

PrEP for MSM

SUMMARY

- ❖ Nigerian men who have sex with men (MSM) are disproportionately affected by the HIV epidemic. The prevalence rate is the highest in the country, estimated at 22.9%.
- ❖ PrEP has been recommended by CDC and WHO as effective for prevention of new HIV infections amongst MSM.
- ❖ Nigeria already has a PrEP guideline in place but no comprehensive roadmap to ensure access and availability.
- ❖ PrEP for MSM focused on awareness creation and education to shore up demand for PrEP amongst MSM, engage the media to amplify advocates voices for the full scale roll out of PrEP as well as advocacy policy makers and CSOs to develop a comprehensive roadmap for PrEP in Nigeria.
- ❖ A quantitative survey on awareness, education and willingness to use PrEP amongst MSM was conducted.

CHALLENGES

- ❖ Information sharing amongst HIV service organizations in the country is poor. This affected the project in that critical information that should have shaped the advocacy was not provided from sources who were leaders in the field.
- ❖ Government prioritization of treatment over prevention was a bottleneck in conducting policy advocacy for the development of a comprehensive road map for PrEP.

RESULTS

Awareness and Education

MSM PrEP Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 MSM were trained as PrEP champions. 40 MSMs reached with information about PrEP using community dialogues in Lagos and Port Harcourt
Research/Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A survey was conducted amongst more than 100 MSM across different cities in the country on the PrEP use, education, awareness and also the ability to pay for PrEP out of pocket. The survey was used as additional evidence, in line with the results of the National PrEP Study. A survey of the landscape of PrEP activities was conducted.
Information, Communication and Education Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A PrEP compendium containing up to date and relevant information about PrEP was developed. In addition, a flier that explains PrEP in a simplistic way was designed. The materials developed also provided information and linkages to key populations organizations across the country.

Advocacy

CSOs Forum on Prevention and Treatment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two forum on Prevention and Treatment was conducted as part of raising voices for full-scale PrEP roll out in Nigeria as well as advocating for increases in prevention choices. 15 CSOs attended each forum.
Media Training	<p>15 media men and women were engaged to increase media knowledge on PrEP as well as amplify advocates voices for full scale roll out of PrEP. 5 articles published by 5 different media houses.</p>

RECOMMENDATIONS

- ❖ There is need to sustain PrEP education and awareness amongst MSM as part of expanding the gamut of prevention choices.
- ❖ There is need for a local one-stop shop for activists and advocates to access information on the state of prevention and treatment in the country as part of responding to the poor information sharing amongst HIV service organizations.
- ❖ There is need to sustain pressure on the government towards the design and development of a comprehensive roadmap for PrEP as part of increasing availability and accessibility.
- ❖ There is the need to increase the number of sites currently dispensing PrEP to key populations beyond the borders of Lagos and Abuja.