Concerns: Worse Outcomes From Multiple Clinics

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Those who receive treatment for HIV at numerous clinics, instead of at just one, are less likely to be on antiretrovirals (ARVs) and to have a fully suppressed viral load. Researchers pulled together data from the City of Philadelphia Department of Public Health regarding nearly 13,000 people receiving HIV care at 26 Ryan White—funded HIV clinics in the city between 2008 and 2010. Sixty-nine percent of those getting care from multiple clinics were on ARVs, compared with 83 percent of those doing one-stop shopping for their care. The respective figures for those reaching an undetectable viral load were 68 percent versus 78 percent. People who got their care from multiple clinics were more likely to be black, younger, female, either uninsured or receiving public insurance and in care for less than a year.

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