
Michele Lanham, Kayla Stankevitz, Kathleen Ridgeway, Maryline Mireku, Definate Nhamo, Diantha Pillay, Mercy Murire, Jordan Kyongo, Nicole Makahamadze, Subarna Pradhan, Megan Lydon, Lina Digolo, Patriciah Jekonia, Patience Shamu, Taurai Bhatasara, Getrude Ncube, Joseph Murungu, Wanjiru Mukoma, Saiqa Mullick

@optionsmpii
Study participants

Survey participants (n=609)

- Kenya: 290
- South Africa: 192
- Zimbabwe: 127

IDI participants (n=115)

- Kenya: 40
- South Africa: 48
- Zimbabwe: 27

Experience with PrEP Delivery

- Yes, 335
- No, 274
Providers’ attitudes

Survey: It’s better to tell sexually active unmarried girls/women to abstain from sex rather than give her PrEP.

Interviews: Prefer that adolescent girls wait to have sex until they are 18, but acknowledged that many girls engage in sex before 18 and could benefit from oral PrEP.
Providers’ experiences delivering oral PrEP

- **Barriers** to uptake, adherence, retention:
  1. **Low PrEP awareness** among AGYW & community
  2. **Stigma** related to HIV and adolescent sexual activity
  3. **Lack of disclosure** of PrEP use to parents and partners

- More difficult to deliver services to AG, more concerns about AG’s ability to take PrEP daily

- **Strategies** to support AGYW:
  - Intensive adherence and relationship counseling
  - System for tracking missed appointments
  - Phone follow-ups, WhatsApp messaging, home visits
  - Peer support
  - Community discussions
Recommendations

• Include **values clarification** exercises in provider training.

• Build providers’ capacity to counsel AGYW on whether/how to **disclose PrEP use** to partners and parents.

• **Assess which strategies are most effective** at increasing AGYW PrEP adherence and continuation.

• Conduct **community sensitization** about PrEP as a prevention option for AGYW.

• Continue to **address stigma** as a key barrier to HIV prevention and adolescent sexual and reproductive health
Thank you

Michele Lanham
Technical Advisor, FHI 360
mlanham@fhi360.org

@optionsmpiif
www.prepwatch.org

OPTIONS Consortium Partners