



Conversation Starters for Patients

Suggest the following conversation starters to patients addressing their HIV status, and possibly stigma, with trusted family or friends.

“HIV is a chronic, manageable disease that I have been living with for X years...”

“Can you tell me what concerns you about me being HIV-positive? How can we change things so that we feel more comfortable around each other?”



Models

“I would like to help you learn more about HIV so that you can understand how the disease affects me and you, as a part of my family.”

“I’m no different now than I was before my diagnosis. I hope you will support me and treat me the same as you did before I disclosed my status...”

“You mean a lot to me, which is why I’m sharing this news with you...”