

including appropriate storage of special medications and equipment (e.g., needles and syringes), are emphasized.

Unfortunately, relatives, friends, and others in the general public may be fearful of contracting HIV infection, and criticism and ostracism of the child and family may occur. In an effort to protect the child and deal with fears of the community, the family may limit the child's activities outside the home. Although certain precautions are justified in limiting exposure to sources of infections, they must be tempered with concern for the child's normal developmental needs. Both the family and the community need ongoing education about HIV to dispel many of the myths that have been perpetuated by uninformed persons.*

Prevention is a key component of HIV education. Educating adolescents about HIV is essential in preventing HIV infection in this age group. Education should include the routes of transmission, the hazards of IV and other recreational drug use, and the value of sexual abstinence and safe sex practices. Such education should be a part of anticipatory guidance provided to all adolescent patients. Nurses should also encourage adolescents at risk to undergo HIV counseling and testing. In addition to identifying infected teenagers and getting them into care, such counseling affords adolescents an opportunity to learn about, and possibly change, their risky behaviors.

Because approximately 20% to 25% of individuals living with HIV infection are unaware of their positive status, US Preventive Services Task Force recommended clinicians screen for HIV infection in persons 15 to 64 years old and all of those individuals who are at increased risk regardless of age ([Moyer and US Preventive Services Task Force, 2013](#)). US Preventive Services Task Force's recommendation was supported by a report on two health care settings that screened 32,534 individuals from 2011 to 2013 of which 148 tested HIV-positive with 120 (81%) linked to HIV medical care ([Lin, Dietz, Rodriguez, et al, 2014c](#)). Early detection of HIV-infected individuals and linking them to medical care and counseling through screening programs in the health care setting provides effective treatment and decreases the transmission of HIV ([Suthar, Ford, Bachanas, et al, 2013](#)).

The multiple complications associated with HIV disease are potentially painful ([Ezekowitz, 2009](#)). Aggressive pain management