HIV PREVENTION: Pre-exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) Implementation

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From Research to the Real World: Sharing Science Symposium
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Why We Did this Study

• Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) :
  • High risk people using a part of an HIV drug cocktail on a daily basis to prevent HIV.

• Truvada® : only FDA approved drug
  • Once daily tablet
  • co-formulated tenofovir disoproxil fumarate 300 mg (TDF) and emtricitabine (FTC) 200 mg
  • 44 to 67% effective in clinical trials
    ….If taken perfectly 92% effective

• PrEP uptake requires providers to be
  • knowledgeable
  • willing to prescribe or refer
What We Did

• Anonymous on-line survey January to April 2013
  • Conducted among health care providers in Harris Health System (HHS)
    • largest network of public primary care providers in TX.
    • 22 locations staffed by BCM and UTHHealth
    • Thomas Street Health Center -> primary care for HIV infected patients.
  • 210 providers
    • Mean age - 36
    • 63% female, 48% white

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Demographic Characteristics</th>
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<tr>
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<td>31 to 40</td>
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<td>41 to 50</td>
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<td>Other</td>
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What We Found

- HIV specialists had 7.4 times greater odds of agreeing that PrEP is safe and effective (p=.002), compared to other providers.
What We Found

HIV specialists
- 4 times greater odds of being confident in their ability to identify patients who needed PrEP than other providers (p=0.003).
What We Found

Willing to prescribe?

- Strongly agree: 24%
- Agree: 62%
- Disagree: 11%
- Strongly disagree: 3%
What We Found

Willing to refer?

- 67% Agree
- 27% Strongly agree
- 4% Disagree
- 2% Strongly disagree
What We Found

Prefer management by a specialist?

- 3% Strongly agree
- 16% Agree
- 37% Disagree
- 44% Strongly disagree
What Our Results Mean and Why this Matters

• These findings highlight the need for additional training for primary care providers to enhance
  • Knowledge of PrEP safety and effectiveness
  • Ability to identify potential candidates
  • Confidence in PrEP prescribing/referral
  • Willingness to engage patients in the use of PrEP

• Only 18% of providers had received a patient inquiry about PrEP, 80% would be motivated to prescribe PrEP by patient requests.
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Study participants

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