# PrEP Implementation in San Francisco



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# Why are new prevention strategies needed?

- New infections remain high among:
  - Gay, bi, and other men who have sex with men
  - Transwomen (more data needed on transmen)
  - Racial and ethnic minorities, especially youth
  - Injection drug users (IDU)
- Despite testing, counseling, condoms, and ART, 40,000-50,000 new HIV infections per year in U.S. 359 new HIV cases in San Francisco in 2013.
- PrEP is an effective HIV prevention tool to add to the kit.

#### What is PrEP?

- PrEP = Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis
- Truvada® = Tenofovir/Emtricitibine (TDF/FTC)

Approved by FDA in 2012

- One pill taken daily regardless of plans for sex
- Greater than 95% effective in preventing HIV infection if taken as prescribed



How did PrEP implementation occur in San Francisco?

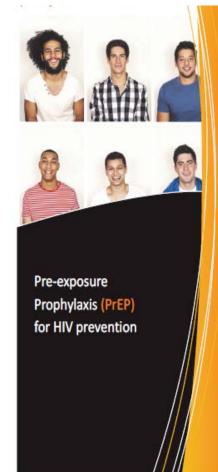
#### **Interest in PrEP**

Latest results from Demo Project show:

- High level of interest and uptake
- Excellent adherence
- High level of retention over 1-year followup

#### And:

Very low incidence of new HIV infections



## US DEMO Project

- 557 MSM and transwomen offered PrEP in STD clinics (SF, Miami) and a community health center (Washington DC)
- High uptake: 60% of potentially eligible clients enrolled
- Fewer African-American, transgender, and youth enrolled need dedicated engagement efforts for these populations
- High retention: 78% completed the final study visit
- High adherence: ≥80% had drug levels c/w taking ≥4 doses/week
- Lower adherence in African-Americans, ppts with unstable housing
- Social harms (14%) and Social benefits (35%) reported
- Social harms: "slut" or "whore", perceived as HIV+, stigma from healthcare providers
- Social benefits: decreased anxiety, increased intimacy, increased sexual satisfaction, increased self-esteem, being a PrEP advocate

# **US Demo Project**

High STI positivity rates (26%) at baseline, did not increase during follow-up

Despite high incidence of STIs, very low incidence of HIV

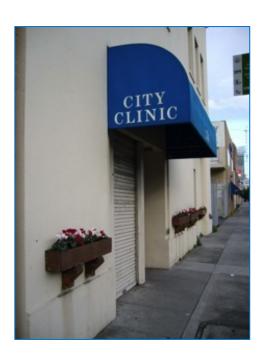
Infection	Incidence (per 100 PYs)
Gonorrhea	42.8 (95% CI 37.0-49.3)
Chlamydia	48.2 (95% CI 42.0-55.0)
Syphilis	12.4 (95% CI 9.4-16.1)
HIV	0.43 (95% CI 0.05-1.54)

Only 2 HIV infections - both with low/undetectable drug

Quarterly STI testing beneficial (>1/3 STIs missed if testing only q6 mo)

## San Francisco City Clinic

- Only municipal STD clinic in San Francisco (SF)
- 20,000 visits annually
- 48% of clients are MSM
- Diagnose approx 14% of HIV, 20% of gonorrhea and 20% of syphilis identified in SF
- High proportion of new HIV diagnoses have acute or early HIV



## PrEP at City Clinic

- January 2015-present:
- Over 1,000 PrEP consultations provided to SFCC patients
- 437 initiated on PrEP
- 249 currently being followed on PrEP
- 188 who stopped getting PrEP from SFCC are receiving PrEP elsewhere, stopped taking PrEP or fell out of touch with SFCC

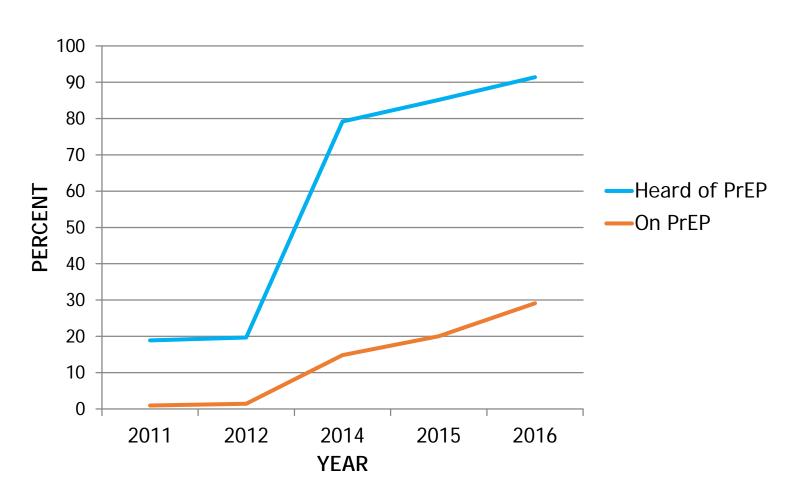
## PrEP at City Clinic: Coverage

- January 2015-present of 437 initiated on PrEP:
- 203 accessed PrEP through insurance/Medi-Cal (46%)
- 234 accessed PrEP through Gilead medication assistance program (54%)
- Of 234 patients accessing PrEP through Gilead MAP, 75 (32%) obtained insurance/Medi-Cal and continued on PrEP
- Patients with private insurance encouraged to access PrEP through PCP eventually; linkage to primary care provided.

### PrEP at City Clinic: Initiation and Retention

- Patient appointments are on a drop-in basis
- Current protocol calls for same-day PrEP initiation for patients with insurance/Medi-Cal
- Patients applying to Gilead MAP initiate PrEP 7-10 days after intake visit if they are approved
- Retention: 2/3-day follow-up calls after initiation to ensure patient filled prescription
- Retention: Text/phone call reminders to return to SFCC 7-10 days before patient runs out of pills

# PrEP knowledge and use among HIV-negative MSM at SFCC



# **Demographics of PrEP clients**

	PrEP Program Clients (N=291)	PrEP Demo Study (N=300)
Gender Male Female TGF TGM	278 (95.5) 6 (2.1) 5 (1.7) 2 (0.7)	294 (98) 5 (1.7)
Sexual orientation Gay Bisexual Straight Other	229 (78.7) 48 (16.5) 9 (3.1) 5 (1.7)	259 (86.6) 14 (4.7) 4 (1.3) 22 (7.3)
Race/ethnicity White Black Latino Asian Other	122 (41.9) 31 (10.7) 81 (27.8) 48 (16.5) 9 (3.1)	186 (62.2) 8 (2.7) 62 (20.7) 19 (6.4) 24 (8.0)
Age (median, IQR)	30 (26, 37)	35 (28, 44)

# PrEP Navigation Services

- What is navigation?
- PrEP Navigation at SFCC involves:
  - Removing barriers to PrEP Access
  - Benefits counseling
  - Risk reduction counseling
  - Adherence counseling
  - Minor case management
  - Referrals to other services needed
- PrEP Navigators have helped increase access to PrEP to over thousands of people throughout all of San Francisco.

#### PrEP Access: Barriers

- Lack of knowledge (client and/or provider)
- Lack of insurance/cost
- Doctor won't prescribe
- Healthcare inequality
- Geographical
- Personal biases, concerns, misconceptions re HIV risk

#### PrEP Access: If Insured...

- How does someone get PrEP?
  - Doctors Office Via Insurance
  - San Francisco City Clinic
  - SFGH-Ward 86
  - Strut, API Wellness, other community clinics
- How much does it cost? \$1500 per bottle
- Covered by insurance?
  - Most insurance companies do cover PrEP
- High Co-pay? Gilead Copay Card
  - Covers up to \$3600 in copays or deductibles.

#### PrEP Access: If Uninsured...

- How does someone get PrEP?
  - San Francisco City Clinic
  - SFGH-Ward 86
  - Strut, API Wellness, MNHC, other community clinics with navigators
- How are costs met?
  - Assistance programs: Gilead Patient Assistance Program
  - Patient Advocate Foundation (PAF),
  - Patient Access Network (PAN)
- Help patient choose proper insurance
- If eligible, help them start the Medi-cal application process.

## Assistance Programs: Gilead PAP...

- Gilead has an assistance program that can help patients cover the cost of the medication for 3-6 months at a time.
- Who is eligible?
  - Anyone making under \$59,400 (2016 Guidelines)
  - US/US Territory Resident
  - Must be uninsured
- Application Process
  - Fill out application accessible on adadvancingaccess.com
  - Submit Proof of Residency (not citizenship)
  - Proof of Income
  - If neither available, can submit a notarized statement

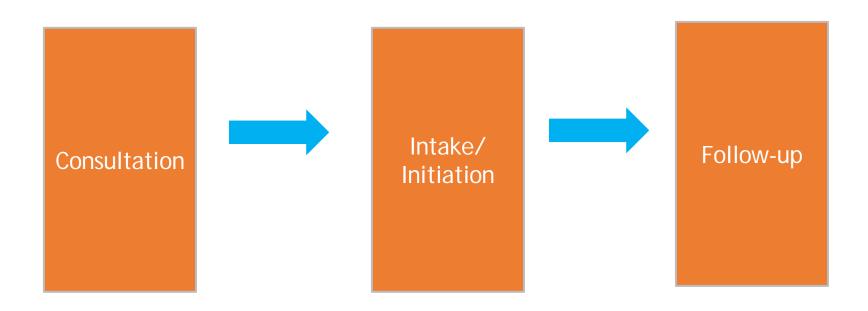
# Assistance Programs: PAN and PAF...

- Who is eligible?
  - People with insurance with high deductibles or plans that do not cover the medication at all.
- PAN can offer up to \$7,500 per year
- PAF can offer up to \$5,000
  - Based on income and family size
- Both applications can be completed online.
- PAN offers immediate access to RX access
- PAF needs to set up billing with a specialty pharmacy
  - May cause delay in access.

# Government/State Assistance Programs

- Medi-cal?
  - Covers Truvada Rx and labs in full
  - Can cover youth-need a prescriber willing to write an Rx
- Medicare
  - Only covered by Part D-Need to fill prior authorization
  - If patient does not have Part D, may be able to get covered through Gilead's PAP program.
  - May cause delay in access.
- Family Pact does not cover Truvada
  - Gilead PAP
- Healthy SF
  - Gilead PAP

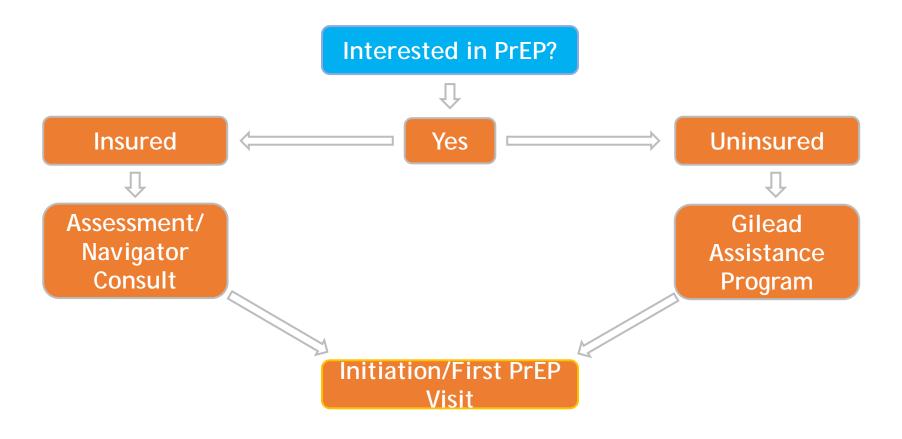
# **Providing PrEP at City Clinic**



# Types of Visits

- Intake Visit
- Medication Initiation Visit
- Follow up visits at first month and then quarterly visits every 3 months

#### Consult



#### **PrEP Visits: Initiation**

**Initiation Visit Drop-in** 



Register as SFCC PrEP Patient



Clinician Visit: Baseline assessment and testing.



HIV Rapid Test and Hep C test Results given by navigator



Rx Given by Navigator, benefits navigation, counseling, and follow-up plan explained in detail.

#### PrEP Visits: One Month Follow-Up

One Month Follow-Up

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Counselor Check-in Regarding PrEP adherence/sexual health



Navigator-clinician check-in or clinician Visit: Only if requested/symptomatic



HIV Rapid Test and pool ordered



Rx and results given and told to RTC in 2 months

#### **PrEP Visits: Quarterly Visits**

One Month Follow-Up



Counselor Check-in Regarding PrEP adherence/sexual health



Clinician Visit: Routine testing.



HIV Rapid Test and pool ordered



Rx and results given and told to RTC in 3 months/ Check-in regarding any questions or concerns.

# PrEP Counseling Language

#### Risks and limitations of PrEP

- Does not provide 100% protection against HIV
- Does not cure HIV/AIDS
- Does not provide protection against STIs or prevent pregnancy
- Short-term and long-term side effects
- Drug resistance

#### And:

PrEP does not work when not taken.

# PrEP Counseling Language: Contd...

#### Adherence counseling

- Currently, the only recommended dosing regimen is taking Truvada every day.
- How will I remember to take Truvada every day?
- What if I miss a dose? More than one dose in a row?
- What if I want to stop taking PrEP?

### PrEP in the SF Health Network

SF Health Network is an integrated primary care delivery model across SF

14 Community Based Clinics and

4 hospital based clinics

PrEP Program started in early 2015:

Develop local clinical PrEP guidelines

Establish PrEP referral clinic at Ward 86

Provider trainings on PrEP implementation: Over 100 clinicians (MDs, NPs) trained since 1/2015

Hyman Scott



#### PrEP resources

sfcityclinic.org/services/prep.asp

projectinform.org/prepresources/

prepfacts.org/

myprepexperience.blogspot.com/

cdc.gov/hiv/basics/prep.html

### Thank you!

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