

**TITLE: Sexually Transmitted Diseases**

**Number: 406.00**

**Policy:**

It is the policy of Thrive Behavioral Network, LLC to ensure that all clients are treated equally and that staff and clients are educated about good health habits in order to prevent the spread of HIV. This policy recognizes that casual contact with AIDS clients or persons who might be at high risk for illness does not place others at risk for getting AIDS. Clients who are identified as having the virus or AIDS will therefore be allowed access to treatment at Thrive facilities as long as the program is deemed appropriate for the individual's psychological and physical health needs.

**Procedure:**

**406.10 Ongoing Monitoring of HIV Positive Clients**

A. Program staff will provide ongoing monitoring of HIV Positive clients. The following steps will be taken:

- An individual education and monitoring plan will be developed with the assistance by the facility nurse and kept in the client's individual Health Care Section. This plan will include a Form 4018 – HIV Checklist of Symptoms that the staff will monitor such as fatigue, fever, loss of appetite and weight, diarrhea, night sweats and swollen lymph nodes.
- The plan and related materials will be documented in the individual client's record.
- Regularly scheduled appointments with an identified Licensed Independent Practitioner to monitor client will also be included in this plan.
- The status of the identified HIV Positive or AIDS client will be held in full confidentiality among staff.

**B. Substance Use Disorder Treatment Programs ONLY:** HIV Minimum Standards Training will contain the following information along with Form mandatory for all employees to train on and clients to review upon intake. Clients will sign an acknowledgement of the HIV Minimum Standards on Form 2034.

1. Introduction to HIV/AIDS Basic HIV Information Available in MN
2. Medical Assessment and Treatment
3. Mental Health Treatment
4. Primary and Secondary HIV Prevention and HIV Risk Reduction
5. Integrating Treatment Services
6. Accessing and Obtaining Services
7. Counseling Clients
8. Ethical Issues
9. Legal Issues
10. Funding and Policy Considerations

# Thrive Behavioral Network, LLC

## 406.20 Health Education

### Subpart 1 - Client Education

To prevent the spread of all sexually transmitted diseases within our client population and the broader community, the following procedures are to be followed by all staff in cooperation with all clients. The program staff will discuss safe health habits with all clients at the time of admission. Presentation and discussion will be utilized to present information that includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Sexual contact with other clients while in treatment is strongly discouraged. Sexual contact may be considered grounds for transferring or discharging those clients involved to other living arrangements.
- Sexual contact with persons known to have or suspected of having HIV or AIDS is strongly discouraged. If a resident does engage in sexual activity, the use of condoms is recommended.
- If facility staff has reason to suspect that a client has engaged in a "high risk" behavior, that client will be encouraged to be tested for sexually transmitted diseases (STD).
- All clients shall be provided with a copy of the HIV TRAINING IN CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY TREATMENT PROGRAMS, 2015 edition and oriented to this resource in health educational groups facilitated by nursing or counseling staff.

### Subpart 2 – Staff Prevention

See policy 405.00 – Bloodborne Pathogens Exposure Control Plan and the HIV TRAINING IN CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY TREATMENT PROGRAMS, 2015 edition

### Subpart 3 – Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed as needed for necessary changes in order to remain current with the most recent medical research and practice in this area.