Lesson #1: How Far Were We from the First Two 90s?

Data from 21,847 research cohort participants across all study communities in Zambia and South Africa revealed prior to delivery of the PopART intervention, approximately one-third (36%) of HIV+ men and about half (52%) of HIV+ women knew their HIV+ status (“first 90”). Among HIV+ adults who knew their HIV+ status, nearly two-thirds (67%) of men and two-thirds (66%) of women were on ART (“second 90”). These levels relate to the first two of the UNAIDS 90-90-90 targets. (S. Floyd poster #982, Wednesday 2:45-4pm Hall D)

Lesson #2: Towards the First 90 - Increasing Knowledge of HIV Status

Data from the four study communities in Zambia where household testing and universal ART is offered showed the percentage of adults who knew their HIV status rose from ~50% to ~90% after just one ‘round’ of delivery of the household-level HIV prevention package, among those who consented to participate in the PopART intervention. (K. Shanaube poster #981, Wednesday 2:45-4pm Hall D)
Lesson #3: Towards the Second 90 - Getting People onto ART

Data from the seven study communities, four in Zambia and three in South Africa, where household testing and universal ART is offered showed among adults who consented to participate in the PopART intervention and were known to be HIV infected, approximately half (49%) were on ART at the time of the intervention delivery. By the end of the first round of intervention delivery, among all who were still alive and resident in the community, 71% were on ART. (S. Fidler oral presentation, Wednesday, 10am-12pm, Ballroom A “Towards the Second UNAIDS Target: Population Level ART Coverage in HPTN 071 (PopART)” Abstract #114)

Lesson #4: Filling the Gaps - Where Are the Men?

As data became available during the first round of delivery of the PopART intervention, uptake of home-based HIV testing was noted to be lower in men than women. The study team investigated (and continues to evaluate) new ways to reach men. One such assessment examined whether the deployment of male Community HIV Care Providers (CHiPs) to encourage HIV testing amongst men increased uptake by men. The findings showed that this did not significantly enhance male uptake. (M. Phiri poster #980, Wednesday 2:45-4pm Hall D)

Note: At Symposium Session 5, on Wednesday, 24 Feb at 4pm, the HPTN 071 principal investigator in Zambia, Helen Ayles, MD, will present a talk entitled “Missing But in Action: Where Are the Men?”

Lesson #5: Does Traditional Male Circumcision Protect Against HIV?

In South Africa, men reporting circumcision by traditional practitioners had higher HIV prevalence when compared to those reporting voluntary male medical circumcision. A similar analysis for men in Zambia did not show a statistically significant difference after adjusting for age, though number of traditionally circumcised men in Zambia was limited. (M. Pickles oral presentation, Thursday, 10am-12pm, Room 311 “Exploring the Effectiveness of Traditional Circumcision Practices in Preventing HIV” Abstract #165)

Lesson #6: Can a Household Intervention for HIV Also Help Find Tuberculosis?

Tuberculosis (TB) symptom screening is a component of the PopART household intervention. Approximately 1.2% of those screened in eight communities in Zambia reported TB symptoms. Of those screened, 6.5% were diagnosed with TB, cases that might not otherwise have been identified. This demonstrates the household PopART intervention enabled TB case finding. (C. Phiri oral presentation, Thursday, 10am-12pm, Ballroom A “Acceptability of Large-Scale Household-Based TB Screening: HPTN 071(PopART) Trial” Abstract #156)

Lesson #7: Successfully Screening for HIV in a Large, Population-level Survey

The Abbott Combo test was used in Zambia and South Africa to screen samples from more than 30,000 study participants for HIV infection. Confirmatory testing of 10,390 samples showed even in a large, community-based population-level survey, the Abbott Combo test performed well in detecting HIV antibodies. Special data management and sample management procedures likely contributed to the high quality of initial HIV screening test results. (E. Piwowar-Manning poster #523, Wednesday 2:45-4pm Hall A/B)