



# Prevention NOW!

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## HPTN Awarded U.S. National Institutes of Health Funding to Continue Research Agenda



Drs. Myron S. Cohen and Wafaa M. El-Sadr, principal investigators of the HIV Prevention Trials Network (HPTN), in collaboration with FHI 360, have received a seven-year award from the U.S. National Institutes of Health as part of the next funding cycle (2020-2027) for the Network. The core and protocol-specific funding will enable the HPTN to continue its HIV prevention research efforts focused on developing new biomedical prevention methods and optimizing the integration of proven biomedical, behavioral and structural interventions.

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## HPTN 084 Study Demonstrates Injectable Cabotegravir Superiority

HPTN researchers announced on Monday, 9 November, [HPTN 084](#) clinical trial data demonstrated that a regimen of long-acting cabotegravir injections was safe and superior to daily oral tenofovir/emtricitabine for HIV prevention among cisgender women in sub-Saharan Africa. During a planned review of study data, an independent data and safety monitoring board recommended the study sponsor stop the blinded phase of the trial and share results.



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## HPTN Leadership Update



The HPTN Executive Committee has expanded to include Drs. Sinead Delany-Moretlwe, Sybil Hosek, Raphy Landovitz, and Darrell Wheeler. Also, Dr. Nyaradzo Mgodzi will assume an international HPTN leadership role. New committee leadership includes Dr. Nittaya Phanuphak Pungpaong, who will serve as the Sexual and Gender Minority Committee co-chair. Dr. Linda-Gail Bekker, will co-chair the Adolescent Committee. Drs. Steve Shoptaw and Nyaradzo Mgodzi's terms as investigator representatives ended 30 November. The solicitation for two new investigator representatives will take place in 2021.

## Changes to HPTN.org

The HPTN website login has been removed and private study documents (i.e., call summaries, SSP manuals) have been taken off the website and moved to Microsoft Teams. If you need access to these documents, email Laura Long ([lsmith@fhi360.org](mailto:lsmith@fhi360.org)) or Jeffrey Webb ([jwebb@fhi360.org](mailto:jwebb@fhi360.org)).



[Learn More](#)

## Shoutout



Dr. Deborah Donnell, the principal investigator of the HPTN's Statistical and Data Management Center, was recently named a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Dr. Donnell was acknowledged for her contributions to science in a field where she plays a pivotal role in analyzing clinical trial results of drugs that can prevent HIV infection.

## Network Member Spotlight

Dr. Ariane van der Straten, chair of the HPTN Behavioral Research Working Group, is director of the San Francisco-based Women's Global Health Imperative program at RTI International. She is also an RTI senior fellow and professor at the University of California at San Francisco School of Medicine's Center for AIDS Prevention Studies. Dr. van der Straten has more than 25 years of experience conducting socio-behavioral and biomedical research for sexual health and HIV prevention in women, including preclinical and Phase I to Phase III trials evaluating short and long-acting HIV prevention approaches (topical, oral, injectable, or implantable), and multipurpose prevention technologies for HIV and pregnancy prevention.



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## Hot Off The Press

Rowe K, Duta M, Demeyere N, Wagner RG, Pettifor A, Kahn K, Tollman S, Scerif G, Stein A. [The relationship between executive function, risky behaviour and HIV in young women from the HPTN 068 study in rural South Africa.](#) AIDS Care. 2020 Dec 1:1-11

Moore JR, Donnell DJ, Boily MC, Mitchell KM, Delany-Moretlwe S, Bekker LG, Mgodhi NM, El-Sadr W, Cohen MS, Celum CL, Dimitrov D. [Model-Based Predictions of HIV Incidence Among African Women Using HIV Risk Behaviors and Community-Level Data on Male HIV Prevalence and Viral Suppression.](#) J Acquir Immune Defic Syndr. 2020 Dec 1;85(4):423-429.

Stangl AL, Pliakas T, Mainga T, Steinhaus M, Mubekapi-Musadaidzwa C, Viljoen L, Dunbar R, Schaap A, Floyd S, Mandla N, Bond V, Hoddinott G, Fidler S, Hayes R, Ayles H, Bock P, Donnell D, Hargreaves JR; HPTN 071 (PopART) study team. [The effect of universal testing and treatment on HIV stigma in 21 communities in Zambia and South Africa.](#) AIDS. 2020 Nov 15;34(14):2125-2135.

Strathdee SA, Kuo I, El-Bassel N, Hodder S, Smith LR, Springer SA. [Preventing HIV outbreaks among people who inject drugs in the United States: plus ça change, plus ça même chose.](#) AIDS. 2020 Nov 15;34(14):1997-2005.

Seneviratne HK, Tillotson J, Lade JM, Bekker LG, Li S, Pathak S, Justman J, Mgodhi N, Swaminathan S, Sista N, Farrior J, Richardson P, Hendrix CW, Bumpus NN. [Metabolism of Long-Acting Rilpivirine Following Intramuscular Injection: HIV Prevention Trials Network Study 076 \(HPTN 076\)](#). AIDS Res Hum Retroviruses. 2020 Nov 15.



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