

Procedure: 4.4 Transition Criteria and Process
Approval date: July 11, 2024
Approved by: Director, MB HIV Program

PURPOSE

This procedure provides the criteria and processes for PATHS clients to transition to longer term primary care services.

BACKGROUND

PATHS is a time-unlimited service; the duration of service provided by PATHS is determined by the clients needs. However, the goal of care is to transition clients to longer term primary care services when transition criteria has been met and appropriate supports are in place to maintain the client's health status.

Transition planning begins at the time of assignment to the PATHS pod. Promoting stability and independence should be considered throughout service provision. The length of time assigned to the PATHS pod will be determined by assessing the client's needs and supporting the client to acquire the skills, resources, and supports to address these needs over time.

Transition criteria

Transition from the PATHS pod to longer term primary care services can be considered when the following is met:

- Undetectable HIV viral load
- Physical and mental health stability
- Engaged with primary care team
 - Minimum of one visit in past six months
 - Monitoring labs completed independently or with appropriate long term supports
 - Managing ART treatment plan independently or with appropriate long term supports
- Self-management skills
 - Demonstrates understanding of transmission prevention
 - Demonstrates insight on health status
 - Awareness and utilization of appropriate resources and supports
 - Decrease reliance on acute care settings to meet primary care or basic needs
- Housing stability
- Long term supports for mental health and substance use when indicated

Transition process

While transition planning begins when a client is assigned to the PATHS pod, it will become the forefront of care planning when the client's care needs are less acute and are managed with increased independence to meet basic needs and engage with appropriate supports to manage long term stability.



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When transition criteria have been met, the PATHS pod can begin the process to transition the client to primary care services.

Consider the following when transition planning:

- Decision to transition was made considering the client’s clinical needs and the availability of supports to manage the stability achieved
- Continuity of care measures in place for before and after transition
- Transition is at appropriate pace for client, recognition of need for gradual and overlapping services to establish engagement with primary care team
- Client feels ready and accepts transition planning
- Collaborate with relevant established professional supports in transition planning to provide the opportunity for feedback and increased engagement

When ready to transition the client from PATHS, complete the following:

- Complete the “PATHS Transition Checklist and Plan” form
 - PATHS case manager to schedule meeting with the Manitoba HIV Program Client Engagement Coordinator to review
- Communicate transition plan with primary care team
 - PATHS case manager to schedule meeting with healthcare provider assuming care to discuss transition checklist and plan
 - If numerous professional supports are involved, consider scheduling a meeting with client and care teams to review transition plan
 - Primary care team is aware of how to re-refer client to PATHS
- Documentation of the transition checklist and plan is in the client’s chart and shared for continuity of care
 - Fax transition plan to the Manitoba HIV Program at 204-318-3181
 - Fax transition plan and any outstanding collateral to the primary care clinic or other established professional supports as needed

When a client has transitioned from the PATHS pod, the primary care team and other professional supports are assuming the client’s care. Should circumstances change for the client and the current care team would like to re-refer to PATHS, they should contact the Manitoba HIV Program Client Engagement Coordinator at 1-866-449-0165 to explore eligibility.