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# NZPrEP: An HIV PrEP demonstration project with equity quotas in Auckland NZ

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IUSTI AP/NZSHS/ASHM Sexual Health Congress Nov 1-3 2018



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# Acknowledgements

### Institutional support



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### Participants

### Funding



### Community Pharmacists

Eric Ho and Tony Sie

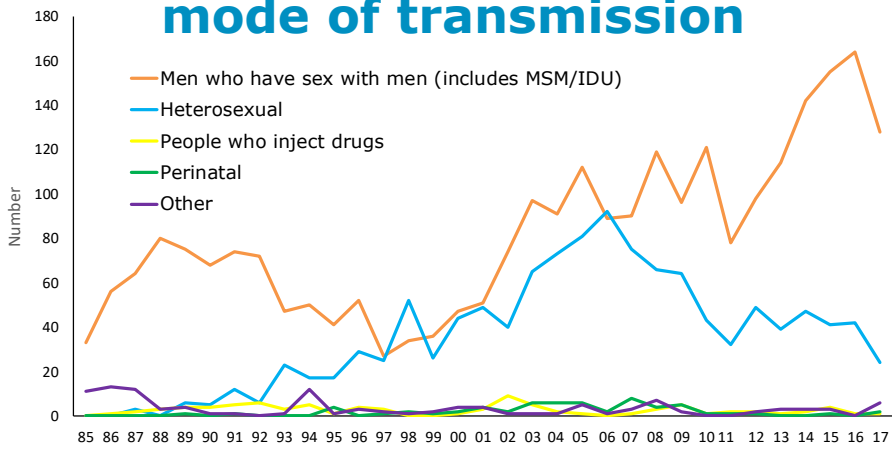
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PLWH= 3,678  
Diagnosed on ART= 2,491



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# Annual HIV diagnoses in NZ: mode of transmission



Note: Does not distinguish between infections acquired in New Zealand and overseas. Viral load testing diagnoses added since 2002.

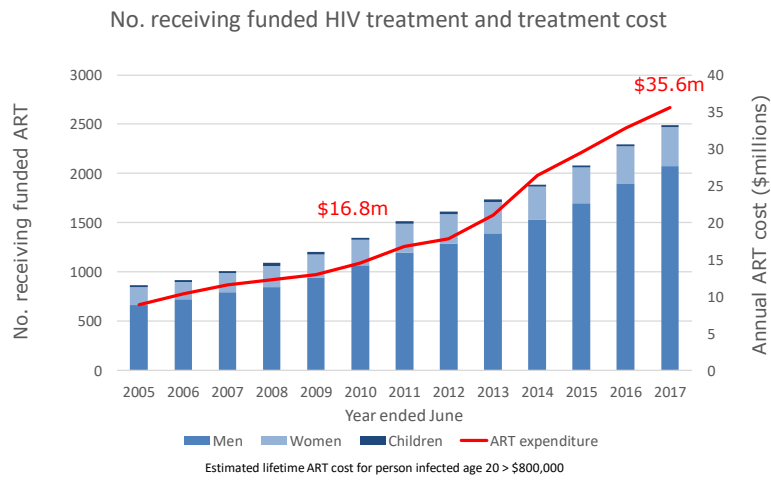
Data provided by AIDS Epidemiology Group, Department of Preventive and Social Medicine, University of Otago.

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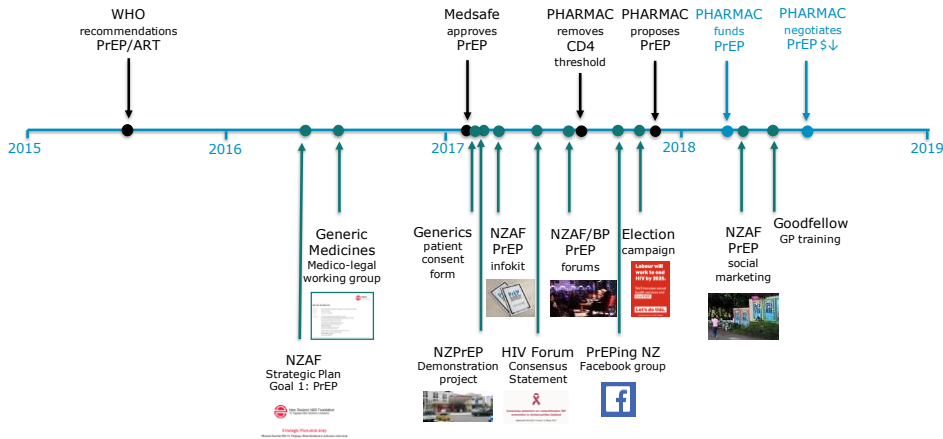
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# Rising HIV treatment and cost



Pharmac data July 2017

# PrEP milestones in NZ



**1 Mar 2018**



# PHARMAC PrEP eligibility

HIV negative & likely to have inconsistent condom use >3m:

- 1) Partner of a person with HIV (HIV untreated, unsuppressed)
  - inconsistent condom use
- 2) Gay or bisexual man or transperson having sex with men
  - inconsistent condom use during receptive anal intercourse with casual partners <3mths, OR
  - rectal bacterial STI <3mths, OR
  - methamphetamine <3mths



# Equity and HIV

**Non-European GBM in NZ** not more likely:

- diagnosed with HIV<sup>1</sup>
- prevalent HIV<sup>2</sup>

**But**

- ↑ % newly diagnosed are Asian<sup>3</sup>
- ↑ likely HIV diagnosed late / AIDS<sup>4</sup>

**United States**

- Black GBM ↓ engage and adhere to PrEP<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Shea et al 2011; <sup>2</sup>Saxton et al 2012; <sup>3</sup>AEG 2018; <sup>4</sup>Dickson et al 2011; <sup>5</sup>Liu et al. 2016



## Aims

- today**
- Describe baseline characteristics of early PrEP adopters accessing funded PrEP in a sexual health clinic (n=150 max)
- 2019**
- Factors associated with suboptimal retention and adherence
  - Factors associated with sexual behaviour change



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## NZPrEP methods

- 150 participants funded
- Demonstration project, not an access scheme
- Equity important principle. Power calculations:
- Non-Euro = 50% of entry sample (n=75), 85% power to detect if non-Euro retention is 60% or lower vs 80% in Euro.
- Maori = 20% of entry sample (n=30), 72% power to detect if Maori retention is 60% vs 80% among non-Maori.



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## Questionnaire

- Clinic emailed participants link to online questionnaire
- Self-completed online, data linkage via unique study ID
- 70 items
- Demographics, testing history, sexual behaviour, drug use, attitudes (HIV, PrEP, condoms, STIs), future expectations
- Data management using surveymonkey, excel and Stata by University of Auckland (responses kept separate from clinic)

Sample n=150



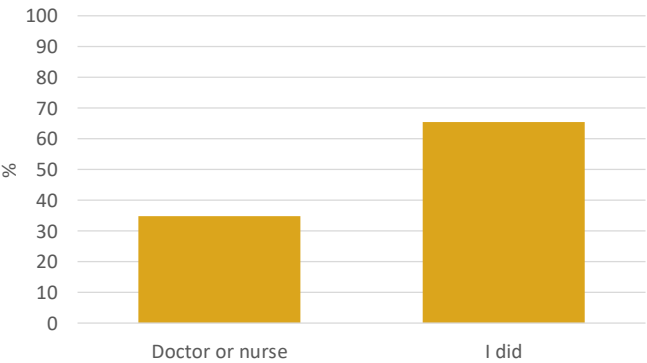
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	n	%	
<30	62	43.3	Range=18-55, median=31
30+	81	56.6	
European only	72	48.0	52% Non-European (total response method)
Maori	32	21.3	
Pacific	13	8.7	
Asian	29	19.3	
MELAA	10	6.7	
Central Auckland	88	58.7	
Rest of Auckland	62	41.3	
Less than tertiary degree	67	44.7	
Tertiary degree	83	55.3	
Gay	138	92.0	
Bisexual or other	12	8.0	

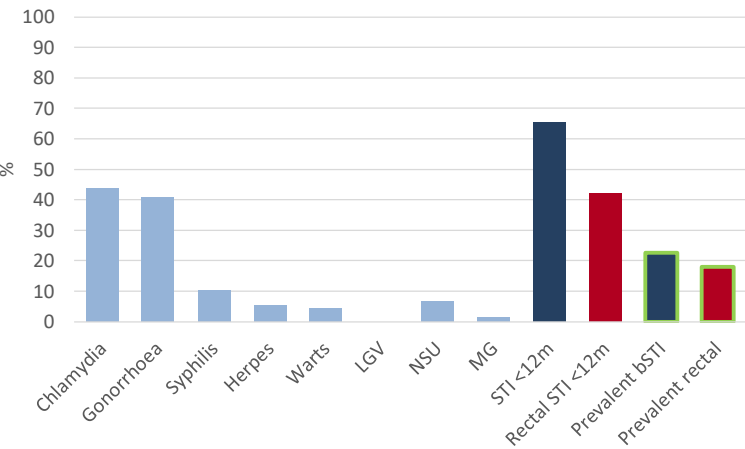


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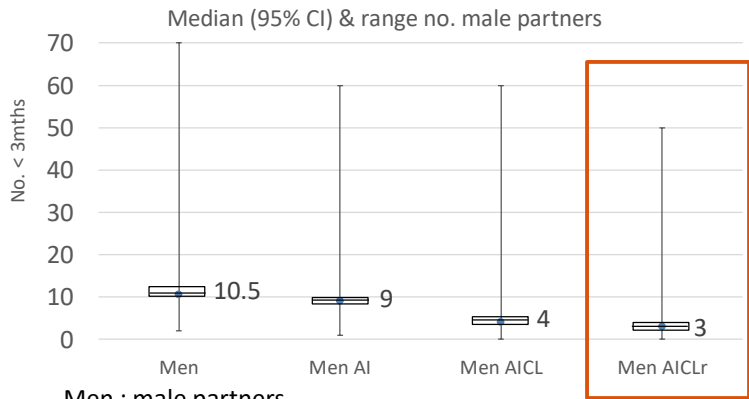
Who suggested joining PrEP study?



**STI diagnosed <12m**



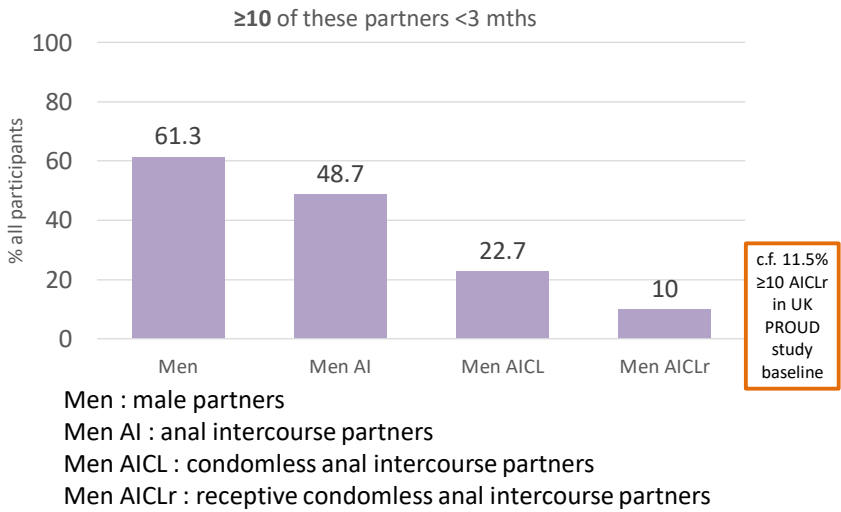
**Sexual behaviour <3m**



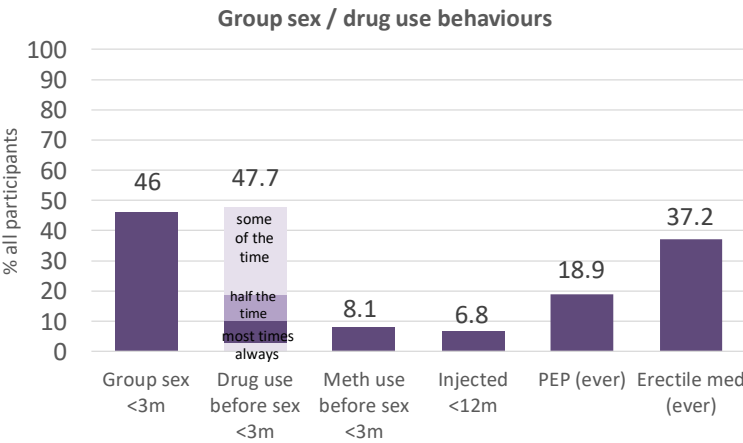
Men : male partners  
Men AI : anal intercourse partners  
Men AI CL : condomless anal intercourse partners  
Men AI CLr : receptive condomless anal intercourse partners



# Sexual behaviour <3m



# Group sex, drug use, PEP





# PrEP recommended vs self-referral

**Same** behavioural risk profile

**More likely** to:

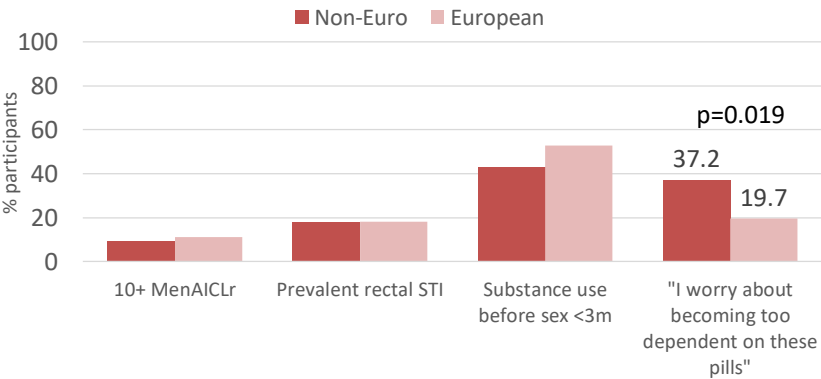
- Live outside city centre
- Cite doctor's advice
- Recent STI history

**Less likely** to:

- Tertiary degree
- Cite gay community channels



# Non-European vs European





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## Why enrol? (own words)

“Because I want to stay safe. And keep my sexual partners safe too. Prep could help reduce infections and wipe out Hiv in New Zealand.”

“felt anxious about my sexual 'mishaps' on a more frequent basis and knew I needed to act to protect myself.”

“Until a cure is found. Prevention Is the best way I can protect my self and the people I choose to have sex with.”



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## Summary

- **Fully funded PrEP** in SHC in Auckland attracts high risk GBM
- **Awareness and access** to PrEP wasn't even
- **Equity** lens will help identify suboptimal experiences
- “Equal benefit” impt target for **implementation phase**
  - 5847 estimated eligible for funded PrEP in NZ<sup>6</sup>
  - 1144 funded prescriptions in first 6 mths<sup>7</sup>

<sup>6</sup>Saxton & McAllister 2018; <sup>7</sup>PHARMAC data to Aug 2018;



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More information:

Saxton PJ, Azariah S, Franklin RA, Forster RF, Werder SF, Jenkins R, Myers JM, Rich JG, Te Wake WP, Fisher MD. Baseline characteristics of gay and bisexual men in a HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis demonstration project with equity quotas in Auckland, New Zealand. *Sexual Health*. 2018 Online First <https://doi.org/10.1071/SH18056>