

Launch of the “Ending the AIDS Epidemic among young people in MENA” advocacy report

WHO EMRO remarks

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#LetCommunitiesLead



Elements of successful programming for young key populations

Quality services are friendly, affordable, confidential, safe and easy to access, at convenient times

Comprehensive services are integrated and decentralized where relevant

Developmentally appropriate information and education are provided

Health care providers, peers, educators, people working in welfare, social and justice services are trained

Services are supportive and make use of peer-based and peer-led initiatives



High impact interventions

Self-care

The ability of individuals to promote health, prevent disease, maintain health, and cope with illness & disability with or without support of a healthcare provider.

Update

HIV self-testing should be offered as an approach to HIV testing services (*strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence*).

Hepatitis C virus (HCV) self-testing should be offered as an additional approach to HCV testing services

(*strong recommendation, moderate-certainty evidence*)

WHO suggests offering syphilis self-testing as an additional syphilis testing approach

(*conditional recommendation, low certainty in evidence of effects*)

2015. Daily Oral PrEP containing **tenofovir** as an additional prevention choice for people at substantial risk of HIV infection

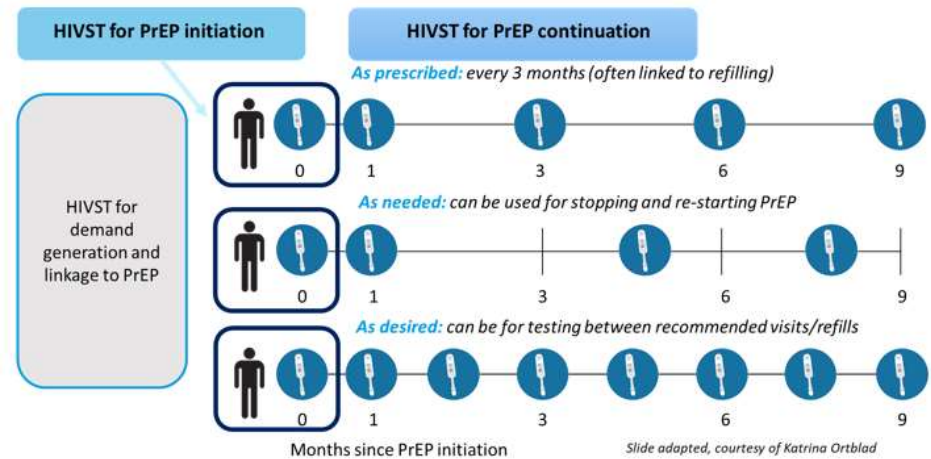
2019. Event-driven PrEP for cisgender men and MSM

2021. The dapivirine vaginal ring may be offered as an additional prevention choice for women at substantial risk of HIV

2022. Long-acting injectable cabotegravir (CAB-LA) may be offered as an additional prevention choice for people at substantial risk of HIV

New recommendation

HIV self-testing may be used to deliver pre-exposure prophylaxis, including for initiation, re-initiation and continuation (*conditional recommendation, low-certainty evidence*).



Key supportive interventions and considerations

Adolescent friendly services

Recommendations

- Adolescent-friendly health services should be implemented in HIV services to ensure engagement and improved outcomes (strong recommendation, low-quality evidence). **NEW**
- Community-based approaches can improve treatment adherence and retention in care of adolescents living with HIV (conditional recommendation, very low-quality evidence).
- Training of health-care workers can contribute to treatment adherence and improvement in retention in care of adolescents living with HIV (conditional recommendation, very low-quality evidence).
- Adolescents should be counselled about the potential benefits and risks of disclosure of their HIV status to others and empowered and supported to determine if, when, how and to whom to disclose (conditional recommendation, very low-quality evidence).

Source: HIV and adolescents: guidance for HIV testing and counselling and care for adolescents living with HIV. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2013 (<http://www.who.int/hiv/pub/guidelines/adolescents/en>).

Box 6.1. WHO-defined characteristics of adolescent-friendly health services

Equitable: all adolescents, not just certain groups, are able to obtain the health services they need.

Accessible: adolescents are able to obtain the services that are provided.

Acceptable: health services are provided in ways that meet the expectations of adolescent clients.

Appropriate: the right health services that adolescents need are provided.

Effective: the right health services are provided in the right way and make a positive contribution to the health of adolescents.

Mental Health

Mental health a priority for adolescents living with HIV

New Recommendation

Psychosocial interventions should be provided to all adolescents and young people living with HIV (Strong recommendation; moderate-certainty evidence)

Improves adherence to ART and reduction in viral load outcomes.

Peer driven approaches, integration within existing package of services, quality are important implementation considerations

Young people need to lead from the front in implementation just as they were a huge part of the guideline development process!



Psychological interventions

TECHNICAL BRIEF

Integrating psychosocial interventions and support into HIV services for adolescents and young adults

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World Health Organization

World Health Organization



Thank you!

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Implementing WHO evidence-based interventions for adolescents and young adults living with and at risk of HIV
Forthcoming!