

10 March 2020

Dear HPTN family,

We realize that there are many uncertainties about the global outbreak of the novel coronavirus 2019-nCoV, which causes the disease known as COVID-19, and that the information is rapidly evolving across the globe. The HPTN has made the difficult decision to cancel the 2020 Africa Regional Meeting that was to be held on March 30 and March 31, 2020.

The HPTN 084 and HPTN 084-01 trainings that were scheduled for April 1 to April 3, 2020 will also not be held in person at that time, but will be held virtually via webinar. Communications will be forthcoming regarding the dates and times for those trainings.

The HPTN is committed to maintaining the safety and well-being of all parties involved in these events. Given that several organizations have imposed travel restrictions, and the WHO has recommended that all non-essential travel be postponed, we have decided to take the responsible decision to cancel travel for staff from several countries in Africa and the U.S. The situation remains uncertain with rapidly-evolving potential for the spread of cases in both regions. Please be on the lookout for communication from the Network regarding upcoming virtual trainings.

As always, thank you for your commitment and contributions to preventing new HIV infections and stay healthy and safe.

Myron Cohen
Wafaa El-Sadr
Nirupama Sista

For questions, please email Barbara Long at blong@fhi360.org.