIDS care, prevention and policy. It is divided by topic section and also has a linked detailed table of contents. There are more than 100 chapters authored by experts in research, patient care and/or policy. This 'hypertextbook' is provided free of charge.

The Medical section is a resource for providers and persons with HIV/AIDS. The areas covered in this section include Knowledge Base, Antiretroviral Management, Clinical Trials, Treatment Guidelines, Medical Literature, Medical Newsletters, Conference Analysis, and Links. The central page also includes links to current news and conference information.

The Prevention section is designed specifically for researchers and community planners. It includes links to Knowledge Base, Program Tools, Prevention Literature, Conference Analysis, Prevention Basics and Links. This section also includes clickable links to current news and noteworthy articles.

The Policy Analysis section provides data and analysis through multidisciplinary research. This information is useful in developing and implementing policies concerning HIV/ AIDS. It also provides data and analysis to aid in allocating resources for HIV/AIDS. This section is divided into two areas named (i) Global, and (ii) the United States. Both include Knowledge Base chapters and the analysis and resources links.

The last section is Countries and Regions. This section provides information on a worldwide basis for resources, impact and response to HIV/AIDS. The Global resources include a World Overview and an Indicator Database. Regional Overviews and Country Quick Links also provide information based on specific areas of the world.

Overall, this site is very easy to navigate and provides a wealth of data regarding HIV and AIDS. The links that are provided are current and reliable. For both the clinician and the educator/researcher, this website can be a valuable resource.

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