

HIV/AIDS

A half day course

The Human Immunodeficiency Virus is the Virus responsible for the development in some people of AIDS (Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome). The term HIV/AIDS represents the entire range of disease caused by the HIV virus from early infection to late stage symptoms. The virus attacks the immune system, and weakens the ability of the body to fight infections and disease. There is no cure for HIV, but there are treatments to enable most people with the virus to live a long and healthy life.

AIDS is the final stage of HIV infection, when the body can no longer fight life-threatening infections. With early diagnosis and effective treatment, most people with HIV will not go on to develop AIDS

WHO IS IT FOR? This course can be tailored to the needs of the particular professional group and is generally delivered in the care environment

Timetable (may be subject to amendment depending on group need)

Session 1 General introduction to subject of HIV/AIDS
 Values and Attitudes
 How the HIV Virus works
 HIV and the Immune System
 The concept of 'Viral Load' explained

Session 2 Disease Progression
 Opportunistic Infections – what are these?
 Transmission and Testing
 Principles of treatment
 Supporting affected individuals

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this course, participants will be able to:

- Understand the nature of HIV/AIDS
- Understand the progressive nature of the Infection
- Understand the principles of HIV testing and transmission
- Understand the major sources of help and support