CONCLUSIONS

Most current PrEP users reported that it was easy to use PrEP and condoms simultaneously with main partners and clients. However, in IDIs many noted that clients removed condoms and offered more money to “trick” or “tempt” participants into having sex without them. When asked which method worked better for them (condoms, PrEP, or both), most PrEP current users preferred both methods as depicted in Figure 4.

Figure 4: Participants’ preferences for HIV prevention

CONDOM USE AT LAST SEX

Condom Use with Clients

In the survey, over 80% of FSW (n=140) said that they used a condom the last time they had sex with a client; these proportions as shown in Figure 2 above were similar among current PrEP users, past PrEP users, and PrEP never users.

Figure 3: Condom use at last sex

Condom Use with Main or Casual Partners

Among those with main (n=85/98) or casual (n=64/97) partners, condom use was higher with casual partners overall, and was higher for PrEP never users and PrEP current users compared to PrEP past users. Condom use was lowest with main partners, and in IDIs some FSW reported that in relationships with main partners, it was challenging to use condoms.

Figure 2: PrEP use status among 156 participants

Sample Breakdown by PrEP Status

Participants who were married or tested in the past 6 months were more likely to use condoms. However, only a few past PrEP users preferred both, and many preferred condoms alone. In the IDIs, one FSW described the challenge of using condoms when the client is aware that she is on PrEP:

“I don’t tell my clients… Because they’ll want to know in detail and… then they’ll want to change your mind or tempt you into having sex without a condom by offering you more money, saying things like ‘But you are protected from infections and my own status is negative…blah blah blah so let’s just do it skin to skin.’ No way I’m not protecting myself although more money is tempting hey.”

(30 year old FSW, current PrEP user)

KEY TAKEAWAYS

• Condom use was higher with FSW clients, less with casual partners, and lowest with main partners across all groups.
• PrEP past users reported lowest condom use with main partners, casual partners, and clients compared to PrEP current and never users.

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OPTIONS Consortium Partners

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