

# Syndemics (overlapping epidemics)

- Similar or overlapping at-risk populations
- Disease interactions
  - Common transmission for HIV, hepatitis, and STDs
  - STDs increase risk of HIV infection
  - HIV is the greatest risk factor for progression to TB disease
  - HIV accelerates liver disease associated with viral hepatitis, making hepatitis the leading cause of death among persons living with HIV/AIDS
  - Clinical course and outcomes influenced by concurrent disease
- Social determinants
  - Poor access to, and quality of, health care
  - Stigma, discrimination, homophobia
  - Socioeconomic factors, such as poverty
- Prevention and control
  - Control of TB, viral hepatitis, and STDS needed to protect health of HIV-infected persons
  - Challenges in funding, delivery, monitoring and quality of prevention services

