

**Positive in Prevention: Revisiting PWHIV  
Roles In The HIV Prevention Response  
Dr Jeanne Ellard and Dr John Rule**

ASHM November 8 2017

**napwha** national association of  
people with HIV australia

**Acknowledgments**

From NAPWHA Bill Patterson and Aaron Cogle.  
The PLHIV who participated in the  
consultation interviews

**napwha** national association of  
people with HIV australia

## NAPWHA in Prevention

HIV prevention is not new territory for NAPWHA. NAPWHA has a strong track record in national leadership in the field of HIV prevention and treatment.

In 2012 NAPWHA launched *Start the Conversation*, the first national media campaign in Australia promoting the health and prevention benefits of the early initiation of treatment.

**napwha** national association of  
people with HIV australia

## The Approach

- How has 'Positive Prevention' been positioned and conceptualised?
- How might we conceptualise 'positive prevention' moving forward?
- Consultation with PLHIV (20 interviews)
- Review of the peer reviewed literature about positive prevention
- Review of the national and state HIV strategies

**napwha** national association of  
people with HIV australia

## Affected Communities in Prevention

- The Australian HIV partnership is unique and recognised globally.
- PLHIV have played a vital and central role in HIV prevention in Australia since the beginning of the epidemic.
- While the influence of affected communities in HIV prevention is recognised this has not always been well documented.

**napwha** national association of  
people with HIV australia

## PLHIV in Prevention

- Allows service organisations, policy makers and health promotion be attuned to changing community needs
- Increases the credibility in affected communities
- Reduces stigma and social isolation
- Increases uptake of treatment
- Increases the confidence of others to know their status

**napwha** national association of  
people with HIV australia

## PLHIV in Prevention (consultation interviews)

*I take my treatments, treatments are prevention, with treatments I have an undetectable viral load and can't transmit HIV. So it's simple. Take your medication and prevent HIV transmission.*

**napwha** national association of  
people with HIV australia

## PLHIV in Prevention (Consultation interviews)

Taking treatment meets two prevention needs:

- Disease progression
- Onward transmission

**napwha** national association of  
people with HIV australia

## PLHIV in Prevention

- PLHIV undertake formal and informal HIV prevention work
- PLHIV support a concept of shared responsibility but don't always experience it
- HIV prevention is more than stopping HIV transmission

**napwha** national association of  
people with HIV australia

## Positive Prevention or Positive in Prevention ?

Positive Prevention as a concept and tool often targets PLHIV and focuses only on preventing the onward transmission of HIV (GNP+ & UNAIDS, 2009).

**napwha** national association of  
people with HIV australia

## Positive Prevention or Positive in Prevention

- 'Positive in Prevention'
- The agency and energy of HIV positive people in setting the prevention agenda, and in designing, implementing and advocating for HIV prevention programs.
- HIV prevention is not simply something PLHIV do on behalf of others (service) but also includes interventions that recognise and address their specific health and prevention needs. Prevention needs that include achieving a good quality of life and delaying illness progression as essential to ending HIV transmission.

**napwha** national association of  
people with HIV australia