



WHO'S LEFT BEHIND IN THE THE VIRTUAL ELIMINATION OF HIV?

WHY DOES THIS CONVERSATION MATTER?

DR ROANNA LOBO

SEXUAL HEALTH AND BLOOD-BORNE VIRUS APPLIED RESEARCH AND EVALUATION NETWORK (SIREN)

CURTIN UNIVERSITY, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

WE ARE AT A CROSSROADS

- Significant progress has been made towards the virtual elimination of new HIV transmissions in Australia by 2020
- Our success is characterised by:
 - collaboration and strong partnerships between community-based organisations, research, policy, and (some) affected communities
 - combination prevention peer education, harm reduction, condom usage, PrEP, PEP, TasP
 - · a focus on increased quality of life for PLHIV
- We are well positioned to achieve the UNAIDS global targets of 90:90:90

WHY DOES THIS CONVERSATION MATTER?

IS THIS ENOUGH?

- Late diagnoses (29% in 2015) and undiagnosed higher in Aboriginal, heterosexual and SE Asian populations
- Challenges for people living in culturally and linguistically diverse (CaLD) communities and in regional areas
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples the rate of HIV is more than double (6.8 per 100,000) the rate in non-Indigenous Australians (3.1 per 100,000). Different drivers of transmission
- Criminalisation reduces engagement with services sex workers
- Data on key populations incomplete CaLD, transgender population
- Significant public health care cost savings
- We have a moral and human rights imperative leave no-one behind

WHY DOES THIS CONVERSATION MATTER?

WE NEED TO ACT NOW

- Equitable access to new HIV testing technologies, harm reduction services and biomedical interventions for groups at highest risk
- Reduce barriers to accessing treatment and care
- Increase health literacy workforce and communities
- Meaningful involvement of affected communities
- · Improved framing and reach of health promotion efforts
- Shared care models / dedicated services for key populations
- Improve data and surveillance, research and evaluation
- Continued investment and partnerships

WHY DOES THIS CONVERSATION MATTER?

WHAT IS OUR RESPONSE?

- Is a grass roots effort like we saw in the 80s/90s with gay men needed or achievable?
- What's different now? What support is needed by the communities we are talking about today to give them a voice?
- What role do other key stakeholders (policy, funding, practitioners, researchers) need to play? Investment and funding models, more visibility of the issues
- How do we coordinate our efforts for efficiencies, synergy and to ensure no-one's left behind?

WHY DOES THIS CONVERSATION MATTER?