



COVID-19: KEEPING UP WITH A MOVING TARGET

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Learning Objectives

- Identify epidemiological risk factors for COVID-19 acquisition.
- Describe at least 3 strategies to help people living with HIV (PLWH) reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission.
- Describe changes to the longitudinal care of PLWH.





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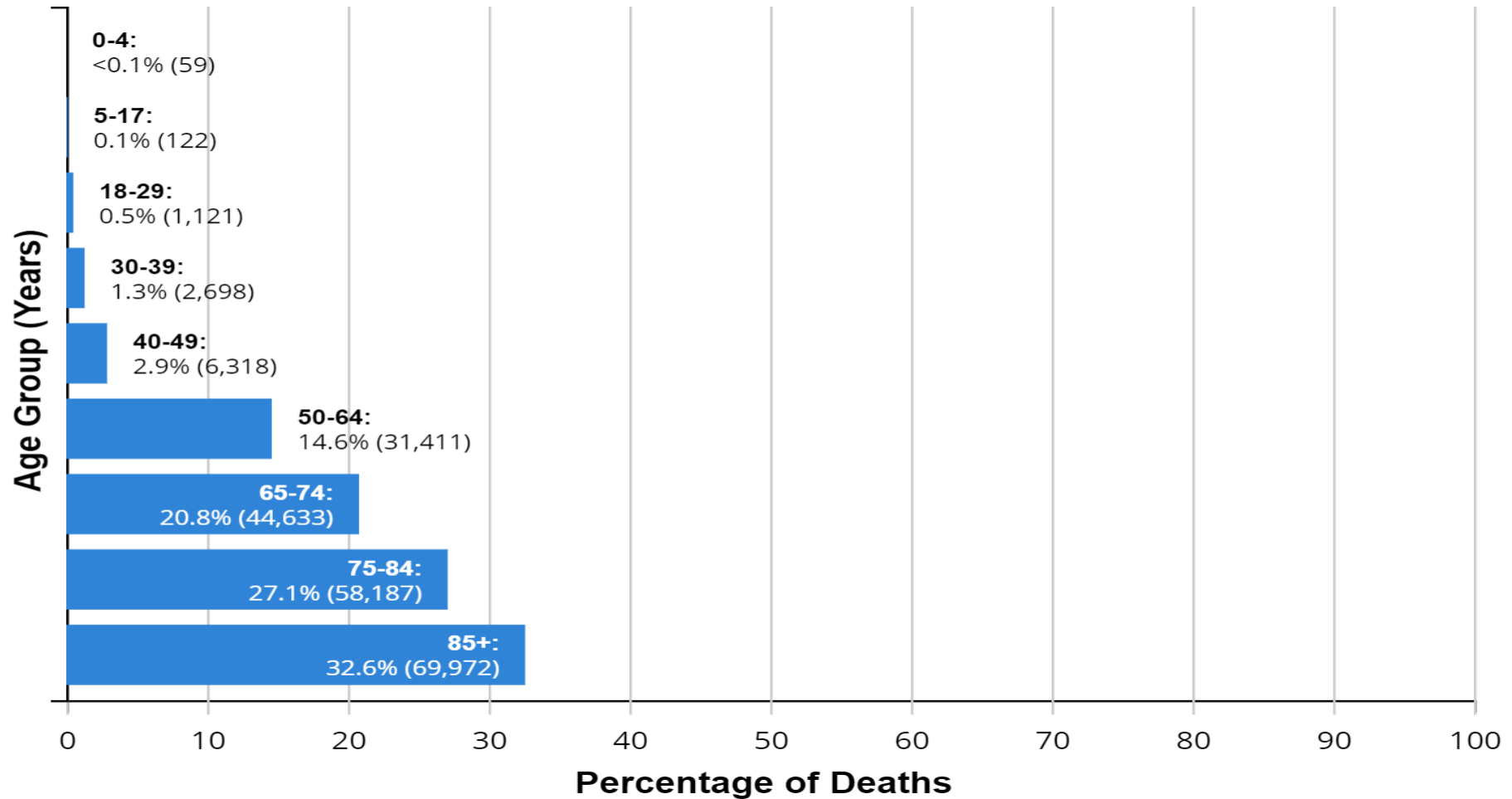
Key Concept

- For PLWH engaged in care, epidemiological risk may be the most significant factor in COVID-19 acquisition and care outcomes.
- Key epidemiological risk factors for COVID-19 morbidity and mortality include age, impacts of racism/inadequate healthcare access, and multiple pre-existing medical comorbidities, including pulmonary and cardiovascular disease.

(Farley, 2020)



Elevated Risk Related to Age



Elevated Risk Secondary to Systemic Racism

COVID-19 Cases, Hospitalizations, and Deaths, by Race/Ethnicity

Rate ratios compared to White, Non-Hispanic persons	American Indian or Alaska Native, Non-Hispanic persons	Asian, Non-Hispanic persons	Black or African American, Non-Hispanic persons	Hispanic or Latino persons
Cases ¹	1.8x	0.6x	1.4x	1.7x
Hospitalization ²	4.0x	1.2x	3.7x	4.1x
Death ³	2.6x	1.1x	2.8x	2.8x

Race and ethnicity are risk markers for other underlying conditions that affect health, including socioeconomic status, access to health care, and exposure to the virus related to occupation, e.g., among frontline, essential, and critical infrastructure workers.

(HRSA, 2020) (CDC, 2020)





Educating Patients about Staying Safe

- Social distancing.
- Wear a mask.
- Get your flu and pneumonia shots.
- Limit your in-person social network.
- 30 to 90 day supply of ARVs and continue to take them consistently.
- Plan for remote clinical care.
- Expand your virtual social network.

(CDC, 2020)





Adapting to the Virtual Visit

- In caring for PLWH during COVID-19, it is important to improve telehealth/telemedicine triage and assessment skills.
- Consider screening for increased substance use, mental health concerns, and intimate partner violence.
- Strategize ways to cluster in-person care to minimize external exposure risk without compromising excellent healthcare.

(CDC, 2020)





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What age and demographic groups of patients living with HIV are at elevated risk for morbidity and mortality related to COVID-19?





Can the interval for some screening tests be made longer, to reduce trips to lab or clinic?





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- Complete the evaluation on at COVID19.DKBmed.com
- Upon registering and successfully completing the activity evaluation, you will have immediate access to your certificate.

To access more resources related to COVID-19:

- Access our resource hub at COVID19.DKBmed.com

To ask your own question, email:

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