



Incidence and factors associated with the initiation of HIV Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) among Gay and Bisexual Men in Australia

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Australasian HIV & AIDS Conference | September 2018

Disclosures: The Flux Study is funded by an Australian Research Council Discovery Project. This study was partly funded by the Gilead Australia Fellowship: Research Grants Program.

Funders had no input in the data collection, analysis, interpretation, or presentation of any findings.

PrEP incidence and uptake



Background, Aims, and Methods

Background

- Gay and bisexual men (GBM) account for the majority of new HIV infections in Australia
- Those considered 'high risk' are eligible to access PrEP

Aims

- Estimate incidence of uptake and factors predicting PrEP initiation

Methods

- Flux Study - prospective observational study on licit and illicit drug use among GBM
- Six monthly surveys since 2014
- Analysis restricted to non-HIV positive men who reported no PrEP use at baseline (n=1257)
- Poisson regression

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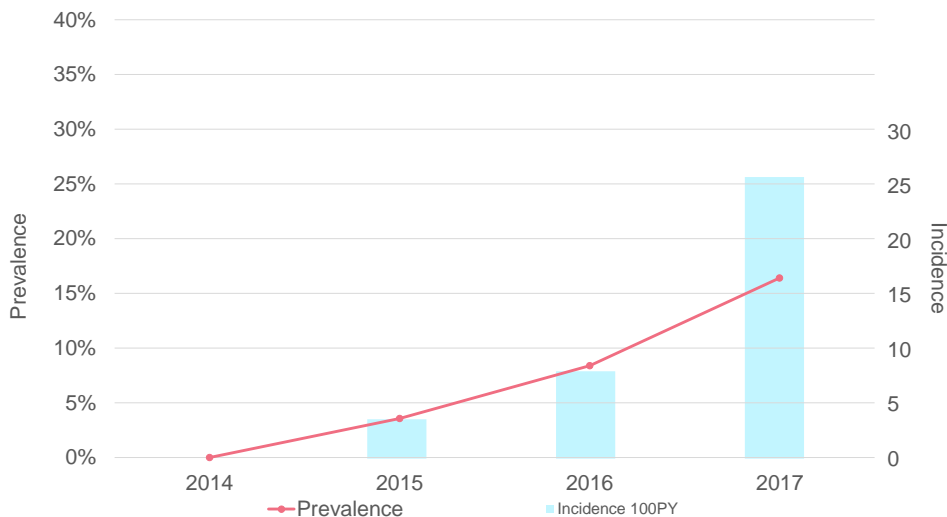
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Prevalence and incidence 100PY of PrEP use



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Prior behaviours predicting PrEP initiation

Factor	Did not initiate vs. initiated %		IRR	Upper-Lower	p
Social engagement with gay men	45	55	1.48	1.08 – 2.04	<0.001
Recent methamphetamine use					
No recent use	54	46	1		
Any recent use	34	66	1.50	1.10 – 2.05	<0.012
Number of sex partners					
1	84	16	1		<0.001
Up to 10	57	43	3.78	1.35 – 10.61	
Up to 50	32	68	7.91	2.75 – 22.73	
More than 50	25	75	8.03	2.40 – 26.87	
Sex with casual partner					
No casual partner	81	19	1		
Receptive condomless anal intercourse	25	75	2.5	1.29 – 4.67	<0.001
Sex with regular partner					
No regular partner	51	49	1		
Any condomless anal intercourse (HIV-positive partner)	46	54	14.74	7.53 – 28.86	<0.001

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Summary and conclusion

Are 'high risk' gay and bisexual men using PrEP?

- Men who are at 'high risk' of HIV infection are initiating PrEP, but there is still a large proportion of men who are not using PrEP
- GBM who initiate PrEP reported behaviours that correspond with Australian eligibility criteria for PrEP access

What does all this mean?

- Interventions to target those less socially engaged in gay communities are needed