CDC's Commitment to HIV Prevention among Black Women

HRSA-BPHC
World AIDS Day Webinar
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Dr. Robyn Neblett Fanfair, MD, MPH
Acting Director
Division of HIV Prevention, CDC
Systemic factors continue to contribute to persistent health disparities and disproportionately higher rates of HIV diagnosis.

The impact of racism, homophobia, transphobia, and stigma significantly exacerbates the health disparities experienced within the communities that we serve.
1.2 Million People in the U.S. have HIV, Major Health Disparities Persist

**Higher HIV Incidence:**
- Gay and Bisexual Men
- Black/African American People
- Hispanic/Latino People

**Larger Gaps in PrEP Coverage:**
- Black/African American People
- Hispanic/Latino People

**Higher Rates of HIV Diagnoses**
- People in the Southern United States

**Higher HIV Prevalence:**
- Gay and Bisexual Men
- Transgender Women

**More HIV Outbreaks:**
- People Who Inject Drugs

**Lower Rates of Viral Suppression:**
- Black/African American People
- American Indian/Alaskan Native People
For the first time, more than $\frac{1}{3}$ of Americans who could benefit have been prescribed PrEP.

Overall trends in PrEP prescriptions among people who could benefit, 2019-2022*

*Data are preliminary.
Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
2021 PrEP Guideline

• **New Recommendations:**
  – All sexually active adult and adolescent patients should receive information about PrEP
  – Providers should provide PrEP to anyone who requests it
How CDC is Addressing PrEP Uptake among Black Women
Whole Person Approaches to HIV Care: Addressing Syndemic Health Issues

WHAT IT IS:
Syndemics are linked health problems that often occur among people with or affected by HIV, such as:

• viral hepatitis
• sexually transmitted infections
• substance use and behavioral health issues
PrEP in STD Clinics

As part of EHE, CDC funded 26 STD Clinics in 16 States

73K People without HIV received services

29K screened for PrEP

4.3K currently on PrEP

15K PrEP-eligible

1.8K prescribed PrEP
To end health disparities and achieve national HIV goals, we must reach people in communities disproportionately affected by HIV with the interventions and tools they need.

To know how to do this well, we must listen to the community and the people we serve.
CDC Community Engagement Sessions

Engaged 1,684 people through 16 in-person meetings, including an in-person Spanish language session, across 10 regions.
EHE in Action: Connecting People to PrEP in DeKalb County, Georgia

- **Establishing** nursing protocols to allow RNs to evaluate people for PrEP and order the medicine for those eligible
- **Creating** safe spaces at STD clinics to discuss PrEP with people who can benefit from its use
- **Delivering** PrEP education and prescription follow-up services and support
- **Spreading** the word about PrEP through social media campaigns and print ads

**Building trusted relationships: Ebonee Gresham**

“For some patients, I'm the first person who has taken time to talk with them about their sexual partners and ways to reduce their HIV risk. Getting HIV is not inevitable – and it's my responsibility to make sure every one of my patients knows they have options to prevent it, and that they deserve access to those options.”

– Ebonee Gresham, RN, MSN

Clinical Nurse Coordinator, T.O. Vinson Health Center
Let’s Stop HIV Together Approaches for the Black cis-gender women

- She’s Well
  - PrEP is for ME
- Hey Sis: Let’s Talk About Sexual Health webisode
- Print Materials
- Digital Assets
  - Tailored music
  - Specific color scheme

#ShesWell: PrEP for Women | HIV Prevention | Let’s Stop HIV Together | CDC
#SHESWELL: PrEP FOR WOMEN
PrEP Interventions focused on Black Women

Sister to Sister: Take Control of Your Health

A Brief Skills-Based HIV Risk-Reduction Program for Women in Primary Health Care Clinics

Take control, protect yourself, because you’re worth it.
Resources for Clinicians

- **PrEPline** 855-448-7737 (855-HIV-PrEP) Toll-free
  - Clinical care questions
  - Access to advanced diagnostics for
    - Ambiguous test results
    - Person who acquire HIV while prescribed PrEP
- **NASTAD**
  - Billing and coding guide
- **HIV Nexus**
  - [https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/clinicians/index.html](https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/clinicians/index.html)
Capacity Building and Technical Assistance

Regional Technical Assistance

- CBA providers offer technical assistance to directly funded HDs and CBOs, as well as HD grantees, on matters related to PrEP/PEP and SSPs

eLearning Courses

- PrEP/PEP courses:
  - “Covering Costs of HIV PrEP”
  - “HIV PrEP: Engaging Patients in U.S. Clinics”
  - “HIV Prevention with Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) in the United States”
  - “PrEP and Pregnancy”
  - “Prescribing PrEP”
  - “Implementing PrEP in Your Clinic: A Course for Decision-Makers (Virtual Training)”
  - “Strengthening Strategies that Support PrEP Adherence”
CDC will maintain focus on the four pillars of EHE and amplify these efforts by investing in key strategies to **advance health equity**:

- **Self-Testing**
- **Syndemic Approaches**
- **CBO Capacity**
- **PrEP Success**
- **Whole Person Models of Care**
Thank You