

Preconception Care & the Elimination of Perinatal Transmission

Recommendations to address gaps in HIV prevention and care related to reproductive health

The National HIV/AIDS Strategy has played a critical role in identifying key action steps to improve HIV care continuum outcomes, but there are gaps in the strategy related to HIV treatment and prevention for women and their partners.

* Elimination is defined as a perinatal transmission rate less than 1% and an incidence of less than one per 100,000 live births.

Prevention of perinatal HIV transmission starts with preconception care because:

about 3/4 of people living with HIV (PLWH) in the U.S. are of reproductive age¹

about 1/2 PLWH in the U.S. of reproductive age desire to have children^{2,3}

about 1/2 of HIV-serodiscordant heterosexual couples in the U.S. want additional children⁴

most pregnancies among women PLWH are unintended, and contraception is underutilized⁵

live births among women PLWH in the U.S. have increased 150% since the availability of antiretroviral therapy⁶

Preconception care is an essential part of delivering integrated HIV care to:

prevent unintended or mistimed pregnancy

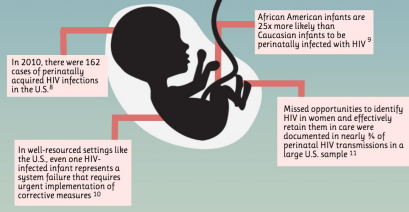
prevent HIV transmission to partner(s)

optimize patient health

improve pregnancy outcomes

prevent perinatal HIV transmission

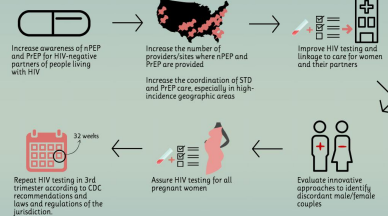
Elimination of perinatal HIV transmission is an achievable goal in the U.S.; however, elimination will require sustained effort as long as there are new HIV infections in women of childbearing age.⁷



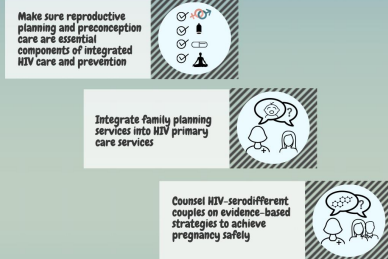
How do we address gaps in HIV treatment and prevention related to reproductive health in PLWH and their partners??

** Some recommendations from the Elimination of Mother-to-Child Transmission of HIV (EMCT) Stakeholders Group and the Expert Panel on Reproductive Health and Preconception Care for PLWH

HIV prevention & early identification strategies



Develop, implement and evaluate effective models of reproductive health care



For more information about reproductive health and prevention of perinatal transmission please visit the François-Xavier Bagnoud (FXB) Center resource library for clinicians and patients at http://www.fxbcenter.org/clinical_resources.html or The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists' Women & HIV resources at <http://www.womenandhiv.org/>

¹ The CDC Estimated Elimination of Mother-to-Child Transmission of HIV (EMCT) Stakeholders Group and the Expert Panel on Reproductive Health and Preconception Care for Persons Living with HIV are groups each comprised of approximately 50 HIV experts from federal agencies, state and local health departments, academic, clinical and public, consumer, advocacy and national professional organizations.
² Infographic references can be found here: <http://aidsinfo.org/resource/preconception-care-elimination-perinatal-transmission-infographic>
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