HIV Treatment as Prevention Opportunities and Challenges

PROJECT INFORM

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Treating HIV+ People for Prevention

- HPTN-052 – showed 96% prevention in new infections in heterosexual couples where partner was on ARVs.
- No data yet on effect of early HIV treatment as prevention for MSM, studies are ongoing.
- Data on TasP in MSM is waiting for Partner and Opposites Attract studies.
- There are trends in some places (tantalizingly close to statistical significance) in SF toward 2X decrease in infection rates, but...UK and Australia are climbing post-HAART.
HIV+ tx as px: Challenges

- Experts estimates that substantial proportion of new infections are from people who don't know their HIV status and acute infection.
- New programs in some parts of the country are focused here, but it is a big challenge.
- Some in the community fear coercion.
- Treatment guidelines are all over the place globally.
- In a survey of providers less than half said they’d offer treatment at highest CD4s due to transmission risks.
HIV+ tx as px: Practicalities

- BHIVA Guidelines recommend 6 mos. at <50 copies.
- No STDS.
- Frequent monitoring.
- How important are condoms?
- Hep C a growing concern.
Roughly 1,750 prescribed PrEP in U.S. since mid-2011, with a mild-to-moderate uptick since approval in summer 2012.

Half of all scripts for women and a significant number in the Southeast.

Several major Medicaid markets require prior authorization for PrEP as do two of the biggest insurers.

Anecdotal evidence of challenges getting providers to prescribe PrEP.

Access outside of demo projects is an issue and will only grow larger in each year from 2014-on.
PrEP – Cost and Access

- $13K retail, but no one is paying this in actuality. Insurers probably paying 20 to 30% less and Medicaid could be paying as much as 50% less.
- Two of largest insurers have prior authorization for PrEP, we don’t know what coverage will look like in the marketplaces.
- Coverage for doctor visits and diagnostics may be biggest hurdle for public payers.
- Gilead has a patient assistance program for those who can’t afford the meds, but almost no one is taking advantage of it – lack of knowledge?
- Right now providers seem to be among the biggest barriers to uptake.