



Wilton Park

Programme

Scaling up HIV/AIDS treatment as prevention: Southern Africa and beyond

Wednesday 11 – Friday 13 December 2013 | WP1254

In Cape Town, South Africa

Context and aims

Recent evidence has demonstrated that early provision of antiretroviral (ARV) therapy, in addition to reducing AIDS-related illnesses and mortality, significantly reduces HIV incidence by lowering the viral load of infected individuals. Further, with widespread delivery of ARV therapy, the viral load of entire HIV-affected communities can be lowered, which has the potential to substantially reduce global HIV prevalence over the long term.

Increasing evidence demonstrates the value of global scale-up of HIV treatment as prevention (TasP). Since the 2011 announcement of results from HPTN-052, a landmark clinical trial that demonstrated efficacy of TasP up to 96 percent, a number of public health authorities, including the World Health Organization, the US Department of Health and Human Services and the European AIDS Clinical Society, have adopted recommendations for earlier ARV therapy for HIV-infected individuals. These recommendations emphasize the potential of effective HIV treatment to reduce transmission of the virus. Local 'test and treat' programmes in cities such as San Francisco and Vancouver have demonstrated correlations between expanded ARV coverage, lower community viral load and reduced HIV incidence.

Over the last ten years, African countries have made great strides in making HIV treatment available and implementing voluntary universal HIV screening. For example, more than 2.1 million South Africans are now on ARV therapy. Findings from KwaZulu-Natal Province indicate that treatment scale-up has been effective in reducing HIV incidence there: from 2004 to 2011 an HIV-uninfected individual living in a community in the province with ARV coverage of 30-40 percent was almost 40 percent less likely to acquire HIV than someone living where HIV treatment coverage was below 10 percent. It has also reduced mortality in the province: from 2003 to 2011, life expectancy in KwaZulu-Natal rose by more than ten years.

Despite this scientific progress, we now stand at a crossroads. The international community must urgently translate the 'proof of concept' of TasP into real-world scale-up and results, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa and elsewhere where HIV prevalence is high and resources are limited. To achieve this proactive, targeted and sustainably financed implementation plans will need to be developed at the international, regional and national levels.

In association with:



Wednesday 11 December

1200-1330

Participants check in and collect conference information
Lunch

1330-1400

Welcome and introduction

Robin Hart

Director of Programmes, Wilton Park, Steyning

Paul Boateng

Member, House of Lords, London

Richard Feachem

Director, The Global Health Group, University of California, San Francisco

1400-1500

1. Scaling up HIV/AIDS treatment as prevention: Southern Africa and beyond

Keynote

Eric Goosby

Former Ambassador and United States Global AIDS Coordinator; Professor of Medicine, Office of Global Health Sciences, School of Medicine, University of California, San Francisco

1500-1530

Tea/coffee

1530-1700

2. Global update on testing and treatment

Update on progress on testing and treatment. What is working and where? What is not working? What are the major challenges and how are these being overcome?

Chair: Quarraisha Abdool Karim

Associate Professor of Epidemiology, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University; Associate Scientific Director, Centre for the AIDS Programme of Research in South Africa (CAPRISA), University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban

Badara Samb

Chief, Global Outreach and Special Initiatives, Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), Geneva

Joep Lange

Executive Scientific Director, Amsterdam Institute for Global Health and Development (AIGHD), Amsterdam; Professor of Medicine, Academic Medical Center, University of Amsterdam

Ade Fakoya

Senior Disease Coordinator, HIV; Head, Strategic Investment and Partnerships Department (a.i), Strategy, Investment and Impact Division, The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, Geneva

1730

Depart for dinner at the Vergelegen Wine Estate, hosted by Anglo American plc

Welcome

Richard Feachem

Director, The Global Health Group, University of California, San Francisco

Paul Boateng

Member, House of Lords, London

John Martin

Chief Executive Officer and Chairman, Board of Directors, Gilead Sciences Inc, Foster City

Thursday 12 December

0900-1030

3. The latest science on treatment as prevention

Overview of the current science on treatment as prevention. What have recent research findings reported? What implications? What relevant research projects are currently being undertaken? What are the major gaps in scientific evidence which still need to be addressed?

Chair: Samuel Kalluvya

Head, Infectious Disease Department, College of Health Sciences, Bugando Medical Center, Weill-Bugando University, Mwanza

Francois Venter

Deputy Executive Director, Wits Reproductive Health and HIV Institute, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg

Helen Ayles

Research Director, Zambia AIDS Related Tuberculosis (ZAMBART), Lusaka; Senior Lecturer, Clinical Research Department, Faculty of Infectious and Tropical Diseases, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, London

1030-1100

Photograph followed by tea/coffee

1100-1300

4. Lessons learned from local implementation – Part 1

What lessons can be learned from case studies where testing and treatment has been increased? What has worked well? What challenges remain? What lessons for elsewhere?

Chair: Alison End Fineberg

Country Director, Swaziland, Clinton Health Access Initiative, Mbabane

San Francisco

Moupali Das

Assistant Clinical Professor, HIV/AIDS Division, University of California, San Francisco (UCSF); Associate Director, HIV Clinical Research, Gilead Sciences, San Francisco

South Africa

Francesca Conradie

South African HIV Clinicians Society, Johannesburg

Zambia

Albert Mwango

Coordinator, National Antiretroviral Programme, Ministry of Health, Lusaka

1300-1415

Lunch

1415-1545

5. Lessons learned from local implementation – Part 2

Chair: Yogan Pillay

Deputy Director-General, Strategic Health Programmes, Department of Health, Pretoria

Swaziland

Velephi Okello

Senior Medical Officer (National ART Coordinator), Swaziland National AIDS Programme (SNAP), Ministry of Health, Mbabane

Thailand

Praphan Phanuphak

Director, Thai Red Cross AIDS Research Centre, Bangkok

Mozambique

Robert Schooley

Professor of Medicine, Head of Division of Infectious Diseases, University of California, San Diego

1545-1615

Tea/coffee

1615-1745

6. Funding considerations

What different funding scenarios are there to support treatment as prevention? What are the appropriate roles for national and international funders? What lessons can those implementing TasP learn from existing and new funding mechanisms?

Chair: Jennifer Cohn

HIV/AIDS Policy Adviser, Access Campaign, Médecins sans Frontières (MSF), Geneva

Mark Blecher

Chief Director, Health and Social Development, National Treasury, Pretoria

Agnes Soucat

Director, Human Development, African Development Bank, Tunis

David Wilson

Global HIV/AIDS Programme Director, The World Bank, Washington DC

1830-2030

Reception followed by conference dinner

Keynote speaker

Prince Mangosuthu Buthelezi

President, Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP), Cape Town

Friday 13 December

0900-1030

7. Potential for scale-up in other countries

What is the potential for scale up in Southern Africa, across the African continent and globally? What are the challenges which need to be overcome at each stage? How can these be overcome?

Chair: Richard Kamwi

Minister of Health, Ministry of Health and Social Services, Windhoek

Malawi

Frank Chimbwandira

Director, HIV and AIDS Department, Ministry of Health, Lilongwe

Myanmar

Myint Shwe

Deputy Director, National AIDS Programme, Ministry of Health, Naypyidaw

Kenya

Bactrin Killingo

Senior Knowledge Officer, International Treatment Preparedness Coalition (ITPC), Nairobi

1030-1100

Tea/coffee

1100-1230

8. Action steps for acceleration of treatment as prevention

An open discussion focusing on research, finance and implementation. Moderated and synthesised by:

Stephen Lewis

Co-Director, AIDS-Free World, Brooklyn

1230-1300

9. Wrap up and next steps

Paul Boateng

Member, House of Lords, London

Richard Feachem

Director, The Global Health Group, University of California, San Francisco

1300-1400

Lunch

