



Combination HIV prevention for adolescents: Data from the HPTN071 (PopART) Study (PopART for Youth P-ART-Y Study)

Dr Helen Ayles

Co – Principal Investigator

On behalf of the HPTN071/P-ART-Y Study Team







U.S. NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH:

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
National Institute of Mental Health
National Institute on Drug Abuse





Why Young People?

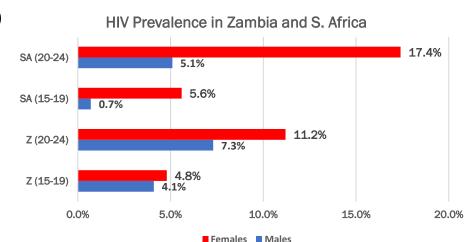
Globally

- Two million ALWH
- Adolescents account for 5% of all PLWH and 12% of new adult HIV infections

SSA

- 82% of ALWH globally
- 7 in 10 new infections in 15-19 year olds occur among girls





Knowing and sharing HIV status – issues for adolescents

Why HTC services need to be expanded for children and adolescents

Adolescents – poorly served by current efforts

- Horizontal transmission (esp. girls, early marriage, coerced sex, age-disparate sex)
- Vulnerable adolescents, street children, young sex workers, drug users, and MSM



HTC issues to address

- How to deliver acceptable services
- How to increase uptake in HTC
- Disclosure to child or adolescent
- Disclosure by adolescent to others
- Consent parental vs. self
- Linking to prevention and care

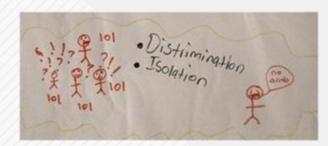


HTC – adolescents experiences & views

What do adolescents think

- Associated with being bad
- Rejection, shame, gossip
- Unfriendly, judgmental health workers
- Inconvenient times and locations
- Parental consent to test a barrier

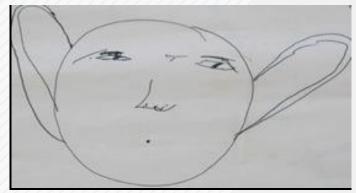




What do adolescents want

- Enabling environment role models, media messages to encourage testing
- Health worker 'respect' friendly, supportive, understanding, away from health centers
- Ability to self-consent
- Listen to their voices













Background

- The PopART for Youth (P-ART-Y) study is nested within the main HPTN071 trial and aims to evaluate the acceptability and uptake of a HIV prevention package among young people aged 10-19 years in Zambia and South Africa.
- The study's primary outcome is uptake of HCT in the previous 12 months among adolescents aged 15-19.







3 arm cluster-randomised trial with 21 communities

Arm A

Full PopART intervention

including

immediate ART irrespective of CD4 count

Arm B

Full PopART intervention

including

immediate ART irrespective of CD4 count

Arm C

Standard of care at current service provision levels

including

Immediate ART irrespective of CD4 count

7 communities per arm (N=21)

12 in Zambia 9 in S. Africa >50,000
adolescents aged
15-19 years
enumerated in
intervention arms
and
200 randomly
selected in each
control community

Primary outcome: Uptake of HIV testing within the previous 12 months

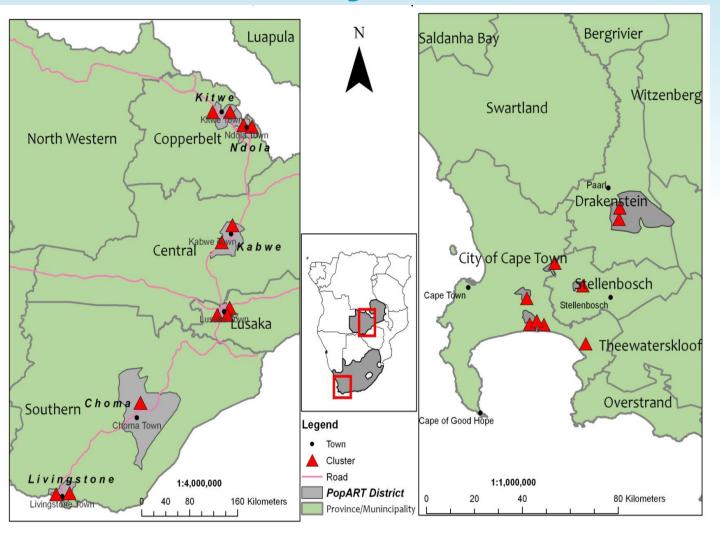
Intervention package

- > Annual rounds of Home Based Voluntary HIV Testing by Community HIV-care Providers (CHiPs)
- ➤ Health promotion, Active Referral and/or Retention in Care support by CHiPs for the following:
 - Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision (VMMC) for HIV negative men
 - Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMCT) for HIV positive women
 - HIV treatment and care for all HIV positive individuals
 - Sexual health and TB services
 - Condom provision
- ART irrespective of CD4-count provided at the local health centre
- > *Youth Targeted Interventions, where necessary





Study Areas







Three Phased Implementation

Phase 1

Phase 2

Phase 3

- Baseline Qualitative assessment
- Implementation of Intervention Package
- Study Advisory Group (SAG) meeting

- Ongoing qualitative assessment
- Implementation of Intervention Package +/youth-targeted interventions
- · Economic evaluation

- Cross-sectional survey
- Ongoing collection/analysis process data
- Qualitative Cohort
- Economic Evaluation

Nov 2015 July 2016 June 2017 Dec 2017

Timeframe: 26 months





Baseline assessment Adolescent Activities & Services

- Neither visible nor easy to locate
- Total stakeholders lower than anticipated:
 - e.g. Zambia: 37 in 8 intervention sites (range from 9 to 1 per site)
- Stakeholder types FBOs, secular CBOs/NGOs, school programmes, support groups, health facilities
- After school and HIV education programmes in both countries
- Focus on self-esteem & teenage pregnancies (SA)
- Limited communication between parents and adolescents about HIV and sexual reproductive health





Main narratives about adolescents

- Lack of service availability
- Lack of employment
- Negative associations between 'youth' and:
 - Substance abuse
 - Lack of respect
 - Cultural 'degeneration'
 - Young women and transactional sex
 - Hopelessness (SA)







Adolescents and HIV testing

- Willing to get an HIV test
- Not comfortable testing at the clinic
 - 'stigma' by health workers
 - Testing only for adults
 - Challenge reaching the clinic
- Preference for other testing options
 - In and outside the community
 - Mobile, away from home
 - Home (Zambia)









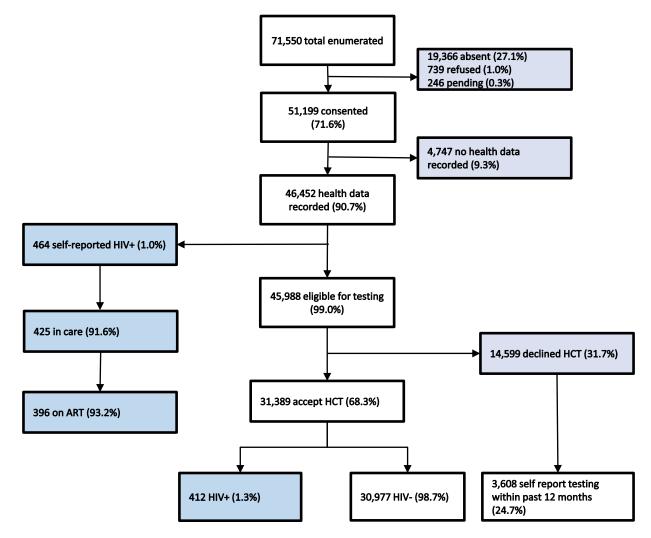
PopART Intervention

- Participation offered to ALL household members
- Verbal consent/assent for participation with parental consent for those <18
- Written consent for HIV testing in all > 16 (Zambia) 12 (SA)
- Main focus on 15 years and above
- 10-14 screening tool to identify most at risk





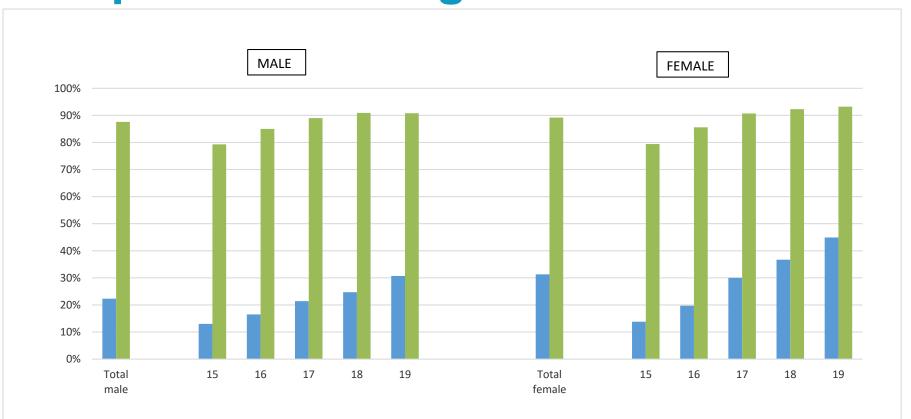
Zambia data R2 from October 2015-September 2016 Age 10-19







Uptake of testing

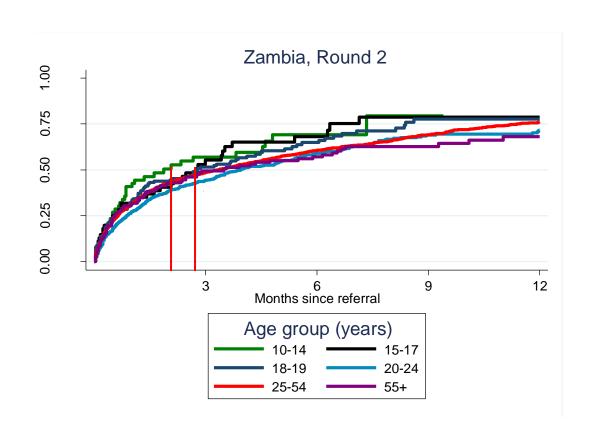


- Known status before: self-report HIV-positive or tested for HIV elsewhere within previous 12 months
- Known status after: self-report HIV+ or tested by CHiPs or tested for HIV elsewhere within previous 12 months





Time to link to HIV care after CHiP referral, Round 2







Study Advisory Group (SAG) meeting

- Held on 12-13 July, 2016, Lusaka, Zambia
- Attended by over 80 experts in adolescent health
- Key resolutions included;
 - Training of CHiPs
 - Messaging for Community, ACABs, CABs, Parents
 - Youth Counsellors/Champions
 - Youth Friendly Corners/Safe Spaces
 - Involvement of the ACABs
 - School based interventions

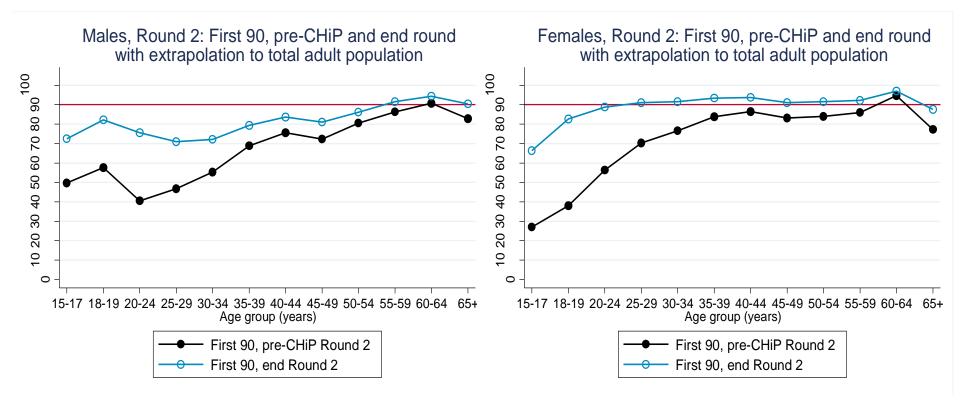








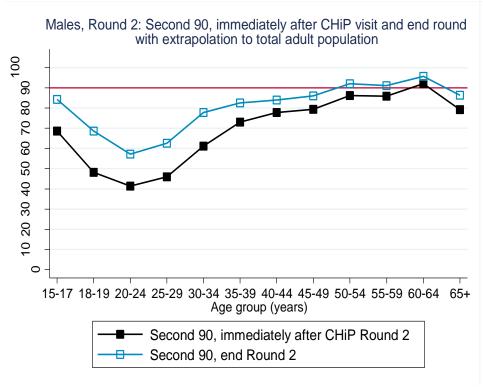
1st 90 estimates, Zambia Round 2 Arm A, with extrapolation to total adult population

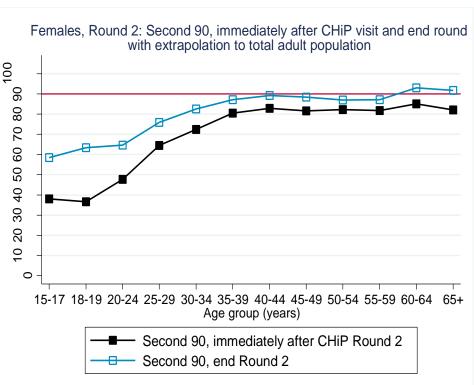






2nd 90 estimates, Zambia Round 2 Arm A, with extrapolation to total adult population









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Lessons Learnt

- A household based approach reaches a large proportion of adolescents but many are not found at home
- Linkage to care is good in adolescents
- Improved youth friendly corners at health facilities attract more young people
- At this early stage, the school based interventions appear to reach out to adolescents in-schools.
 - However the yield for HIV positive adolescents is very low
 - Still issues with age of consent for HIV testing
- Youth counsellors and additional training are important in bridging the gap between adolescents & the CHiPs





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Imperial College London



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Government Agencies:











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