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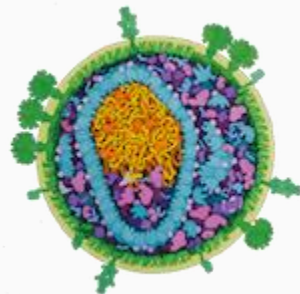


HPTN
HIV Prevention
Trials Network

Prevention **NOW!**

February 2018 - Issue 38

HPTN at CROI



CROI
Conference on Retroviruses
and Opportunistic Infections

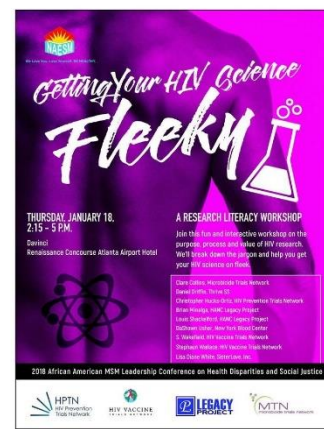
The 25th annual [Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections](#) (CROI) will take place March 4 to March 7, 2018, at the Hynes Convention Center in Boston, Massachusetts. HPTN researchers will present 11 study-related abstracts covering HPTN [052](#), [065](#), [067](#), [068](#), [074](#), [075](#),

and [082](#). In addition, HPTN Co-Principal Investigator Wafaa El-Sadr, MD, MPH, will present “Advances in HIV Prevention” during a pre-conference workshop for new investigators and trainees. In a themed discussion, Connie Celum, MD, MPH, will speak on risk behavior, perception, and reasons for PrEP among young African women ([HPTN 082](#)). HPTN Executive Committee member Quarraisha Abdool Karim, PhD will lead the discussion. CROI 2018 webcasts, abstracts, electronic posters, and other electronic resources will be available [online](#) after the conference ends.

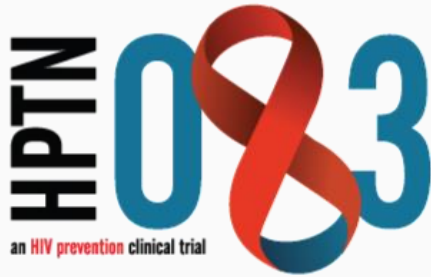
[View HPTN abstracts at CROI](#)

Getting Fleeky at NAESM

The 15th annual [National AIDS Education and Services for Minorities \(NAESM\) conference](#) was held January 18-21 in Atlanta. The event attracted several hundred healthcare providers, government officials, people living with HIV/AIDS, researchers, and community members for four days of education, professional/personal development, and networking. The HPTN co-hosted and co-sponsored a research literacy workshop titled “Getting Your HIV Science Fleeky” along with the HVTN, Legacy Project, and MITN. The workshop focused on the purpose, process, and value of HIV research. Speakers also provided the latest updates in biomedical HIV prevention research and advocacy.



[Study Shout Outs](#)



[HPTN 083](#) has enrolled its 1000th participant in the Phase 2b/3 efficacy study of injectable cabotegravir. This is a major milestone as the study will enroll approximately 4,500 HIV-uninfected cisgender men who have sex with men (MSM) and transgender women (TGW) who have sex with men in the Americas, Asia and South Africa. Launched in December 2016, HPTN 083 will evaluate the efficacy of injectable cabotegravir for pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) in HIV-uninfected MSM and TGW who have sex with men. If found to be safe and effective for PrEP, injectable cabotegravir may be easier for some people to adhere to than daily oral PrEP.

Congratulations to Darrell Wheeler, PhD, MPH, ACSW, [HPTN 073](#) protocol chair, co-chair of the HPTN MSM scientific committee, and [Domestic Scholars](#) co-chair on being appointed the new provost and senior vice president for academic affairs at Iona College in New Rochelle, New York. Dr. Wheeler's appointment will begin in July. He comes to Iona from the University at Albany, State University of New York (SUNY) where he is currently serving as dean of the School of Social Welfare, vice provost for public engagement, and professor. Previously, Dr. Wheeler held positions of interim provost and senior vice president for academic affairs at the University at Albany (SUNY), dean and professor at Loyola University Chicago, and associate dean for research and community partnerships at Hunter College School of Social Work in New York.





The [HPTN 071](#) (PopART) study team recently held its annual workshop in Cape Town, South Africa. The event included nearly 100 study team representatives for three days of plenaries and working group meetings. Topics discussed included study data and endpoints, field team activities, publications strategy, and primary study results dissemination. HPTN 071 is evaluating the impact of a combination prevention strategy in 21 large communities reaching nearly one million individuals in Zambia and South Africa to reduce HIV incidence. The study, anchored in universal household HIV testing and linkage to immediate antiretroviral treatment initiation, will provide answers to questions regarding how best to combine HIV prevention interventions in different populations and settings for maximum impact while also assessing cost-effectiveness.

[HVTN 704/HPTN 085](#) was recently honored for having the “Best HIV Prevention on Social Media” in [Healthline's](#) 5th annual HIV Influencer Honors. Healthline, the fastest growing consumer health information site with 65 million monthly visitors, recognized the study's Facebook and Twitter social media pages for helping to educate and raise awareness about HIV and AIDS in special and meaningful ways. HVTN 704/HPTN 085 and [HVTN 703/HPTN 081](#), collectively known as Antibody Mediated Prevention, or AMP, are two clinical trials evaluating whether an antibody called VRC01 is effective in reducing acquisition of HIV-1 infection among at-risk populations. The AMP studies are currently being conducted at 47 sites in 11 countries.





The Instituto de Pesquisa Clínica Evandro Chagas (IPEC) clinical research site (CRS) in Rio de Janeiro recently celebrated Brazil's Transgender Day of Visibility with a variety of programs including artistic activities, videos, a clothing customization workshop, and debates. These debates highlighted the importance of respect, improved access to health services, the labor market, and the fight for guaranteed rights to access to care. The event was also an opportunity for the CRS to strengthen its commitment to providing a space for integration, dialogue, and trust with the transgender community. The IPEC CRS is currently participating in [HPTN 077](#), [HVTN/HPTN 085](#), and [HPTN 083](#).



Eight early-career researchers working at the research sites conducting [HPTN 071](#) (PopART) — four from Zambia and four from South Africa — recently attended a four-day workshop on manuscript writing in Stellenbosch, South Africa. The event was organized by Nulda Beyers, MBChB, PhD, one of the two principal investigators working on HPTN 071 (PopART) at the Desmond Tutu TB Centre in Cape Town, South Africa. Trainees received expert instruction each morning from senior researchers including HPTN Executive Committee member Sten Vermund, MD, PhD, dean of the Yale School of

Public Health, and Karen Kelley, MPH, a senior technical advisor at USAID. Topics ranged from how to write a methods section, to how to select a target journal. Each afternoon, the trainees worked on completing another section of their manuscript, supported by a statistician and one or more experienced writing mentors. The goal is for all eight trainees to publish, as a first author, by the end of 2018. And thanks to this intensive workshop, they are all well on their way towards a completed first draft.

The logo for Zambart, featuring the word "Zambart" in a bold, black, handwritten-style font.

The Zambart CRS in Lusaka, Zambia recently received the 2017 Champion award in the “Research and Innovation” category from the Resident Doctors Association Zambia (RDAZ). RDAZ recognized the CRS, along with the contributions of several other organizations and individuals who contribute to the fight against HIV and AIDS in Zambia, during a special dinner and reception. The Zambart CRS is currently participating in [HPTN 071](#) (PopART).

Network Member Spotlight



Luciana Kamel is a community educator and counselor at Laboratory of Clinical Research (LaPClin)/Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (Fiocruz) in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. She currently supports [HPTN 083](#) and [HVTN 704/HPTN 085](#) (AMP), and is a community partners representative with the Office of HIV/AIDS Network Coordination (HANC). Luciana earned a Master of Science in Psychosociology and Community Social Ecology from the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (UFRJ). She also received a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from UFRJ and Bachelor of Arts in Law from the Estácio de Sá University in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

How did you first get involved with the HPTN?

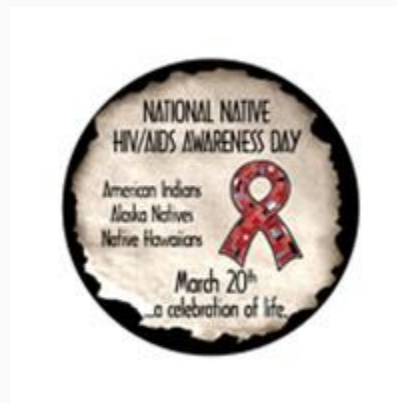
I was invited to join the Fio Cruz Community Advisory Board (CAB) in 2005 and since then I've been very involved in community engagement and education team activities. My active participation in the HPTN started with HPTN 052 as a CAB member. My contribution at that time was developing appropriate community engagement approaches so the community was well informed and had a common understanding of the study.

[Read More](#)

Awareness Days



[National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day](#)



[National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day](#)

Hot Off The Press

Palumbo PJ, Fogel JM, Hudelson SE, Wilson EA, Hart S, Hovind L, Piwo war-Manning E, Wallis C, Papathanasopoulos MA, Morgado MG, Saravanan S, Tripathy S, Eron JJ, Gallant JE, Mph, McCauley M, Gamble T, Hosseinipour MC, Kumarasamy N, Hakim JG, Pilotto JH, Kumwenda J, Akelo V, Godbole SV, Santos BR, Grinsztejn B, Panchia R, Chariyalertsak S, Makhema J, Badal-Faesen S, Chen YQ, Cohen MS, Eshleman SH. [HIV Drug Resistance in Adults Receiving Early Versus Delayed Antiretroviral Therapy: HPTN 052](#). J Acquir Immune Defic Syndr. epub 2017 Dec 28.

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Rosenberg M, Pettifor A, Twine R, Hughes JP, Gomez-Olive FX, Wagner RG, Sulaimon A, Tollman S, Selin A, MacPhail C, Kahn K. [Evidence for sample selection effect and Hawthorne effect in behavioural HIV prevention trial among young women in a rural South African community](#). BMJ Open. 2018 Jan 10;8(1):e019167. doi: 10.1136/bmjopen-2017-019167. PMID: 29326192

Mitchell KM, Dimitrov D, Hughes JP, Xia F, Donnell D, Amico KR, Bokoch K, Chitwarakorn A, Bekker LG, Holtz TH, Mannheimer S, Grant RM, Boily MC. [In what circumstances could nondaily preexposure prophylaxis for HIV substantially reduce program costs?](#) AIDS. 2018.



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