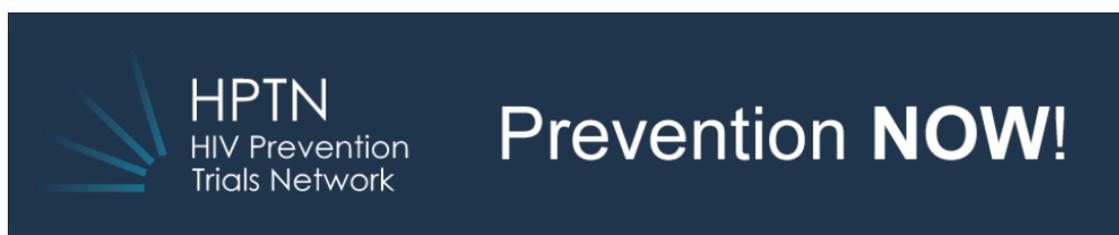


[View this email in your browser](#)



August 2018 - Issue 43

## AIDS 2018: A Look Back



The 22<sup>nd</sup> [International AIDS Conference](#) (AIDS 2018) was held July 23-27 at the RAI Amsterdam Convention Centre in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. HPTN researchers presented 31 posters and presentations covering [HPTN 052](#), [HPTN 068](#), [HPTN 071](#) and [HPTN 075](#). Network leadership also hosted a satellite session focused on the HPTN's portfolio of clinical studies currently evaluating interventions that – if proven to be effective – can empower women to protect themselves from HIV infection. In addition, HPTN LOC staff hosted a booth in the Global Village, featuring information about the Network as well as ongoing and planned clinical trials.



## Satellite Session

The HPTN hosted *HIV Prevention for Women*, a standing-room-only satellite session chaired by HPTN Co-Principal Investigators Mike Cohen, MD and Wafaa El-Sadr, MD, MPH, MPA. Prevention of HIV in women is an urgent global priority and the HPTN is leading a vibrant research agenda evaluating ways to protect women worldwide from the infection. Session presenters shared insights from HPTN studies conducted in HIV-infected and uninfected women to evaluate interventions that may prevent the spread of HIV.

Connie Celum, MD, MPH discussed [Oral Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis \(PrEP\) for Prevention](#) and concluded her talk with a brief [video](#).

Kwame Shanaube, MD, PhD discussed [Acceptability of an HIV Prevention Package Among Young People](#).

Audrey Pettifor, PhD, MPH discussed Structural and Social Factors That Contribute to Increased Vulnerability to HIV.

Sinead Delany-Moretlwe, MBBCh, PhD, DTM&H discussed [Long-Acting Injectables \(LAIs\) for PrEP](#).



## Oral Presentations

Nyaradzo Mgodi, MBChB, MMed, presented [What's New in the Pipeline for PrEP?](#) sharing insights from several next-generation PrEP studies including the two antibody mediated prevention studies ([HVTN 703/HPTN 081](#), [HVTN 704/HPTN 085](#)) and two long-acting injectable studies ([HPTN 083](#), [HPTN 084](#)).

David Bonsall, MD, PhD, presented [HIV Genotyping and Phylogenetics in the HPTN 071 \(PopART\) Study: Validation of a High-Throughput Sequencing Assay for Viral Load Quantification, Genotyping, Resistance Testing and High-Resolution Transmission Networking](#). The [HPTN 071](#) phylogenetics sub-study will provide valuable molecular epidemiological insight into the transmission events that occurred in spite of the trial's intervention. The team presented their low-cost next-generation sequencing solution, complete with analytics and specifically optimized to detect transmission, quantify viral load and predict

drug resistance.

Christophe Fraser, PhD, presented [Understanding Infection Clusters – Can This Help us to Target Prevention?](#) Explaining how HIV spreads and evolves over time and in different populations may improve control of the epidemic. Dr. Fraser described ways in which next-generation sequencing can be incorporated into prevention programs that are tailored to local populations along with the ethical and legal issues that may arise with this approach.

Kalpana Sabapathy, MBBS, PhD, MRCP, presented [Estimates of coverage against the 90:90:90 UNAIDS targets: Comparison of methods and findings](#), as part of a satellite session titled *From Trials to Programmes: Lessons Learned from Four Trials of Universal Testing and Treatment (UTT) in sub-Saharan Africa*, hosted by the Universal Test and Treat Trials Consortium (UT3C). The session was led by Richard Hayes, DSc, FMedSci, [HPTN 071](#) protocol chair and UT3C chair, and David Serwadda, MD, HPTN Executive Committee member, and featured field experiences and data to help inform public policy and resource allocation.

---

## Poster Presentations



Estelle Piwowar-Manning, MT, presented [Evaluation of Phylogenetic Inference Methods to Determine Direction of HIV Transmission](#). Phylogenetic analysis of next-generation sequencing data obtained from samples collected within three months of transmission correctly determined the direction of transmission in 64 percent of the cases analyzed.

[See More](#)

---

## AIDS 2018 Pre-Conferences



[HPTN 071](#) (PopART) researchers participated in two key conferences preceding AIDS 2018: the 10<sup>th</sup> [International AIDS Economics Network \(IAEN\) meeting](#) and the 4<sup>th</sup> [International Association for the Social Sciences and Humanities \(ASSHH\) conference](#). The IAEN meeting focused on considering practical solutions to fund the effective and efficient acceleration of HIV and AIDS programs and sustain the results considering declining donor funding. The ASSHH conference reflected the increased need for engaging social science and humanities research in the global HIV response.

Katharina Hauck, PhD, presented *Costs of two Rounds of Home-based HIV Testing and Counselling in Zambia: Evidence from the [HPTN 071](#) (PopART) study*. The abstract was also presented at AIDS 2018 and can be viewed [here](#).



Lawrence Mwenge, MSc, presented *The Patient Costs of Accessing Healthcare in South Africa and Zambia: A Baseline Survey of the [HPTN 071](#) (PopART) Trial*.



Melvin Simuyaba, BSW, presented *Experiences of Early ART Initiation (CD4 $\geq$ 500) Among People Living with HIV in one [HPTN 071](#) (PopART) Study Site in Zambia*.

Chiti Bwalya, MPH, presented *The Influence of Community Lay Work, Gender, Social Relations and Stigma on the Uptake of HIV Self-Testing Delivered at Household Level in Four Zambian [HPTN 071](#) (PopART) Trial Communities*.

Lario Viljoen, MA, presented *Public Condition/Private Affliction: Negotiating Co-morbidity, Confidentiality, and Care in South Africa, a Case Study from the [HPTN 071](#) (PopART) Study*.

Virginia Bond, PhD, presented *Self-stigma is the Worst Kind of Stigma: Internalised Stigma and Navigating HIV Care Amongst Health Workers Living with HIV in Zambia and South Africa, the [HPTN 071](#) (PopART) Stigma Ancillary Study*. The abstract was also presented at AIDS 2018 and can be viewed [here](#).

Laing de Villiers, MA, presented *Stigma, Secrecy, Social Support and HIV Service Access Among Transgender and Gender-fluid People in South Africa*.

Madalitso Mbewe, PhD, presented *'In Their Shoes': Limited Disclosure Amongst Young People Living with HIV Stifles Their Ability to Contact Others in the Same Situation, a Qualitative Cohort [HPTN 071](#) (PopART) Study in Zambia*. The abstract was also presented at AIDS 2018 and can be viewed [here](#).

Neshaan Peton, MPA, presented *How Health Workers Motivated People Living with HIV (PLHIV) to Initiate Antiretroviral Treatment (ART) at High CD4 Counts in Three [HPTN 071](#) (PopART) Health Facilities, Western Cape, South Africa*.

Rhoda Ndubani, MA, presented *Optimism and Acceptance of Longitudinal Community Response to an HIV Combination Prevention Package in Zambia, the [HPTN 071](#) (PopART) study*. The abstract was also presented at AIDS 2018 and can be viewed [here](#).

---

## Network Member Spotlight

**Clemensia Nakabiito, MBChB, Mmed**, is the [HPTN 084](#) investigator of record at the Makerere University Johns Hopkins University Research Collaboration (MUJHU) in Kampala, Uganda. She is an internationally-recognized practicing



obstetrician/gynecologist and clinical researcher with more than 20 years' experience in research involving pregnant and non-pregnant women, HIV-infected and uninfected women and adolescent sexual and reproductive health.

Dr. Nakabiito is involved in training, clinical management and research at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Mulago National Referral Hospital and MUJHU. She is the leader of the Women's Health Domain at MUJHU where she is mentoring young investigators to follow in her footsteps in HIV prevention research.

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

I first got involved with the HPTN when MUJHU implemented HPTN 027 back in 2006 during the struggle to find a vaccine for the prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT). There were many lessons learned including whether the vaccine was safe in newborn children. We then participated in HPTN 046 for PMTCT from 2008 to 2010.

[Read More](#)

## Awareness Days



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

September 18



[National Gay Men's HIV/AIDS Awareness Day](#)

September 27

## Hot Off The Press

Ransome, Mayer KH, Tsuyuki K, Mimiaga MJ, Rodriguez-Diaz CE, Srithanaviboonchai K, Friedman RK, Limbada M, Safren SA; HIV Prevention Trials Network 063 Team. [The Role of Religious Service Attendance, Psychosocial and Behavioral Determinants of Antiretroviral Therapy \(ART\) Adherence: Results from HPTN 063 Cohort Study](#). AIDS Behav. 2018 Jun 28.

Sivay MV, Hudelson SE, Wang J, Agyei Y, Hamilton EL, Selin A, Dennis A, Kahn K, Gomez-Olive FX, MacPhail C, Hughes JP, Pettifor A, Eshleman SH, Grabowski MK. [HIV-1 diversity among young women in rural South Africa: HPTN 068](#). PLoS One. 2018 Jul 5;13(7).

Zhang Y, Sivay MV, Hudelson SE, Clarke W, Breaud A, Wang J, Piwowar-Manning E, Agyei Y, Fogel JM, Hamilton EL, Selin A, MacPhail C, Kahn K, Gomez-Olive FX, Hughes JP, Pettifor A, Eshleman SH. [Antiretroviral Drug Use and HIV Drug Resistance Among Young Women in Rural South Africa: HPTN 068](#). J Acquir Immune Defic Syndr. 2018 Jul 3.

Stringer EM, Kendall MA, Lockman S, Campbell TB, Nielsen-Saines K, Sawe F, Cu-Uvin S, Wu X, Currier JS. [Pregnancy outcomes among HIV-infected women who conceived on antiretroviral therapy](#). PLoS One. 2018 Jul 18;13(7).

Bond V, Ngwenya F, Thomas A, Simuyaba M, Hoddinott G, Fidler S, Hayes R, Ayles H, Seeley J; HPTN 071 (PopART) study team. [Spinning plates: livelihood mobility, household responsibility and anti-retroviral treatment in an urban Zambian community during the HPTN 071 \(PopART\) study](#). J Int AIDS Soc. 2018 Jul;21 Suppl 4.

Hoddinott G, Myburgh H, de Villiers L, Ndubani R, Mantantana J, Thomas A, Mbewe M, Ayles H, Bock P, Seeley J, Shanaube K, Hargreaves J, Bond V, Reynolds L; HPTN 071 (PopART) Study Team. [Households, fluidity, and HIV service delivery in Zambia and South Africa - an exploratory analysis of longitudinal qualitative data from the HPTN 071 \(PopART\) trial](#). J Int AIDS Soc. 2018 Jul;21 Suppl 4.

Fogel JM, Sandfort T, Zhang Y, Guo X, Clarke W, Breaud A, Cummings V, Hamilton EL, Ogendo A, Kayange N, Panchia R, Dominguez K, Chen YQ, Eshleman SH. [Accuracy of Self-Reported HIV Status Among African Men and Transgender Women Who Have Sex with Men Who were Screened for Participation in a Research Study: HPTN 075](#). AIDS Behav. 2018 Jul 26.



---

What would you like to see from our newsletters? Please e-mail us with your thoughts and ideas at [news@hptn.org](mailto:news@hptn.org).

Copyright © 2018 The HIV Prevention Trials Network, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)