

APPLYING MEDIATION SKILLS

Scenario 1, Part 1

The first couple, Silas and Pamela, are very young, just 18 and 19 years old. They plan to get married and start a family. When they receive their test results, they find that they both are HIV-positive. They are very upset. Neither had expected to be HIV-positive. Now it feels like their whole life together has been torn apart.

How should the CHTC provider handle this reaction?

Scenario 1, Part 2

As they begin to recover from their first reaction, they start to wonder how this could have happened. Although both were aware that the other partner had had relationships with others before they were a couple, they didn't think they could be infected because they were so young. Silas, the male partner, starts to ask Pamela who she knew before he had met her. She has the same reaction.

What should the provider do to mediate this situation?

Scenario 2

Andrew and Geraldine are a couple who has been together for 12 years. They have two children, 8 and 10 years old. Andrew has had jobs on and off as a construction worker over the last 10 years. Money is tight, but they have always managed to support themselves and their children who are in school.

When the couple underwent CHTC because of the husband's lingering respiratory illness, they found that he was HIV-positive. Geraldine is HIV-negative. She is very angry that he has endangered both her health and possibly their children's. She is also afraid that he will become increasingly sick and will not be able to work and they will lose their home. He is also afraid that he will not be able to work and that his wife will leave him.

What mediation skills will help the provider in this situation?
