

HIV-Infected Students

Specialized Expert Care Is Now Available Through The Columbia University Health Service

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Columbia students who are infected with HIV (the virus that can cause AIDS) can now get expert medical care and support through the Columbia University Health Service at no cost beyond the regular fee. Assisted by the Columbia Gay Health Advocacy Project, the Health Service will provide a comprehensive program of care and support including:

- Regular visits with a health care provider expert in the care of HIV-infected people
- Periodic laboratory evaluation of the immune system (no extra payment required)
- Access to preventive treatments such as inhalational pentamidine to prevent *Pneumocystis carinii* pneumonia (PCP)
- Education and guidance about alternative and experimental treatments
- Health care environment sensitive to and supportive of gay patients
- Peer counseling about how to become an active participant in one's own medical care
- Provisions for confidentiality of medical records

To provide primary care to HIV-infected students, the Health Service has hired Jerry Wolbert, RN, NP as a part-time practitioner and consultant. Mr. Wolbert is on staff at the New York University Hospital Community Health Project satellite clinic located at the Gay and Lesbian Community Center. Consultation will also be available from Craig Metroka, MD, an AIDS expert from St. Luke's/Roosevelt Hospital Center and an associate editor of *AIDS Targeted Information Newsletter*. Volunteers from the professional staff of CUHS will participate as care-givers also. Education and counseling which will be provided both by CUHS staff and by trained members of the Columbia Gay Health Advocacy Project.

Because people with AIDS and those who are HIV-infected often face discrimination, CUHS is making special efforts to guarantee confidentiality to all patients who participate in the HIV care program.

This program is open to all students who have paid their Health Service fee and will require no extra payment. Counseling regarding AIDS and health care is available to faculty and staff, as is referral to expert private practitioners, but medical services are only available to students.

If you would like to make an appointment for the HIV care program or if you have questions, call Laura Pinsky at 280-2878.

Richard G. Carlson, MD, Director of the Columbia
University Health Service

Laura Pinsky, psychotherapist, Gerard Ilaria, Columbia Gay Paul H. Douglas, Columbia Gay
Columbia University Health Health Advocacy Project Health Advocacy Project
Service; advisor, Columbia Gay
Health Advocacy Project