HIV Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP)
Expansion of Pharmacy-Delivered PrEP

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Disclosures

Only FTC/TDF (Truvada), FTC/TAF (Descovy), and CAB-LA (Apretude) are approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and only for use in some, but not all, populations. This talk may include discussion of non-FDA approved strategies for HIV prevention.
Disclaimer

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Data Considerations

Data in this presentation offer a limited perspective of how systemic, social, and economic factors impact health. We recognize that racism, not race, creates and perpetuates health disparities.

To Learn More:
https://www.cdc.gov/minorityhealth/racism-disparities
Expansion of Pharmacy-Delivered PrEP

IN 2021, LESS THAN ONE-QUARTER OF BLACK AND HISPANIC/LATINO PEOPLE WHO WERE ELIGIBLE FOR PREP WERE PRESCRIBED IT – COMPARED TO THREE-QUARTERS OF WHITE PEOPLE

ESTIMATED PREP COVERAGE BY RACE/ETHNICITY IN THE U.S., 2021*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Prescribed (%)</th>
<th>Eligible</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black/African American</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic/Latino</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other races/ethnicities</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The data on PrEP prescriptions by race and ethnicity are limited, and findings are estimated.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Expansion of Pharmacy-Delivered PrEP

Kelley-Ross One-Step PrEP Clinic - started in March 2015

Why pharmacies?

Barriers to clinic-based PrEP delivery:

- Patient-level access barriers:
  - Privacy
  - Convenience
  - Choice
  - Time
  - Transport cost
  - Stigma

- Provider-level delivery barriers:
  - Salary cost
  - Crowding at clinics
  - Familiarity with PrEP

PrEP use:

- Reach, new populations at HIV risk
- Initiation, among those at HIV risk
- Continuation, among those using PrEP

HIV transmission

Fig. 1 Theory of change for how pharmacy-based PrEP delivery may overcome barriers to clinic-based PrEP delivery in Kenya

Tung et al., Sexual Health 2018 Nov; 15(6): 556-561
Ortblad et al. BMC Health Services Research 2020 Nov 12; 20(1): 1034
Expansion of Pharmacy-Delivered PrEP

States in which pharmacists have some degree of authority in providing PrEP or PEP

American Pharmacists Association, Pharmacy Today
https://www.pharmacist.com/Publications/Pharmacy-Today/Article/pharmacists-expand-access-to-prep-in-17-states
Pharmacists’ knowledge and accessibility in nearly every urban and rural community can be leveraged as part of a comprehensive HIV prevention and care strategy to expand access to care and improve population health. As trusted health care professionals, pharmacists develop a strong rapport with patients and may be the key to addressing current disparities in PrEP-prescribing patterns as well as serving as an essential liaison between patients and other members of the multidisciplinary care team. Pharmacists and community pharmacies can also be utilized to expand rapid, point-of-care HIV testing in communities. In addition, studies have shown that engaging pharmacists as key players in a care team can increase retention in care and adherence to ART and maintain viral suppression.
Establishing A Virtual Community of Practice for Pharmacists in HIV Prevention

**Aim 1:** To establish an online VCoP for pharmacists and pharmacy staff to increase their knowledge, capabilities, and comfort in prescribing PrEP.

**Aim 2:** To outline a comprehensive PrEP curriculum for pharmacists, technicians, and students.
Establishing A Virtual Community of Practice for Pharmacists

What is a Community of Practice?
Establishing A Virtual Community of Practice for Pharmacists

What is an online VCoP?

Communities of practice (CoP):
- Unite individuals with common interests or purpose
- Share knowledge and learn collectively
- Develop skills to improve professional practice
- Reduce isolation

Online virtual VCoP
- Potential for development and networking across time/space

Goal: cultivate a dense, supportive network of pharmacy champions interested in the sustainable expansion of pharmacy-based PrEP across the U.S.
Establishing A Virtual Community of Practice for Pharmacists in HIV Prevention

Objectives:

1) Recruit pharmacists and pharmacy staff in order to champion members and provide support and education.

2) Help pharmacists and pharmacies to implement pharmacy-based PrEP clinics using evidence-based guidelines, increasing the number of people on PrEP and reducing new HIV infections.
Establishing A Virtual Community of Practice for Pharmacists in HIV Prevention

- Selection of platform and components
  - Initial pharmacist recruitment
  - Creation of VCoP guidelines and rules of conduct
    - Content creation: forum discussions, group questions, Zoom calls
    - Expansion
    - Refinement
Aim 2: To outline a comprehensive PrEP curriculum for pharmacists, technicians, and students.

Step 1: Inventory existing resources and identify gaps requiring content creation.

Some initial thoughts on needed resources and topics:
- FAQs and program checklists
- Assistance with how to identify pts appropriate for PrEP (e.g. pts seeking emergency contraception, STI treatment, etc.)
- Cultural competency training
- Outreach via social media and “dating” apps
Establishing A Virtual Community of Practice for Pharmacists in HIV Prevention

My ask:

Are you a pharmacist who wants to start providing PrEP as part of your practice?
Are you a pharmacist who knows a lot about PrEP and wants to join this community?
Do you work with pharmacists who might be interested in exploring providing PrEP?
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