Recent research has found that HIV-positive Ryan White (RW) clients with unstable housing may have marginal access to HIV medical care and low adherence to antiretroviral therapy (ART)\(^1\).

Analysis of data from the 2014 Ryan White Services Report (RSCR) for Virginia (VA) found 92% of clients with stable housing were virally suppressed versus 77% with unstable housing being virally suppressed.

This analysis assesses the impact of housing status on HIV outcomes, accounting for differences in RW service utilization that may impact retention in care and viral suppression for RW clients in Virginia in calendar year (CY) 2015.

### Results

#### Table 1: Adjusted Odds Ratios (aOR) for Retention in Care and Viral Suppression, 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Retention</th>
<th>Viral Suppression</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unstable Housing</td>
<td>0.3 (0.2,0.4)</td>
<td>0.5 (0.4,0.7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Transportation Services</strong></td>
<td>1.6 (1.2,2.0)</td>
<td>1.2 (0.9,1.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outpatient Ambulatory Care Services</td>
<td>1.1 (1.0,1.2)</td>
<td>2.1 (1.8,2.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Health (MH) Status</td>
<td>1.7 (1.3,2.2)</td>
<td>1.7 (1.4,2.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Referral for Healthcare Services</td>
<td>0.6 (0.4,0.8)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unstable Housing and MH Status</td>
<td>0.5 (0.2,0.9)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** Table 1 adjusted by sex at birth, race/ethnicity, transmission risk, age at diagnosis, and residence region.

- Denotes statistically significant finding
- Other insurance includes insurance from VA, Tricare or HIS

#### Conclusions and Next Steps

- **Retention:**
  - Ryan White clients who had unstable housing in 2015 were less likely to be retained in care and virally suppressed in 2015 than Ryan White clients who had stable housing.
  - This relationship still holds true after accounting for service utilization and confounders, suggesting that improving housing status alone may directly result in improved HIV outcomes.

- **Viral Suppression:**
  - The relationship between housing status and viral suppression across RW agencies and its effect on HIV outcomes should be closely monitored.

- **Primary Outcomes:**
  - By the advent of marketplace health insurance, the operationalization of insurance status across Virginia RW providers is necessary to implement highly successful and cost-effective programs addressing unmet needs of the unstably housed RW population moving forward.

- **Health Region of Diagnosis**
  - Improving housing status may also improve service utilization, particularly mental health referral uptake, which has shown to be positively associated with both higher retention in care and sustained viral suppression. An exploration of demographics of unstably housed RW clients who use mental health services will be pursued.

- **Availability of Data**
  - With the advent of marketplace health insurance, the operationalization of insurance status across RW agencies and its effect on HIV outcomes should be closely monitored.

- **Consistent characterization of housing status across Virginia RW providers is necessary to implement highly successful and cost-effective programs addressing unmet needs of the unstably housed RW population moving forward.**

#### References


#### Acknowledgments

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