



# Prevention NOW!

February 2020 - Issue 54



The [Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections](#) (CROI) returns to the Hynes Convention Center in Boston, March 8-11. HPTN researchers will present 17 abstracts covering [HPTN 071](#), [HPTN 075](#) and [HPTN 078](#). Webcasts, abstracts, electronic posters and other electronic resources will be available on the CROI website after the conference ends.

## Updated Ethics Guidance for HIV Prevention Research



The HPTN has the mission of conducting HIV prevention research at the highest scientific and ethical standards. The updated *HPTN Ethics Guidance for Research* aims to facilitate the Network's mission by raising awareness of the associated ethical considerations, engaging all network members in a discussion about those considerations, and promoting the integration of ethical considerations into the design and implementation of HIV research.



*(L-R, Drs. Jeremy Sugarman and Brandon Brown)*

Dr. Jeremy Sugarman, chair of the HPTN Ethics Working Group and Harvey M. Meyerhoff Professor of Bioethics and Medicine, at the Johns Hopkins Berman Institute of Bioethics in Baltimore and Dr. Brandon Brown, 2015-16 HPTN Domestic Scholar and current associate professor in the School of Medicine at the University of California, Riverside, led the revision with extensive input from the HPTN Ethics Working Group. HPTN Leadership and the Executive Committee provided additional support.

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## HPTN Black Caucus Featured in International Journal Article



*The HPTN Black Caucus meets at their annual strategic planning meeting to develop goals and objectives for the year ahead.*

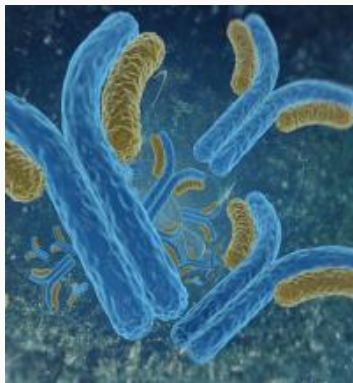
HPTN Black Caucus members have co-authored an article entitled, "Development of a Black Caucus within the HIV Prevention Trials Network (HPTN): Representing the Perspectives of Black Men Who Have Sex with Men (MSM)" in the International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health.

Black MSM have a disproportionate burden of HIV in the U.S. and have been underrepresented in biomedical research, including HIV clinical trials, due to socio-structural, socio-cultural, and psychosocial factors. The article discusses the formation and implementation of the HPTN Black Caucus from the perspective of key Black MSM community stakeholders to address these issues and the major themes that emerged from the qualitative narratives.

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## Shoutout



The [HVTN 136/HPTN 092](#) study team met in Bethesda, Maryland, February 5-6, for study-specific training in preparation for study opening in late March. The Phase I study is a dose-escalation clinical trial designed to evaluate the safety, tolerability, pharmacokinetics, and antiviral activity of two monoclonal antibodies (PGT121.414.LS and VRC07-523LS) for HIV prevention. Staff from all six study sites met to review protocol requirements, clinic flow, study-specific procedures, and operational issues, including how to administer subcutaneous infusions.

## Network Member Spotlight

Rameses Frederick is the HPTN/HVTN Community Education and Recruitment Program Coordinator at Emory Hope Clinic Vaccine Center in Atlanta. He has supported the educational and recruitment strategies for two landmark clinical trials, [HVTN 703/HPTN 081](#) and [HPTN 083](#).

### How did you first get involved with the HPTN?

As a health promotion specialist for Mercy Care, I attended a Hope Clinic Community Advisory Board meeting. The meeting



was my first introduction to research and clinical trials from a community input perspective. Being asked to review protocols and provide feedback, and knowing my responses were valued, was an honor.

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## Awareness Days



## Hot Off The Press

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Maragh-Bass AC, Gamble T, Tolley EE. ['Either You Float or You Drown:' The Role of Social Ties and Stigma in Lived Experiences of the HIV Care Continuum in HPTN 065.](#) AIDS Behav. 2020 Feb 21.

Milne J, Brady H, Shato T, Bohn D, Mdladla M, Ngcwayi N, Atujuna M, Humphries H, Amico KR. [Measuring HIV Risk Perception and Behavior: Results from Round 1 of the Cognitive Interviewing Project with young women and men who have sex with men in South Africa.](#) AIDS Behav. 2020 Feb 14.

DeLong SM, Powers KA, Pence BW, Maman S, Dunkle KL, Selin A, Twine R, Wagner RG, Gómez-Olivé FX, MacPhail C, Kahn K, Pettifor A. [Longitudinal Trajectories of Physical Intimate Partner Violence Among Adolescent Girls in Rural South Africa: Findings From HPTN 068.](#) J Adolesc Health. 2020 Feb 12.

Tolley EE, Zangeneh SZ, Chau G, Eron J, Grinsztejn B, Humphries H, Liu A, Siegel M, Bertha M, Panchia R, Li S, Cottle L, Rinehart A, Margolis D, Jennings A, McCauley M, Landovitz RJ. [Acceptability of Long-Acting Injectable Cabotegravir \(CAB LA\) in HIV-Uninfected Individuals: HPTN 077.](#) AIDS Behav. 2020 Feb 12.

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Watson CC, Wilton L, Lucas JP, Bryant L, Victorienne GD, Aradhya K, Fields SD, Wheeler DP, HPTN Black Caucus OBOT. [Development of a Black Caucus within the HIV Prevention Trials Network \(HPTN\): Representing the Perspectives of Black Men Who Have Sex with Men \(MSM\).](#) Int J Environ Res Public Health. 2020 Feb 3;17(3).



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