

Check Out Our New Look!



The HPTN is excited to announce an updated version of hptn.org. The new website is mobile-friendly, allowing users to easily access the site's information from any device (a desktop computer, tablet, or smartphone).

The website will continue to have information on HPTN studies, sites, publications, community, news and events, resources, and more. However, the new site has the added benefit of a login functionality, allowing Network members to dive into more technical information and documents for studies, while serving as more of a general resource for non-members who want to learn about our studies or HIV prevention as a whole.

See You at The 2016 HPTN Annual Meeting

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The HPTN is honored to announce that Dr. Anthony Fauci and Ambassador Deborah Birx will appear as part of the HPTN and IMPAACT Network Joint Plenary Session on Wednesday, June 15. HPTN Scholars will also present their work, and study teams will highlight key study findings and lessons learned on the rollout and development of our trials in an evening poster session. We will see you June 10-15, 2016 at the Crystal Gateway Marriott in Arlington, Virginia. [Learn more](#)



Annual Meeting Mobile App

For the first time, the Annual Meeting will have a mobile app! With the app, you'll be able to receive notifications on agenda and room changes, see the attendee list, view session documents, create your personal schedule, read speaker bios and more. Download the app on your mobile device here: <https://crowd.cc/s/guNS>. Once it's downloaded, search for "HPTN and IMPAACT Annual Meeting."

STUDY UPDATES

HPTN is PrEPared to Help Young Women in sub-Saharan Africa

What is HPTN 082?

HPTN 082 is research study designed to assess characteristics of young women who accept versus decline pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) at enrollment. The study will also compare adherence to PrEP between women who are randomized to receive standard adherence support and those receiving enhanced adherence support.

Who is participating in the study?

Approximately 400 HIV-uninfected women ages 16-25 who accept PrEP at enrollment and up to 200 who decline PrEP at enrollment will be recruited at two sites in South Africa (Cape Town and Johannesburg) and one site in Harare, Zimbabwe.

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Young African women are an important population for PrEP implementation, representing three of the four million young people living with HIV in sub-Saharan Africa, and with high annual HIV incidence rates of 5-6% in recent HIV prevention trials. Oral PrEP has the potential to significantly reduce HIV incidence among young African women, if delivered with clear information about its efficacy and the importance of high-level adherence; providing counseling and risk assessments to determine women's perceived risks and benefits of PrEP; and providing tailored cognitive behavioral counseling with short message service (SMS) reminders adapted to this specific population. Up to 200 additional women may be enrolled who are interested in PrEP and are eligible for the study, but decline to accept oral PrEP at enrollment. These women will continue to be offered PrEP during follow up visits to determine the proportion who subsequently accept PrEP (late acceptors), and the characteristics of early vs. delayed PrEP accepters and those who do not accept PrEP during follow up.

What will happen during the study?

Participants will be offered open-label PrEP and followed for up to one year. Participants who accept PrEP will be randomly assigned in a 1:1 ratio to receive standard adherence support (counseling, two-way SMS communication), and peer support through adherence support clubs or enhanced adherence support with counseling based on feedback from drug levels in addition to the standard adherence support (counseling, two-way SMS communication, and peer support through adherence support clubs). A subset of up to 25 women per site (up to 75 total women), including PrEP decliners and late accepters, will also be recruited to participate in interviews, to explore why a woman decides to use PrEP in the first three months after PrEP acceptance. [Learn more](#)

Staying AMPed!

The AMP (Antibody Mediated Prevention) Studies continue activating new sites and infusing study volunteers with the monoclonal antibody VRCO1 or control. There are now 16 sites actively enrolling participants in the HVTN 704/HPTN 085 trial with 108 participants having received their first infusions. Three sites are now enrolling participants in HVTN 703/HPTN 081 with 4 participants having received their first infusions. The AMP Studies are two multinational clinical trials of an intravenously (IV) delivered investigational monoclonal antibody, VRCO1, for preventing HIV infection. The trials will test whether giving people an IV infusion of VRCO1 every eight weeks is safe, tolerable and effective at preventing HIV infection. The trials are also designed to answer fundamental questions for the fields of HIV prevention and vaccine research.

[Learn more about HVTN 703/HPTN 081](#)

[Learn more about HVTN 704/HPTN 085](#)

SHOUTOUTS

Dr. Darrell Wheeler Appointed Vice Chair of the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS

Congratulations to Darrell Wheeler, PhD, MPH, ACSW, HPTN 073 protocol chair and co-chair of the HPTN MSM scientific committee on being appointed

HIV/AIDS (PACHA).



NETWORK MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Charles Chasakara

Charles Chasakara is the CTU Community Engagement Coordinator at the University of Zimbabwe-University of California San Francisco Clinical Trials Unit in Harare, Zimbabwe. Charles currently works on HPTN 076, HVTN 703/HPTN 081 and HPTN 082.

How did you first become involved with the HPTN?

At the time the Parirenyatwa Clinic Research Site (CRS) in Harare, Zimbabwe was recruiting participants for the HPTN 052 study (2009), I was appointed the Clinical Trials Unit (CTU) Community Engagement Coordinator. In this role I started working closely with the HPTN community engagement team and the local CTU (Harare CAB, Chitungwiza CAB and Epworth CAB) CABs, according to our catchment areas. In 2011, we then embarked on restructuring and streamlining the CABs to establish research network based CABs to foster network focused specialization for effective community involvement, without losing the geographical and direct stakeholder representation found in the previous structures. This gave birth to HPTN CAB whose activities I directly coordinate.

[Learn more](#)



AWARENESS DAYS



[HIV Long-term Survivors Day](#)

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[National HIV Testing Day](#)

June 27, 2016

HOT OFF THE PRESS

Ojikutu BO, Pathak S, Srithanaviboonchai K, Limbada M, Friedman R, Li S, Mimiaga MJ, Mayer KH, Safren SA; HIV Prevention Trials Network 063 Team. [Community Cultural Norms, Stigma and Disclosure to Sexual Partners among Women Living with HIV in Thailand, Brazil and Zambia \(HPTN 063\)](#). PLoS One. 2016 May 6;11(5):e0153600. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0153600.

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