

# Assessment of Facility Readiness for PrEP Provision in Antenatal and Postnatal Care Services

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## Conducting a Health Facility Assessment for PrEP

### Services in Antenatal and Postnatal Care

Evidence has shown that PBFP are at higher risk of acquiring HIV infection, compared to non-pregnant people. The World Health Organization (WHO) has recommended that oral PrEP containing tenofovir disoproxil fumarate (TDF) or dapivirine vaginal ring (PrEP ring) be offered as an additional prevention choice for pregnant people at substantial risk of HIV infection as part of combination prevention approaches. Increasing access to PrEP services within facility-based antenatal care (ANC) and postnatal care (PNC) is one important strategy in a comprehensive program to operationalize this recommendation and decrease HIV incidence in women and infants. This Facility Assessment Tool is part of a package of training and implementation resources intended to support expansion of PrEP choice to PBFP through maternal and newborn health (MNH) service delivery platforms.

Collecting baseline information on health facility readiness is one integral part of preparing for new PrEP service delivery for PBFP in ANC, PNC, or other MNH service delivery settings. Once a decision has been made to pursue the expansion of PrEP services within MNH service delivery settings, the assessment team should generate a list of potential health facilities with MNH services that may be invited or designated to provide PrEP services for PBFP. The sample assessment outlined here focuses on evaluation of health

facility infrastructure and space available for the care of PBFP coming to the facility for PrEP services at ANC or PNC, as well as availability of relevant supplies. The framework for this assessment assumes that routine MNH services are already provided in the facility, but that the relevant supplies and infrastructure needs for offering PrEP choice in the MNH unit may not be available, or may only be available in referral settings. In addition to the above assessments, health system stakeholders should discuss and plan for a range of important factors, including a supportive health policy environment, a well-trained and well-supported MNH workforce, and a communications strategy informed by insights from community representatives, among other considerations (see Table 1). A more comprehensive approach to assessing laboratory capacity is available from WHO.<sup>1</sup> The suggested facility assessment domains and questions below include multiple items drawn from the [OPTIONS Plan 4 PrEP Toolkit: Facility Readiness Assessment](#).

**Table 1. Additional Key Considerations**

- Demographic trends in HIV incidence
- Sociocultural and gender-related barriers to ARV use by HIV-uninfected PBFP
- Norms and power dynamics in decision-making during ANC and PNC, particularly around medication use
- Ongoing or planned social and behavior change communication campaigns related to MNH and/or prevention of perinatal transmission of HIV infection
- Trends in ANC and PNC census at facilities
- Community-based ANC and PNC service delivery
- MNH and family planning quality of care initiatives that can be linked to PrEP expansion efforts
- Structural barriers to addressing facility-based services
- Status of national PrEP guidelines and policies, inclusion of PBFP
- Cost of ANC, PNC, PrEP drugs, and laboratory tests for patients
- Competent personnel for ANC, PNC, family planning, commodities management, monitoring and evaluation, intimate partner violence counseling, and laboratory services

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<sup>1</sup> WHO. Laboratory Assessment Tool. 2012. [https://media.tghn.org/articles/WHO\\_Laboratory\\_Assessment\\_Tool\\_1.pdf](https://media.tghn.org/articles/WHO_Laboratory_Assessment_Tool_1.pdf)

## 1.0 Health Facility Identification

1.1	Date of Visit	
1.2	Facility Name	
1.3	Facility Number	
1.4	State/District	
1.5	City/Town/Village	
1.6	Health Facility Type	National referral hospital Provincial/district hospital Health center/clinic Others (specify)
1.7	Health Facility Ownership	Government/public Private-for-profit Faith-based Others (Specify)
1.8	Health Facility Location <sup>2</sup>	Urban (population > xxx) Peri-urban (population between xxx – xxx) Rural (population < xxx)

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<sup>2</sup> Programs may consider specifying the population values of each category according to national or subnational definitions. (e.g., Rural [Population <10,000]; Urban [population > 50,000]; Peri-urban [population between 10,000 – 50,000]).

## 2.0 Infrastructure and Equipment

	Items	Yes	No	Comments
2.1	Does the health facility have space for ANC?			
2.2	Does the health facility have space for PNC?			
2.3	Are the following equipment functional and available at the health facility?			
2.3.1	Manual blood pressure cuff and stethoscope OR automated blood pressure cuff			
2.3.2	Fetoscope or fetal heart doppler (for ANC settings)			
2.3.3	Measuring tape for fundal height (for ANC settings)			
2.3.4	Scale for measuring maternal weight			
2.3.5	Examination table or mattress			
2.3.6	Telephone line for contacting clients and/or other health workers			
2.3.7	Handwashing station easily accessible to health care providers			
2.3.8	Handwashing station easily accessible to clients			
2.3.9	Medical masks for health care providers			
2.3.10	Disinfection supplies to use on equipment between clients			
2.4	Does the health facility have space for private counseling for PrEP?			
2.5	Are there toolkits or job aids for service providers on oral PrEP for HIV prevention? If yes, do they include information on PrEP provision for PBFP?			

2.6	Are there toolkits or job aids for service providers on the PrEP ring for HIV prevention? If yes, do they include information of PrEP provision for PBFP?			
2.7	Are there other methods of HIV prevention available (VMMC, condoms, etc.)? Please note what is available in comments.			

### 3.0 Pharmacy and Storage

Items	Yes	No	Comments
3.1	Are the following medicines/vaccines available in the pharmacy/health facility?		
3.1.1	Emtricitabine/tenofovir disoproxil fumarate tablets (or other locally approved oral PrEP medicines)		
3.1.2	Dapivirine vaginal ring (PrEP ring)		
3.1.3	Iron and folic acid supplements		
3.1.4	Sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine (SP)		
3.1.5	Deworming tablets (albendazole, mebendazole)		
3.1.6	Sexually transmitted infection treatment drugs (benzathine penicillin G, azithromycin, ceftriaxone, metronidazole)		
3.1.7	Tetanus toxoid vaccine (for ANC settings)		
3.1.8	A range of family planning methods for postpartum clients (Please list all methods available in comments)		For example: male/female condoms, intrauterine contraceptive devices, sterilization, progestin-only pills, injectables (e.g., DMPA, NET-EN),

				implants (Jadelle, Implanon), combined oral contraceptives
3.2	Do the MNH consultation rooms have safe and dry space for storage of PrEP?			
3.3	Does the facility's stock room have temperature control?			
3.4	Does the facility have extra stocks of all nationally approved PrEP methods on site to prevent shortages?			
3.5	Does the facility have standard operating procedures (SOPs) or logistics management and information systems (LMIS) in place to support ordering and reporting (i.e., stock management) on ARVs and PrEP?			

## 4.0 Laboratory

Items		Yes	No	Comments
4.1	Are the following tests available in the laboratory?			
4.1.1	HIV test			
4.1.2	Syphilis (treponemal)			
4.1.3	Syphilis (non-treponemal)			
4.1.4	Urine pregnancy			
4.1.5	Rapid diagnostic tests for malaria			
4.1.6	Blood smear for malaria			
4.1.7	Serum creatinine			

4.1.8	Liver function (e.g., AST, ALT)			
4.1.9	Chlamydia trachomatis			
4.1.10	Neisseria gonorrhoeae			
4.1.11	Blood glucose			
4.2	Is there a referral system or connection to other laboratories for tests that are not available on site?			

## 5.0 Data, Registration, and Monitoring and Evaluation

Items		Yes	No	Comments
5.1	Does the health facility have the following registers and data points?			
5.1.1	Register for ANC			
5.1.2	Register for PNC			
5.1.3	PrEP (all methods nationally available) included in ANC registers or separate PrEP register in the ANC services area			
5.1.4	PrEP (all methods nationally available) included in PNC registers			
5.1.5	PrEP (all methods nationally available) included in ANC reporting form			
5.1.6	PrEP (all methods nationally available) included in PNC reporting form			
5.1.7	PrEP (all methods nationally available) included in ANC summary form			



5.1.8	PrEP (all methods nationally available) included in PNC summary form			
5.2	Is the facility reporting into a national reporting structure on PrEP?			
5.3	Does the facility have a unique client identification system?			
5.4	Does the facility have an electronic patient monitoring system?			
5.5	Is the facility linked to programs or efforts that support surveillance of adverse events monitoring for oral PrEP and/or the PrEP Ring? If yes, does this include monitoring for PBFP?			

## 6.0 Communications

	Items	Yes	No	Comments
6.1	Are there any awareness building efforts on oral PrEP as HIV prevention for the population that visits the facility? If yes, does this include awareness for PBFP?			
6.2	Are there any awareness building efforts on PrEP ring as HIV prevention for the population that visits the facility? If yes, does this include awareness for PBFP?			
6.3	Are oral PrEP information, education, and communication (IEC) materials available?			
6.3.1	If yes, are the IEC customized for PBFP?			

6.4	Are PrEP ring IEC materials available ?			
6.4.1	If yes, are the materials customized for PBFP?			
6.5	Does the facility have a comprehensive strategy or plan to guide communications about PrEP for PBFP?			
6.5.1	Are all nationally approved PrEP methods included in the communications plan?			
6.6	Has the facility developed a plan for PrEP outreach to PBFP in the community?			
6.6.1	Are all nationally approved PrEP methods included in the outreach plan?			
6.7	Has the community been sensitized on the integration of PrEP for PBFP within existing services?			
6.8	Have HIV prevention or PrEP champions been identified and engaged at the facility to reach PBFP with PrEP information?			