## Prevention Effective PrEP Use

Elizabeth Irungu
2019 PrEP Learning Network Regional Workshop
12 November 2019











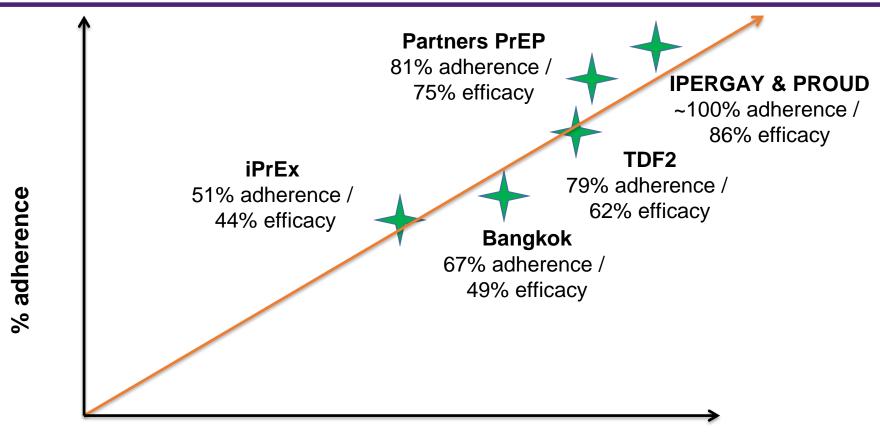


## Goals

- What does prevention-effective adherence mean?
- Why is prevention-effective adherence important?
- How does this idea shape our PrEP continuation expectations?



## When taken, PrEP works

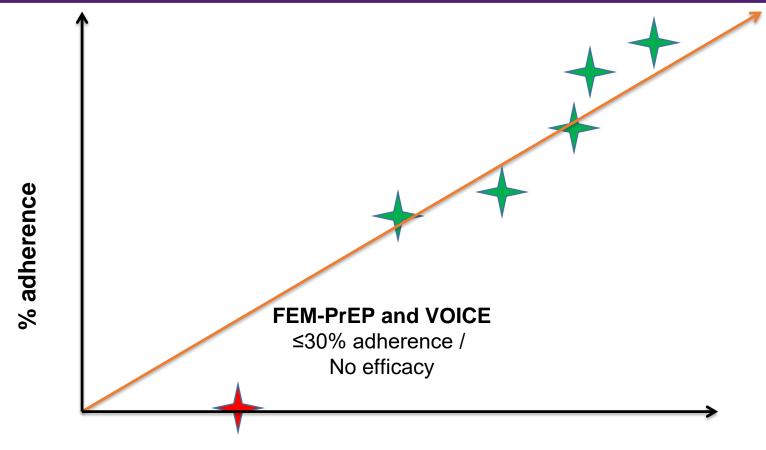


#### **HIV protection effectiveness**

Cause and effect = in studies with high adherence, high HIV protection was seen



## When taken, PrEP works



#### **HIV** protection effectiveness

Trials where only a minority where adherent did not / could not demonstrate HIV protection.



## Risk is for a season

People often move in and out of 'seasons of risk' and 'risky situations' for HIV infection

Source: Module 3: Counsellors.

PrEP is not for life because people move in and out of seasons of risk

- Long term commitment is established in a relationship
- HIV infected partner achieves viral suppression
- When drug injecting practice or other high risk behaviour stops



## Prevention Effective Adherence

Adherence aligned to risk

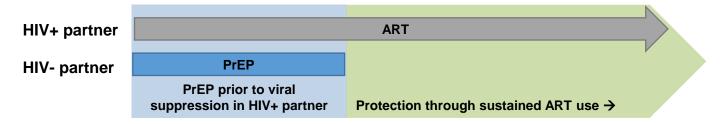


Success is achieved when PrEP is used during all episodes of HIV exposure. Adherence to PrEP may be periodic and mapped to periods of risk.

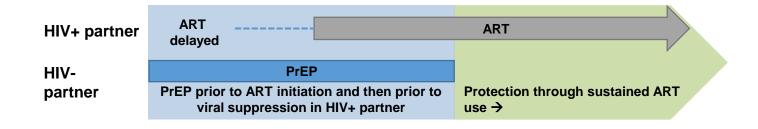
**PARTNERS** 

## PrEP as a bridge to ART

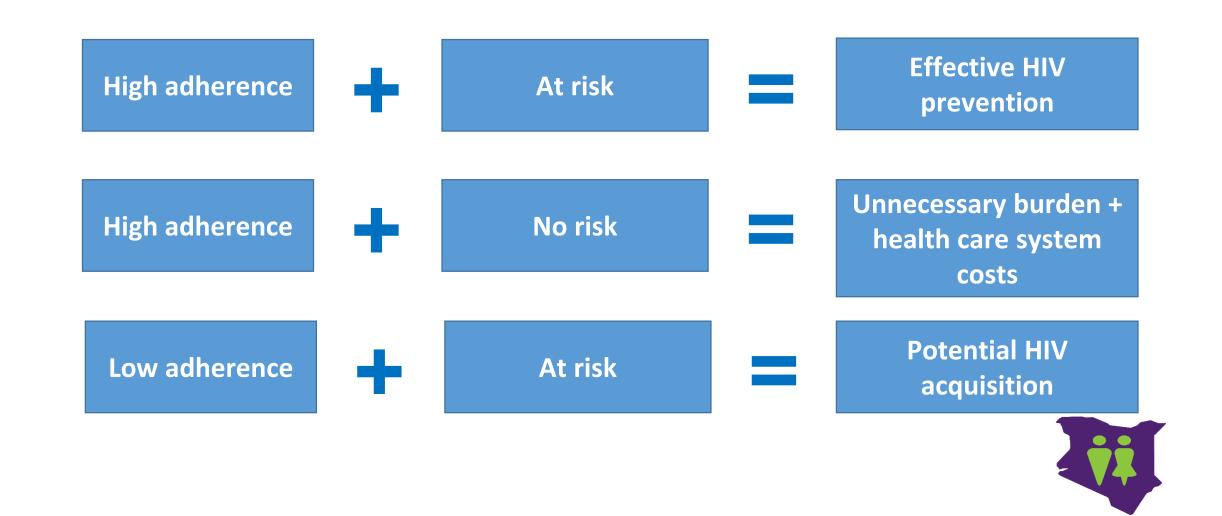
 For couples initiating ART at enrollment, PrEP is offered through 6 months, then stopped:



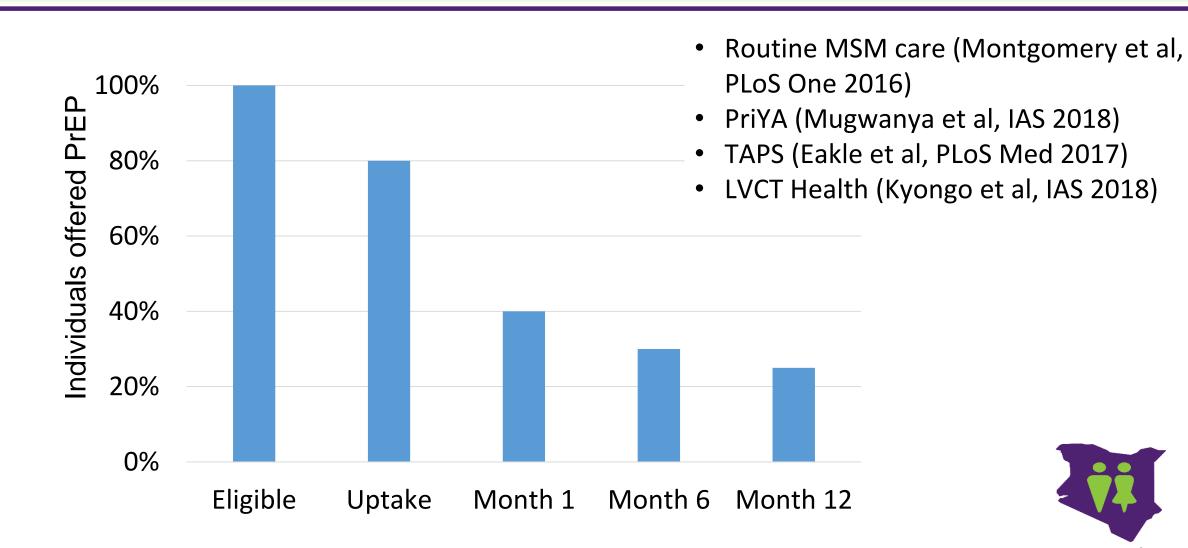
• For couples in which the infected partner delayed or declined ART, PrEP is continued until 6 months after ART initiation:



## Prevention-effective adherence



## Early experience with PrEP (generic)



## Interpreting early experience with PrEP

- Common conclusion: PrEP use is low
- Maybe... but we need to know the context to know if PrEP use is appropriate
- What is our denominator?
  - It is not all people living in a region with HIV incidence >3%
  - We need to consider who needs it and who wants it in the context of all HIV prevention options



# Prevention-effective adherence may explain low incidence despite "low" PrEP use

- HPTN 082 (Celum et al, IAS 2019):
  - Enrolled 400 women, all at high risk of acquiring HIV
  - At 3 months, only 25% had high adherence by DBS (>700 fmol/punch)
  - Only 4 seroconversions (1%) were observed

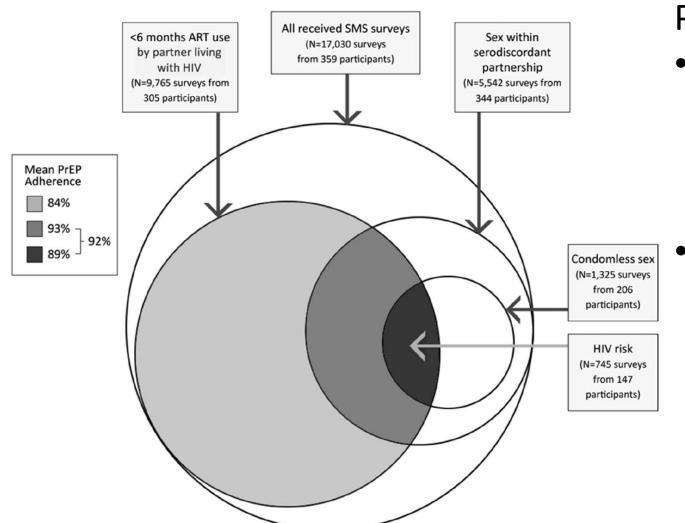


# Prevention-effective adherence may explain low incidence despite "low" PrEP use

- Possible explanations
  - PrEP use may be aligned with risk at critical times
  - Participants in PrEP programs may change their risk
    - Fewer, lower risk partners
    - Use of other HIV prevention tools (e.g., condoms)



## Evidence of people knowing their seasons of risk



### Partners Demonstration Project

- Periodic, daily SMS surveys about adherence and sexual behavior
- Mean adherence was 92% on surveys with risk versus 84% on surveys without risk (p=0.001)



## Challenges with prevention-effective adherence in practice

- Knowledge/perception of risk can be challenging
  - FEM-PrEP (Corneli et al, JAIDS 2014)
  - Adolescents in South Africa (MacIntyre et al, AIDS Behav 2004)
  - MSM in Canada (Wilton et al, JIAS 2017)
- Risk scores may not function well (Giovenco et al, JIAS 2019)

 Discontinuation of PrEP was experienced as a loss of protection and a corresponding increase in risk of HIV acquisition in the Partners Demonstration Project (Gilbert et al, JAIDS 2019)

# What we need to do to support prevention-effective adherence

- Support PrEP users in...
  - Determining when they need PrEP
  - Adhering during those periods

This will be a lot easier when long-acting formulations are available!

- Provide counseling that empowers PrEP users to make informed decisions
- Encourage retention in HIV prevention programs with ready access to
   PrEP when needed and wanted

# What we need to do to support prevention-effective adherence

- Identify the appropriate denominator of PrEP users
- Contextualize PrEP adherence when considering program impact
- Recognize that non-persistence and cycling on/off PrEP is not necessarily failure
  - move away from ART mindset



## Acknowledgements

- Jessica Haberer

  Harvard Medical School, Massachusetts General Hospital
- Jared Baeten
   University of Washington
- Nelly Mugo
   KEMRI, PHRD
- PrEP Users



# Q&A





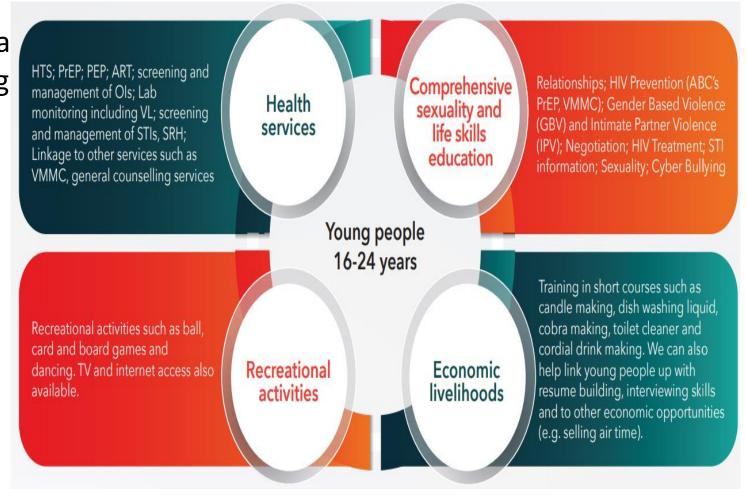
# Supporting PrEP Effective Use and Continuation: SHAZ! Hub implementation experience in Zimbabwe

Joseph Murungu
Pangaea Zimbabwe AIDS Trust (PZAT)



# Shaping the Health of Adolescents in Zimbabwe (SHAZ!) HUB

- The HUB is a youth drop in centre in Chitungwiza, set-up in a public private partnership setting 04138
- Began as a research site in 2003 conducting HIV prevention and treatment studies among AGYW
- Evolved into a youth drop in centre, that provides clinical (comprehensive SRH and HIV services) and non-clinical services to young people aged 16-24 years



## The SHAZ! HUB: Clinical services (Jan 18-Sep 19)

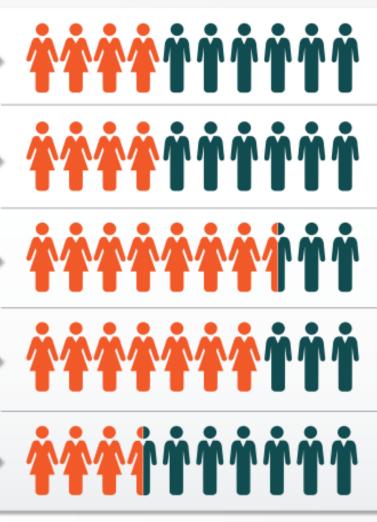
Total # tracked during reporting period

Number tested for HIV

Number tested for HIV

STI cases attended

Minor ailments attended



2994 clients accessed services at the HUB, 60% males and 40% females

2500 HIV tests done, 60% males and 40% females

54 HIV positive clients identified, 25% males and 75% females

62 STI cases, 29% males and 71% females

868 minor ailments managed, 64% males and 36 females

# Three Integrated Steps to Initiation of PrEP: AGYW (Jan - Jun 19)

## **HIV Testing services**

- Pre-test
- Testing
- Post test services

420 AGYW tested HIV negative

#### Risk assessment

Sexual activities and partners

- History of STI
- Condom use
- Partner HIV status
- History of PrEP use

360 AGYW screened 268 at high risk

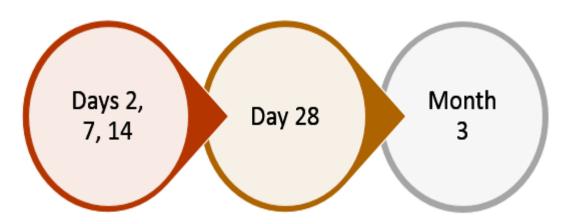
#### PrEP readiness assessment

#### Risk perception

- Willingness to take PrEP
- Commitment and strategies for adherence
- Strategy to enhance adherence
- Pill storage
- Disclosure

120 AGYW initiated on PrEP

## INTENSIVE AND STRATEGICALLY TIMED FOLLOW UP of Prep Clients • Consent sought for follow up



#### SMS/Phone call

Check if client started taking PrEP, storage conditions

Check on adverse events

Emphasise on 7 days before exposure

Facilitate disclosure

#### Physical visit

HIV test

Risk assessment and counselling

Assess adherence

Check on adverse events

Facilitate disclosure

#### Physical visit

Risk assessment and counselling

Assess adherence

Check on adverse events

Facilitate disclosure

- Consent sought for follow up
- Peer led follow up of clients by Champions through SMS, WhatsApp, phone calls and home visits
- Non-clinical visits to the HUB used as opportunities for non-scheduled check-in
- Using the readiness assessment tool to identify and select youth who are not only at risk, but interested in and ready to take PrEP

Overall Continuation:		
	HRF	FSW
1 Month	100%	97%
3 Months	83%	70%
6 Months	83%	63%

## **Enabling Environment**

- Using the readiness assessment tool to identify and select youth who are not only at risk, but interested in and ready to take PrEP
- Peer led regular follow ups and interactions by text, call and home visits
- Youth friendly and sensitive staff and environment
  - Confidentiality when accessing other services
- Supportive environments which enable the clients, staff and parents/ guardians to work together to support continuation
- Regular dialogues

## Conclusion

- Multiple strategies should be employed to improve uptake, effective use and continuation on PrEP among young people through peer led, youth friendly and sensitive platforms
- Young people should be engaged in the design, planning, implementation and improvement of services

## Acknowledgements

- SHAZ HUB! Staff and clients
- Pangaea Zimbabwe AIDS Trust
- Ministry of Health and Child Care
- Gilead Sciences
- PSI Zimbabwe









# Supporting effective PrEP use and continuation: the POWER study experience in South Africa

Elzette Rousseau

Desmond Tutu HIV Foundation

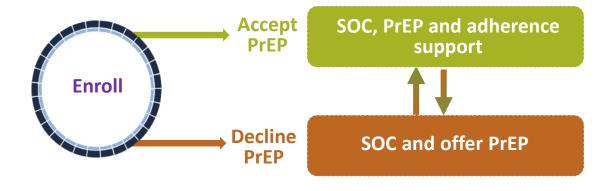




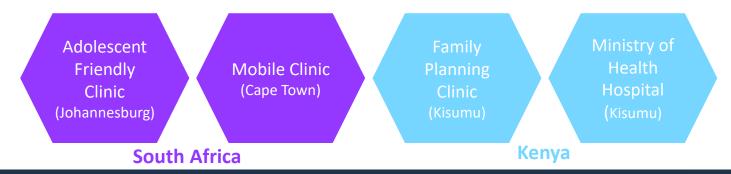
#### **Prevention Options for Women Evaluation Research**



Ages 16-25 yrs
Sex in the last 3 months
Up to 3000 young women



## **Study Sites**





## **POWER** and Persistence

Visit schedule

Enrollment Month 1 Quarterly

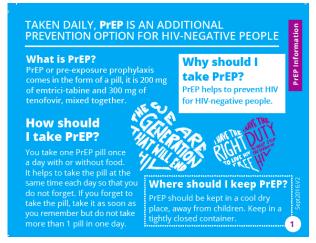
Flexibility in schedule e.g. integrate with family planning schedule

Counseling staff provide suggestions on ways to help young

women remember to take their pills

PrEP information shared







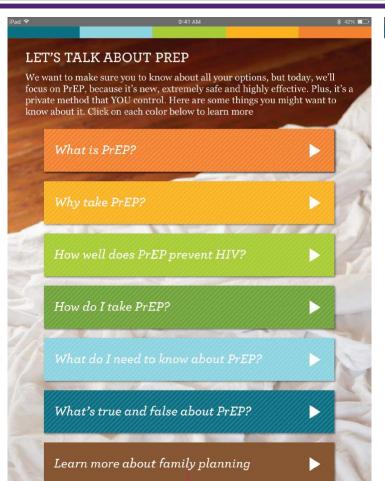
Persistence is defined as continuous PrEP use, per dispensing at months with an attended visit or having previously dispensed supply of at least 30 days of PrEP at months without attended visit.

Persistence is calculated based on pharmacy records





# PrEP Decision Tool offering choice and education on prevention methods





Knowing if my

partner has HIV

#### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT PrEP

#### THE GOOD STUFF:

- Very safe.
- Keeps you healthy by preventing HIV.
- · Private method that you control.
- · Increases confidence and decreases fear of getting HIV.
- · Safe with all types of family planning.
- · Safe to use while pregnant and breastfeeding.

#### THE ANNOYING STUFF:

- A few people have mild side effects like headache or nausea that go away quickly (in a few weeks).
- PrEP does not protect against other sexually transmitted infections. Only condoms prevent against HIV and other infections.
- PrEP does not prevent pregnancy. PrEP is safe to take with all forms of family planning, though!

#### STUFF TO NOT WORRY ABOUT:

 You don't have to take PrEP for your whole life! You can use PrEP for as long as you need it. We suggest talking to your provider before stopping PrEP.



If my partner

has HIV, he takes

HIV medicines





Decreasing

my sex partners

## Results: Participant Behavioural Data

[June 2017 - Sept 2019; N = 2077]

31% Positive STI test (gonorrhea and/or chlamydia)

**87%** Unable to consistently use condoms

65% Do not know their partner's HIV status

**86%** Primary partner might have other partners

15% More than 1 sex partner

**74%** Sex partner provides financial support

4% In known serodiscordant relationship

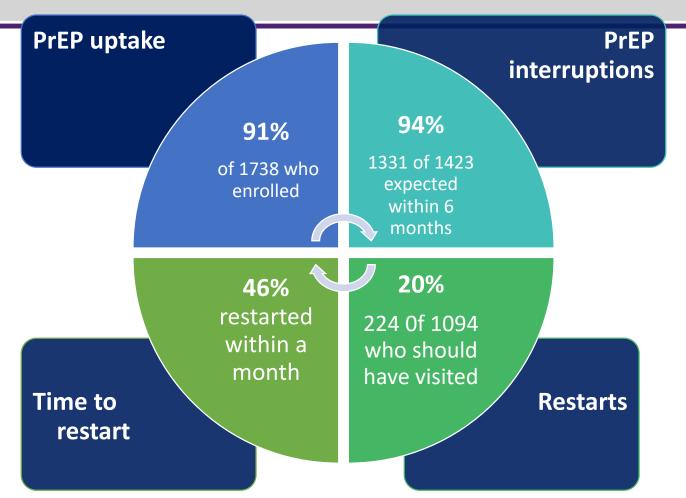






## PrEP uptake, interruptions and restarts

Omollo V et al. IAS July 2019, Mexico City



IMPORTANTLY women sometimes did not view these periods as interruptions (e.g. intentional delays of PrEP initiation after the first prescription, attending follow-up visits late, or periods of PrEP non-use due to sexual abstinence).



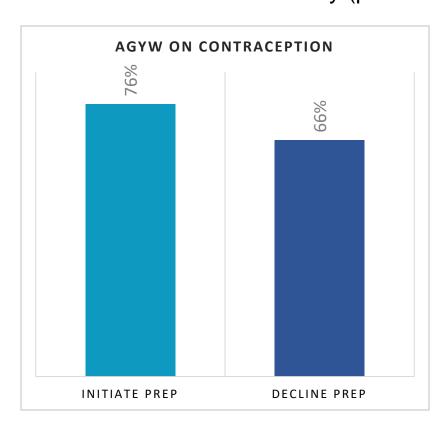




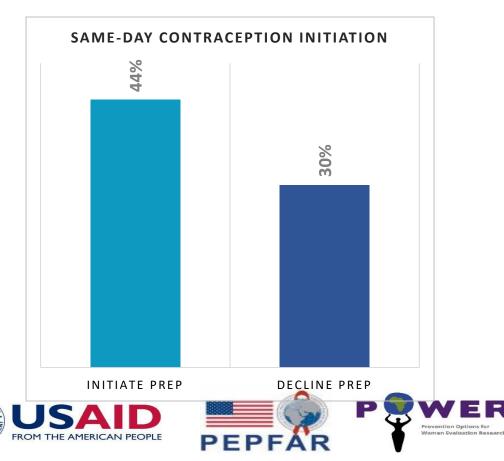
## Uptake of PrEP and hormonal contraception

Rousseau E et al. IAS July 2019, Mexico City

Young women using contraception were more likely to initiate PrEP on the same day (p=0.001)



PrEP initiation was significantly associated with contraception initiation on the same day (p=0.003)



## **Key considerations for PrEP** delivery

- Location, convenience & confidentiality is essential
- ..., partners, families and friends
  influence uptake and consistent use of PrEP
  High STI prevalence improves risk perception
  stablish peer support groups and bank on whall effects

  VER Remove PrEP out of the narratives of

Want PrEP available everywhere: clinics, community centres, schools, dropped at my house

like I pick up condoms; and

One size does not fit all Tailored yet Flexible

Want it integrated into other activities they are already doing, and something that friends can

**Integrated Services** 

Convenience: Time, Location & Duration of PrEP delivery

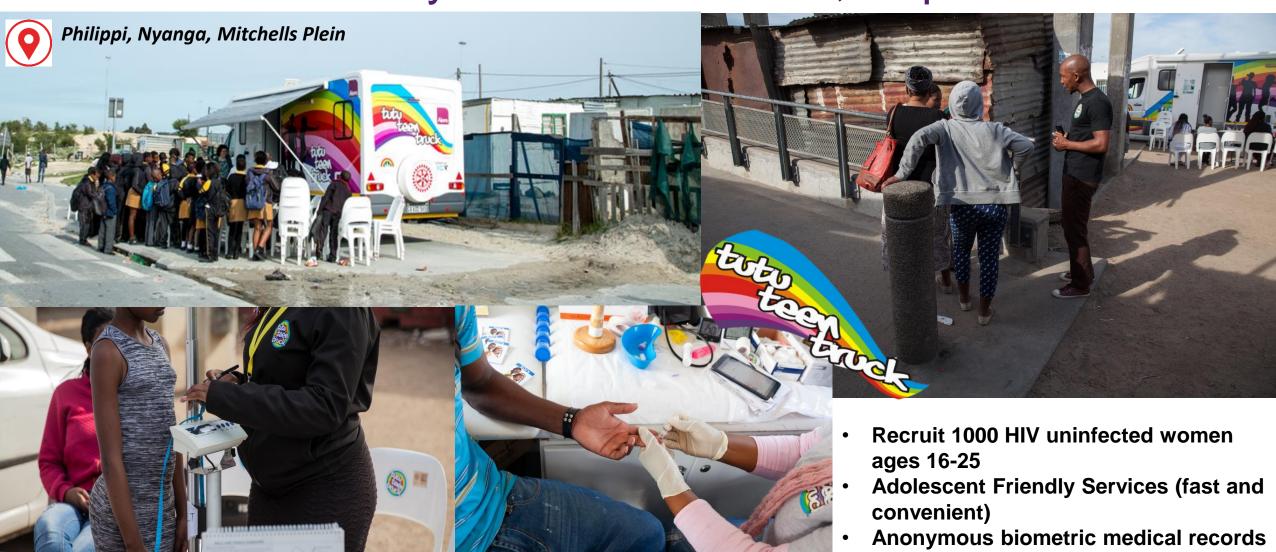
**Adolescent Friendly Services** 

Community Education + Adolescent Specific Messaging





## PrEP delivery from mobile clinic, Cape Town





**Contraception services** 



## Differentiated Models of PrEP Delivery



POWER PrEP Adherence Club



**Mobile Clinic** 









Local Government Clinic











## The future: Gender-responsive PrEP delivery

- Acceptability, Accessibility, Options
- Trusting Provider-Community-Client Relationship
- Networks in the Community of Adolescent Girls and Young Women
- Non-fragmented and Integrated Services
- Enabling Self-Efficacy





#### Acknowledgements

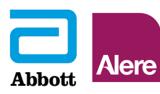
- Linda-Gail Bekker
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- Tutu Teen Truck team
- POWER study team
- Future Fighter Youth CAB
- Young people & their families
- DTHF/DTHC Funders

Young people and their families























# Jhpiego PrEP Implementation Experience in Lesotho

Supporting effective use and continuation

Tafadzwa Chakare MBChB, M.Phil









#### **Community PrEP- Overview**

- Lesotho has 2.2 million population, adult HIV prevalence of 25% and incidence of 1.5
- Jhpiego responsible for community based PrEP primarily targeted at AGYW, FSW and MSM
- Over 12 000 new clients enrolled between January 2018 and September 2019





#### Scale-up Characterized by Early Attrition

#### **Multiple Parallel Interventions**

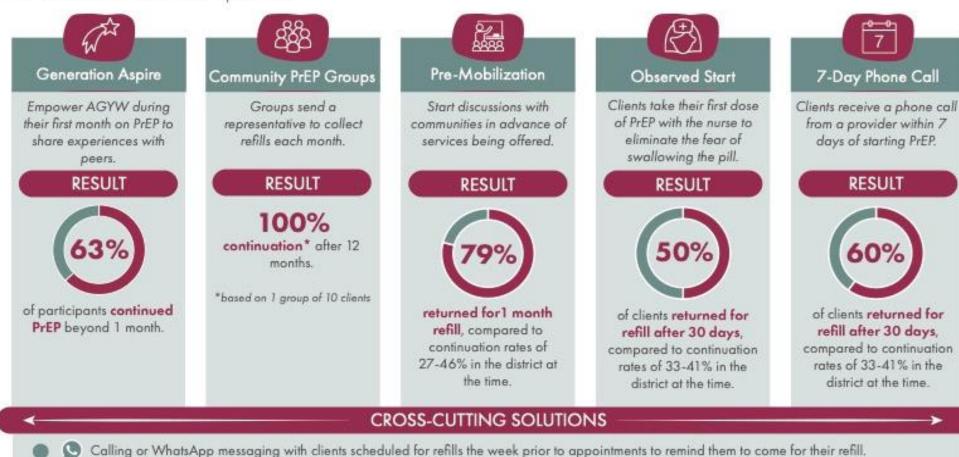
- Weekly continuation tracking
- Generation Aspire
- Observed start
- Premobilization
- 7 Day phone call
- Community PrEP Groups
- Destigmatized packaging
- Engagement of village health workers





#### **PrEP Continuation Innovations and Improvements**

PrEP Continuation Innovations and Improvements



Providing clients with pill cases shaped like lip balm at their 30-day refill to allow for easy carrying of a 7-day supply in their bag.



#### **Community PrEP 30 Day Continuation Trend**







# PrEP user support groups and leveraging PLWHA: the Kenya experience

OPTIONS PrEP Learning workshop Blantyre, Malawi November 12, 2019



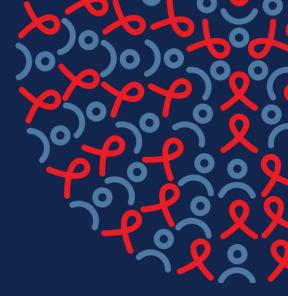


Senior Technical Advisor, clinical services









# **Background**

- LINKAGES Kenya ran from March 2016
  - Reached 58,759 FSW and 12,306 MSM in FY19
  - Package of services includes PrEP
  - Partnered with Jilinde in 6 out of 16 counties of operation
- Key challenge is continuation
  - Low rates in both populations
  - Discussions with beneficiaries on reasons revealed several issues, including forgetting to take PrEP, low risk perception, fear of stigma/actual stigma, myths and misconceptions

# Support groups

- 2 types:
  - PrEP support groups with HIV negative individuals
  - Mixed support groups with HIV negative and positive individuals
- Purpose is to maintain/support continuation through peer-led efforts
- Meetings scheduled to run once a month; segregated by KP typology
- Target is new PrEP users, drop-outs from month 1

# PrEP user support groups

- Approx. 20 per group newly initiated with a few PrEP champions
- Day of meeting determined by organizations e.g. some coincided with PrEP refill days, some coincided with PrEP theme days
- Key discussion points: benefits of PrEP, myths and misconceptions, challenges to continuation and how to address them

## Mixed support groups

- Approx. 20 per group: mix of HIV- and HIV+
- HIV+ clients willing to self-disclose
- Focus is for newly initiated, early discontinuations
- Adherence challenges addressed pre-emptively (newly initiated) and benefits of PrEP (vs ART) plus tips for continued adherence
- Strategy most successful among MSM

#### **Lessons learnt**

- Support groups work, but composition is critical
  - Mixed groups require disclosure
  - Mixed groups may not work for all populations and settings
- Support groups are not 'forever'
  - Only one or two sessions needed (PrEP only for a season)
- Support groups are not for everyone
  - Clients who come for their refills on time may not need support groups

# **EXPERIENCE SHARING & GROUP DISCUSSION**